

Cruising Yacht Club of Australia

Protest Committee vs Bliss & Into the Mystic

Hearing at the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia on 12 November 2020.

Event: CYCA Wednesday Twilight Series Race 5

Bliss represented by Eric Frank

Into the Mystic represented by Arthur Psaltis

FACTS FOUND

1. A collision had occurred between the boats Bliss and Into the Mystic that caused serious damage to both boats.
2. Bliss lodged a protest against Into the Mystic.
3. Bliss's protest failed to comply with RRS 61.1(a), 61.1(a)(4) & 61.3 and the hearing was closed.
4. As Into the Mystic and Bliss had sustained serious damage the Protest Committee elected to proceed in accordance with RRS 60.3(a) (1) and lodged a protest against both Bliss and Into the Mystic.
5. Bliss had rounded the EC Mark and was broad reaching downwind on a port tack.
6. Into the Mystic was approaching the EC Mark close hauled on port tack.
7. Bliss and Into the Mystic were sailing on a converging course
8. Into the Mystic was sailing to pass Bliss to windward.
9. When the stern of Bliss passed the bow of Into the Mystic there was approximately one boat length between the boats
10. Into the Mystic was hit by a gust of wind causing her to heel over and resulted in the tip of her mast contacting the rigging of Bliss.,
11. Bliss sustained a broken mast.

CONCLUSION,

1. Into the Mystic as windward boat failed to keep clear of Bliss a leeward boat.
2. It was not reasonably possible for Into the Mystic to have avoided the collision.
3. It was not reasonably possible for Bliss to have avoided the collision.
4. As both boats retired from the race no further penalty can be imposed.

RULES APPLICABLE

RRS 11, 14, 60.3(a)(1), 61.1(a), 61.1(a)(4). 61.3 & WS Case 99

DECISION

1. Bliss is scored RET in race 5.
2. Into the Mystic is scored RET in race 5

John Kirkjian

Chairman

12 November 2020.

Protest Committee: Steve Hatch Karl Garavan & John Kirkjian,