

CRUISING YACHT CLUB OF AUSTRALIA
2020-2021 WEDNESDAY TWILIGHT SERIES

Race No. 17

Ciao Bella SM888 v First Light 6666
First Light 6666 v Ciao Bella SM888

Division C

Hearing at the CYCA on Thursday 18 March 2021 at 19:00 Hours.

Protest Committee: David Jacobs, Steve Hatch, Tim Cox and John Kirkjian

Ciao Bella was represented by Karl Onslow.

First Light was represented by Peter White.

FACTS FOUND

1. As both protests relate to the same incident they were heard at the same time.
2. Wind was from the NE at a strength of 15 knots.
3. Ciao Bella was approaching the starting line on starboard tack with a number of other yachts astern.
4. First Light was clear astern of Ciao Bella and travelling faster.
5. First Light attempted to pass through the gap that existed between Ciao Bella and an unnamed yacht to leeward of Ciao Bella.
6. First light established an overlap to leeward of Ciao Bella and immediately commenced to luff.
7. Ciao Bella was constrained from responding to First Light luff by the yachts to windward of her.
8. First Light commenced bearing away and her starboard beam came into contact with the aft port quarter of Ciao Bella.
9. Neither boat carried out a penalty turn.

CONCLUSION

1. While Ciao Bella was clear ahead of First Light, she was the right of way boat pursuant to RRS 12.
2. At that time Ciao Bella was entitled to alter course as she pleased subject to giving First Light room to keep clear RRS 16.1
3. First Light travelling faster than Ciao Bella established an overlap to leeward and became right of way boat pursuant to RRS 11.
4. When First Light established her overlap to leeward of Ciao Bella she became right of way boat but she was initially required to give Ciao Bella. Room to keep clear RRS 15.

5. First Light luffed immediately after establishing her overlap on Ciao Bella to avoid contact with the boat to leeward of her and in carrying out this manoeuvre failed to give Ciao Bella the room she was entitled to receive, resulting in a collision between the boats causing minor damage.
6. First Light took no action to avoid contact with Ciao Bella when it was reasonable possible to do so.\RRS14.
7. Ciao Bella was constrained from taking action to avoid First Light by the boats immediately to windward of her and is exonerated for her breach of RRS 14 pursuant to RRS 43.1c.

RULES APPLICABLE

RRS: 11, 14, 15,16.1 & 43.1c

DECISION

First Light is to be scored DSQ in race 17.

John C. Kirkjian
Chairman