Racing Rules of Sailing

MR Call G2

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective
Clarify the answer to question 1 in the call refers to the incident, and not broken down to apply to that particular luff.

Proposal
Amend Answer 1 as follows:

MR CALL G2

Rule 16.1 Changing Course
Definitions Room

Question 1
Blue is sailing to leeward of Yellow. Both boats have spinnakers set. Blue luffs Yellow. What are the obligations on Blue and Yellow?

Answer 1
Yellow is required to keep clear and Blue is required to give Yellow room to respond to her luff. While Yellow is able to keep the majority of her spinnaker filled and drawing she is not entitled to additional room to drop her spinnaker.

If Blue continues her luff so that Yellow, in order to keep clear, has to luff beyond the point where she can keep her spinnaker filled and drawing, then Blue must give Yellow room to drop her spinnaker.

Whether or not Yellow drops her spinnaker at that time, she is still required to keep clear. If she does not drop her spinnaker at that time, then Blue is not required to give her additional room to drop the spinnaker later in that luff incident.

Current Position
See above
Reasons

1. Feedback suggests that some umpires are not sure if the reference to the luff refers to the overall luff by Blue, or to each luff (change of course) by Blue.

2. This call is intended to give Yellow one opportunity for room to drop her spinnaker. If Blue gives Yellow room by curtailing her luff, and Yellow does not drop her spinnaker at the required time, then any further luff by Blue, while still subject to 16.1, does not include the room for Yellow to drop her spinnaker.