

## ROLEX SYDNEY HOBART YACHT RACE 2025

### INTERNATIONAL JURY DECISION

#### HEARING 3

#### CASE 4 – Race Committee v Prime Example (214)

##### Parties:

Rob Fisher representing the boat Prime Example

**Hearing Date:** 31 December 2025

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#### **1. Procedural Matters:**

- 1.1. Rob Fisher attended the hearing via phone.
- 1.2. The Race Committee did not attend the hearing. The Jury proceeded with the hearing as allowed under RRS 63.1(b).

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#### **2. Facts Found:**

- 2.1. Prime Example temporarily suspended racing to make electrical repairs and proceeded to Eden.
- 2.2. While making the electrical repairs, the boat was given a replacement multi-meter from off the boat.
- 2.3. The boat misunderstood that breaking rule 41 or SI 16.3 would only occur if someone from off the boat came onboard and helped them rectify their problem.
- 2.4. The repairs were made in compliance with the rules and the multi-meter was used as a second confirmation that the issue was rectified.
- 2.5. If the replacement multi-meter was not provided, the boat would still have continued in the race as they were satisfied the issue was rectified.
- 2.6. Prime Example resumed the race and finished as 66<sup>th</sup> boat across the line.
- 2.7. The boat self-declared the circumstances in its declaration.

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#### **3. Conclusions and Rules:**

- 3.1. The boat received outside help when they received and used the replacement multi-meter. This broke SI 16.3 and RRS 41.
- 3.2. Obtaining and using the replacement multi-meter did not give the boat an advantage in the race as it would have continued without the receipt and use of the replacement multi-meter.
- 3.3. The Jury is satisfied that the boat did not deliberately break the rules.
- 3.4. Sailing Instruction 21.1 allows the International Jury the option to apply a discretionary scoring or time penalty in lieu of disqualification for an infringement of the SI. Satisfied that the boat did not deliberately break a rule, the Jury has decided to apply a discretionary penalty.

- 3.5. In assessing the penalty, the Jury accepts that there were no performance gains but a proportionate penalty for a rule breach shall be applied.
  - 3.6. The Jury is satisfied that the circumstances of this case are comparable to a boat breaking a rule of Part 2 and taking a 1 hour penalty as detailed in SI 20.2.
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#### **4. Decisions:**

- 4.1. 1 hour is to be added to the elapsed time of Prime Example.

Decision Published: 12:10, 31 December 2025.

David Tillett AM AUS NJ (Chair), Jamie Sutherland NZL IJ, Philippe Mazard FRA IJ,  
Russell Green NZL IU, Richard Slater AUS IJ/IU