



ROLEX SYDNEY HOBART YACHT RACE 2022

INTERNATIONAL JURY DECISION

CASE 2 – Avalanche (Sail No. 2400) vs Llama II (Sail No. 7126)

Parties:

Avalanche represented by James Murchison

Llama II represented by John Linton

Witnesses:

Nial Powers from Llama II

Hearing Date: 31 December 2022

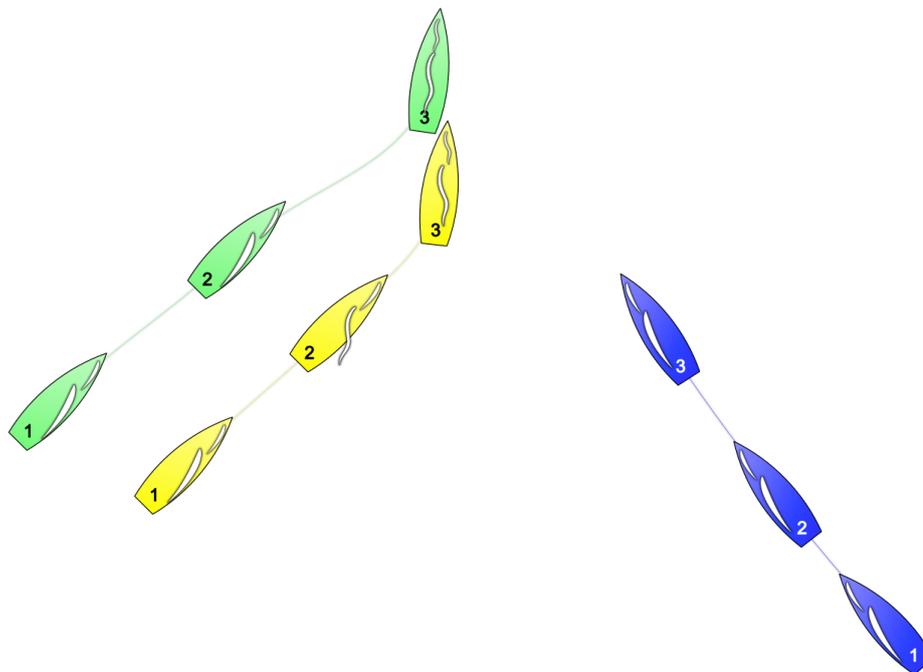
1. Procedural Matters:

- 1.1. Avalanche retired and returned to Sydney. Representative of Avalanche attended the hearing via a zoom call.
- 1.2. Avalanche did not hail protest nor display a flag at the time of the incident due to it assessing damage.
- 1.3. Avalanche sustained damage in that the carbon bowsprit was fractured at the midpoint and the bowsprit tube broken. Additionally, the bolt attachment of the bowsprit to the hull on the port side was pulled out that caused water ingress into the hull.
- 1.4. Llama was made aware of the protest prior to finishing via email.
- 1.5. The Jury proceeded with the protest

2. Facts Found:

- 2.1. Avalanche and Llama II on close hauled just above the port tack layline to mark X, that is to be passed to starboard. Llama II was half a boat length to windward of Avalanche and overlapped.
- 2.2. A third boat was close hauled on the starboard tack layline to mark X and on a converging course with Avalanche.
- 2.3. Avalanche hailed to Llama II once ‘...we need to tack...’ however this was not heard by Llama II. No further hail or other signals were made.
- 2.4. Avalanche eased her main in preparation to avoid the third boat.
- 2.5. Avalanche luffed to tack and soon after Llama II responded by luffing.
- 2.6. When Avalanche was head to wind contact occurred between the bowsprit of Avalanche and the starboard transom of Llama II.
- 2.7. Avalanche retired from the race.

2.8. Jury Diagram:



3. Conclusions and Rules:

- 3.1. The hail for room to tack by Avalanche was not done adequately for the conditions and therefore Avalanche did not comply with rule 20.4(a).
- 3.2. As right of way boat, when Avalanche changed course (luffed to tack), she failed to give Llama II room to keep clear and broke rule 16.1.
- 3.3. It was not reasonably possible for Avalanche to avoid contact as she was also obliged to avoid the starboard boat. So she did not break rule 14.
- 3.4. It was not reasonably possible for Llama II to avoid contact, so she did not break rule 14.
- 3.5. Llama II broke rule 11 but is exonerated by rule 43.1(b).
- 3.6. In retiring from the race, Avalanche took the appropriate penalty.

4. Decisions:

- 4.1. Protest is dismissed.
Avalanche is not further penalised.

Decision Published: 10:30, 31 December 2022

Russell Green NZL NJ/IU – Chairman, David Tillett AM AUS NJ, Jamie Sutherland NZL IJ/NU, Richard Slater AUS IJ/IU, Philippe Mazard FRA IJ/NU