


Balmain SC - PROTEST COMMITTEE DECISION**Race: 6**

PARTIES		
Boat or Committee or Person	Class/Fleet	Represented By
5731 Sassy	Friday Twilight	Lyn Evans
303 Raison Detre	Friday Twilight	Trevor Valaire

WITNESSES	
Name	Boat – Committee - Role
Douglas Clarke	5731 (Trimmer)
Anni Browning	5731 (On Rail)
David Meyer	303 (Near Mast)
Video supplied by club	From 3 rd party

Valid – Yes

Case Introduction: <i>Port and Starboard with damage</i>
Procedural Matters: <i>(Conflicts of Interest, parties not present, extending time limits)</i> Protest Committee members declared that they had no conflicts of interest and no party objected to the members hearing the protest
Facts found: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The incident occurred on the last lap of Race 6 in the channel between Cockatoo Island and Dawn Fraser Pool. Wind was approximately 10kts from the northeast. The sea state was slight. Both boats were keel boats and approximately 10m LOA. 5731 was close-hauled on starboard tack. 303 was close hauled on port tack on a converging course. When the boats were 5 boatlengths apart, 5731 hailed "starboard". When 5731 was approximately 1 boat length from 303, 5731 bore away in an attempt to avoid a collision. A collision occurred between the bow of 5731 and the stern quarter of 303 less than 0.5m from the transom of 303. 303 took no action to keep clear or to avoid contact. 303 hailed before the collision that he was going to take a penalty. 303 stated "5731 must have assumed I would keep clear". 5731 has damage to pulpit. 303 has damage to pushpit, stanchions, stanchion bases and the deck where the stanchions were fixed. 303 estimates the cost of repairing the damage as being in the vicinity of \$5,000. 303 did a Two Turn Penalty in acknowledgement of the infringement. Both boats completed the race.
Conclusion & Rules: 10, 14, 44.1 (b) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 303 on port tack failed to keep clear of 5731 on starboard tack and broke RRS 10. 303 did not avoid contact when it was reasonable possible to do so and broke RRS 14. Since 303 caused serious damage, her penalty was to retire as required by RRS 44.1(b). From the moment that 5731 became aware that 303 was not going to keep clear, there was time and room for 5731 to change course sufficiently to avoid the contact, and as a result 303 did not avoid contact that caused damage when it was reasonable possible for her to do so, and broke RRS 14.
Decision: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 303 is DSQ 5731 is DSQ
Protest Committee: Name: Howard Elliott IJ, Steve Hatch IJ, John Allan NJ Hearing Date/Time: 3/Mar/2025 18:00 <div style="text-align: right;">  Howard Elliott (Chair) </div>