

PARTIES

Boat, Committee or Person	Event, Division or Class	Represented By/Not Present
Stealth R7158	PPNYC Wednesday Twilight Division 2	John Handley
Young Lion R6886		Duncan Rae

WITNESSES

Name	Boat – Committee - Role
None	

Valid – Yes (if ‘No’ use Facts Found to document this decision)

<p>Case Summary: (type of Hearing and just brief introduction to help the reader)</p> <p>Port/starboard collision.</p>
<p>Procedural Matters: (Conflicts of Interest, parties not present, extending time limits)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The hearing was held online. 3 judges were in person. Both parties were online. TM, MA and MB declared that they are competitors in the series in Division 3. MB declared that he has, in the past, raced on another boat with Stealth’s skipper. Both parties consented to their acting as members of the protest committee. Stealth failed to hail ‘Protest’ and conspicuously display a red flag at the first reasonable opportunity for each, as required by RRS 60.2(a)(1). However, at the time of the incident it was obvious to her that injury or serious damage resulted and Stealth informed Young Lion within the time limit. Therefore, the protest is valid under RRS 60.2(c).
<p>Facts found:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Both boats were sailing to windward on a collision course, Stealth on starboard tack and Young Lion on port tack. There was contact between the bow of Young Lion and the port side of Stealth approximately two metres forward of the transom. As a result of the contact, Stealth suffered damage in the form of a dent in the hull, a broken port side lifeline fence, a broken port pushpit and four bent stanchions. Young Lion suffered damage in the form of a hole in the bow and a sheared forestay turnbuckle causing her forestay to break. Stealth did not hail protest, but displayed a red flag. Stealth informed the race committee, via the designated VHF channel, that she intended to protest Young Lion for the incident. Stealth informed Young Lion within the time limit of her intention to protest. Young Lion retired from the race. Stealth finished the race.
<p>Conclusion & Rules:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Young Lion on port tack failed to keep clear of Stealth on starboard tack, and broke RRS 10. Young Lion did not avoid contact with Stealth even though it was reasonably possible, and broke RRS 14(a). It was not reasonably possible for Stealth, the right-of-way boat, to avoid contact with Young Lion when it became clear that Young Lion was not keeping clear. Stealth did not break RRS 14(a). By retiring from the race, Young Lion took an applicable penalty.

Decision:

1. The protest is upheld. Since Young Lion took an applicable penalty, she is not further penalized under RRS 60.5(c)(2).

Protest Committee:

International Jury or Non-appealable Protest Committee: No

Theresa Morton RJ (Chair), Michael Arnold NJ, Michael Bradley RJ, Liam Hounsell-Robinson PCM

Signed: Theresa Morton

Date, time: 29/01/2026, 21:02