

## **The Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club - Protest Hearing**

Event: Saturday Winter Series Race 5 on 12 July 2025

Protestor 1: *Gunner Goodwin* represented by Robert Alpe

Protestee 1: *Shadow* represented by Bruce Ferguson

### **Validity of the Protest:**

The Protest Committee considered the validity of the protest in accordance with RRS 63.5 and declared it valid.

### **FACTS FOUND:**

1. Wind was 6-8 knots, calm seas.
2. Both vessels were close hauled approaching the Rocky Point mark.
3. *Gunner Goodwin* was on Starboard Tack approaching the mark from 5 lengths out.
4. *Shadow* was on Port Tack approaching *Gunner Goodwin*.
5. *Gunner Goodwin* hailed *Shadow*.
6. *Shadow* then commenced to tack.
7. *Gunner Goodwin* then altered course to windward to avoid contact with *Shadow* prior to *Shadow* completing their tack.
8. This forced *Gunner Goodwin* to sail briefly above their proper course.
9. No contact occurred.
10. There was less than half a boatlength between both vessels after the manoeuvre with *Shadow* now overlapped and to leeward of *Gunner Goodwin*.

### **CONCLUSIONS:**

1. *Shadow* failed to Keep Clear of *Gunner Goodwin*.
2. *Gunner Goodwin* altered course to avoid contact.

Rules that apply: RRS 10, 14 & Definitions "Keep Clear (a)"

### **DECISIONS:**

1. *Shadow* is disqualified.

Protest Committee: Stephen Merrington (Chair) , Jim Gordon & Marco Tapia

Date: 16 July 2025.