

SYRA CASE STUDY #3

Leeward Port – Starboard Finish

The Racing Rules of Sailing apply as changed by Appendix SY.

Blue and Yellow, both 37 metre yachts approach the finishing line overlapped on opposite tacks. The sailing instructions define the finishing line as being between an orange flag on the race committee signal boat and a blue cylinder buoy on the other end. However, an inner limit mark (ILM) is set near the signal boat that both boats must leave to starboard. RRS 18.2(b) applies at position 2 when Blue enters the *zone*, 300 metres from the mark. At that time, Yellow, the outside boat is obligated under RRS 18.2(b) to give Blue, the inside boat, *mark-room*, which includes *room* to sail to the mark when her proper course is to sail close to it, and *room* to leave the mark on the required side with no less than 40 metres between the boats.

Yellow breaks RRS 18.2(b) just before position 4 when the boats came within less than 40 metres of each other. If Blue hits the mark, or fails to *keep clear* of Yellow on starboard, she will be exonerated under RRS 43.1(b) because Yellow failed to give her *mark-room*.

