

LMYC Protest Committee Decision

Event: LMYC Pulbah Is Race 2 15th November 2025.

LMYC Annual Point Score Race 10.

PARTIES:

Pentangle M34

Damian Boldyrew (Skipper)

Young'n'Old 3909

Greg Nolan (Skipper)

WEATHER CONDITIONS: Fine and clear with winds 13kts gusting to 18kts

PROTEST: Protest by Pentangle against Young'n'Old.

FACTS KNOWN:

Shortly after the start, both vessels were sailing close-hauled on starboard tack, with M34 slightly to windward and astern of 3909. 3909 tacked onto port tack M34 held on on starboard tack. 3909 tacked on to port tack and the vessels seemed to be on converging courses, M34 hailed 'starboard' twice. On the second 'starboard' hail 3909 bore away to take M34s stern but became overpowered and lost steerage. M34 luffed up to avoid 3909 but was struck on the port quarter. Damage was caused to M34's pushpit, adjacent stanchion and deck fitting and lifelines, and to 3909's bow.

M34 hailed "protest" and flew a red flag.

3909 completed a two-turn penalty as required.

Both boats continued to sail and completed the race.

CONCLUSION:

1. 3909 on port tack failed to keep clear of M34 on starboard and therefore was in breach of RRS 10.
2. 3909 failed to avoid contact where reasonably possible and therefore was in breach of RRS14.
3. It was not reasonably possible for M34 as the right-of-way boat to avoid contact with 3909 when it became clear 3909 was unable to keep clear. M34 did not breach RRS14.
4. The damage to both boats was consider 'not serious' under RRS (Refer to World Sailing Case 141).

Arbitration was held in LMYC at the conclusion of the race and both parties said that they were respectful of the outcome.

The protest was upheld, but as 3909 performed her penalty turns, no further penalty is applied.

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