



ROYAL NEW ZEALAND YACHT SQUADRON

PROTEST HEARING DECISION

PROTESTOR	<i>Choice Transport 5560</i>	REPRESENTED	Trevor Dunn
PROTESTEE	<i>Hydraulink 2000</i>	REPRESENTED	Euan Little
SERIES	Rum Race Autumn Series	DIVISION	E
RACE & DATE:	Race 10 14/06/2019	HEARING DATE	19:25 24/6/2019

Validity/Procedure:

- The Protest was valid and the hearing continued

Facts Found:

- *Hydraulink* did not attend the hearing and the hearing proceeded under RRS 63.3(b)
- Approximately 90 seconds before the starting signal *Choice Transport* was approaching the startline on Starboard tack.
- *Hydraulink* was sailing away from the startline on Port towards *Choice Transport* on a collision course
- There were two other unidentified boats to leeward of *Choice Transport*
- *Choice Transport* hailed *Starboard* to *Hydraulink*
- Simultaneously, *Hydraulink* began to bear away to gybe to windward of *Choice Transport* and *Choice Transport* bore away to avoid *Hydraulink*
- There was contact between the bow of *Hydraulink* and the Starboard bow of *Choice Transport*
- Both boats started the race. *Hydraulink* subsequently retired
- There was damage to both boats

Conclusions And Rules That Apply:

- *Hydraulink*, a Port tack boat, failed to keep clear of *Choice Transport*, a Starboard tack boat. RRS 10
- It was not reasonably possible for *Choice Transport*, the right-of-way boat, to avoid contact with *Hydraulink* when it was clear that *Hydraulink* was not keeping clear. RRS 14

Decision:

- As *Hydraulink* did not finish and has been scored DNF she cannot be penalized further. RRS 44.3(c) and Appendix A4.2.

Protest Committee Panel:

Mike Alison, Bevan Woolley, Louis Mayo, Sean Bainbridge, Blair Park

Decision Advised:

20:00 24/6/2019