

2020 CYCA Wednesday Twilight Series

Protest No. 3

Race No. 3

Divisions D

Surprise A250 v Hector 6726

Hearing at the CYCA on Thursday 29 October 2020 at 19:00 Hours.

Protest Committee: Steve Hatch, Karl Garavan & John Kirkjian

Surprise was represented by John Westcott
Hector was represented. by Bertrand Philippe

FACTS FOUND

1. Surprise did not display a red flag in accordance with RRS 61.1a
2. A collision occurred between the yachts that resulted in serious damage that was obvious to the parties and Surprise lodged a protest.
3. Hector, Surprise and Zin Zin were approaching the finishing
4. As the 3 boats entered the zone Hector was to windward of Surprise overlapped and slightly advanced (confirmed by the skipper of Surprise Alan Stevns)
5. Zin Zin was overlapped to leeward of Surprise.
6. A very slight collision occurred between Hector's aft port quarter and the starboard midsection of Surprise neither boat had any apparent damage
7. Simultaneously to the collision between Hector and Surprise the main sheet of Surprise caught around the aft stanchion of Zin Zin ripping the Stanchion out of the fiberglass.
8. Owing to the close proximity of the committee vessel it was not reasonably possible for Hector to avoid contact with Surprise (there was less than 50cms clearance between the hull of Hector and the committee vessel).

CONCLUSION

1. Surprise did not comply with the requirements of RRS 61.1a however as there was serious damage to Zin Zin the protest is valid pursuant to RRS 61.1(a)(4)
2. As Hector entered the zone ahead of Surprise. Hector was entitled to room which Surprise failed to give.
3. Surprise failed to avoid contact with Hector when it was reasonably possible

RULES APPLICABLE

RRS: 14, 18.2a , 61.1(a) & 61.1(a)(4)

DECISION

1. Surprise is to be scored DSQ in race 3

John C. Kirkjian
Chairman