

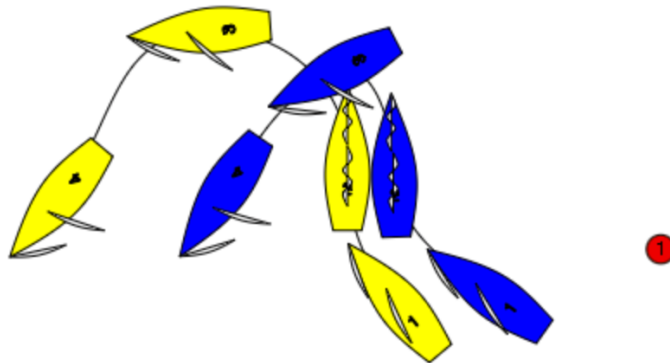
2K Rules Explanation 3 Interfering with a boat taking a Penalty

Case 1

Yellow and Blue are approaching a windward mark to be left to starboard. At position 2 Yellow luffs rapidly and there is contact. Yellow immediately hails "spinning", raises an arm and starts to bear away to take a voluntary penalty.

Blue immediately bears away on to a course to prevent Yellow from gybing.

There is a protest.



The first question the umpires should ask is "Is Yellow sailing to "get well clear" of Blue, or has she started to take her penalty."

If the answer is that Yellow is sailing to "get well clear" then as Yellow is not actually taking a penalty RRS 23.2 does not apply and so as long as no other rule is broken the umpires will signal this with a Green and White Flag.

If on the other hand Yellow has started to take her penalty then the question is "is Blue sailing her proper course"? If she is then RRS 23.2 does not apply. If she is not sailing a proper course (and in this case it is hard to see how she is) then Blue would be breaking RRS 23.2.

Note in racing using the 2K penalty system a boat on an upwind leg or before the start takes a voluntary penalty by gybing. This penalty happens instantaneously when the boat goes from port to starboard tack or vice versa (see definition of tack)...so up to the moment the boat actually gybes she is sailing to get well clear and can be interfered with!

For clarity when the voluntary penalty is a tack, a boat does not start her penalty until she passes head to wind and completes her tack when she reaches a close hauled course, all on the same tack. I.e. if a boat is sailing to get well clear is on starboard tack when she passes head to wind she is on port tack, and completes her tack (penalty) when she is close hauled on port.

Case 2



In the Prestart Yellow has been penalised, or has indicated that she will take a penalty. Blue sails close astern preventing Yellow from getting well clear in order to start her penalty turn. Yellow Protests. What should the call be?

Green and White Flag.

Rule 23.2 is only about interfering with a boat taking a penalty. Yellow is not taking a penalty as she has not sailed well clear and in addition as this is before the start there is no *proper course*.

See Team Race Rapid Response Call 2023.001