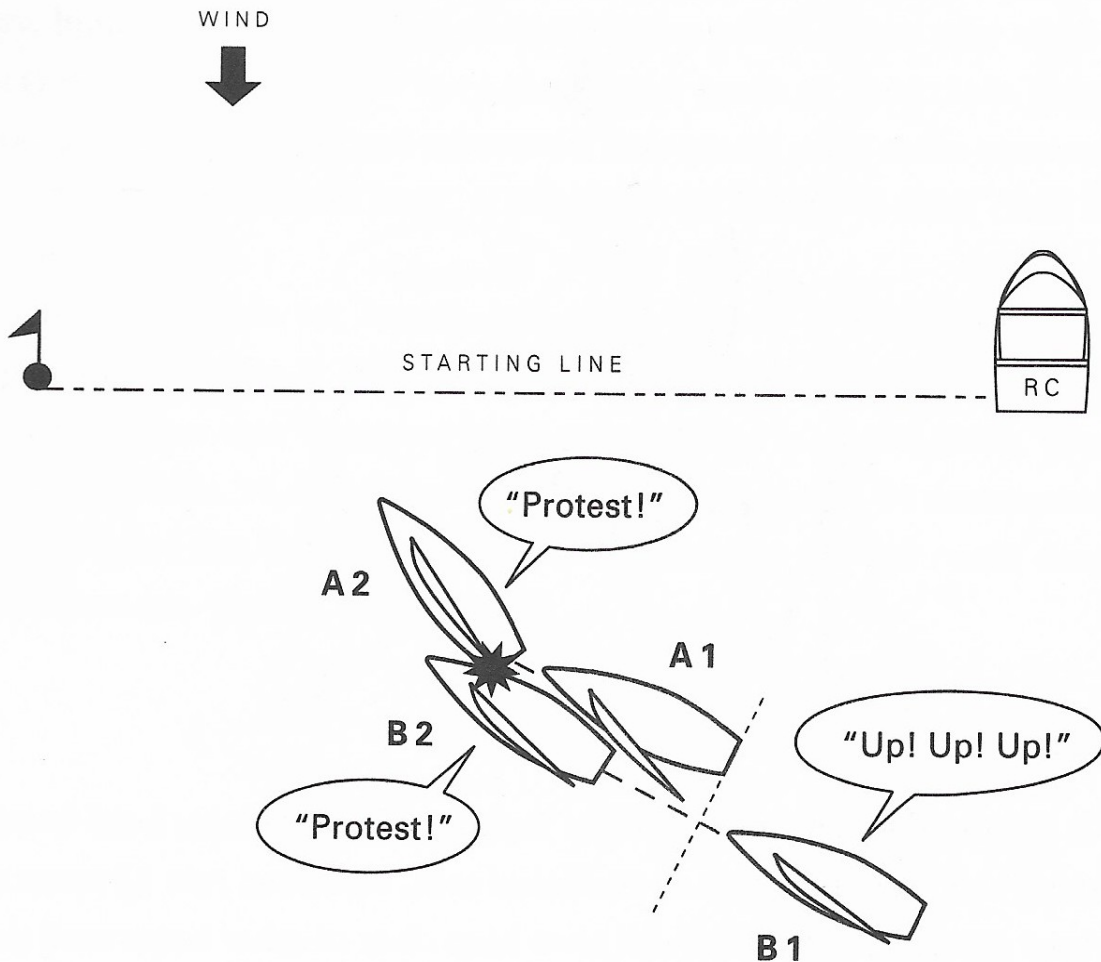


Dave Perry's Quiz #13

Quiz 13

Fifteen seconds before the starting signal, boats A and B are approaching the starting line to start. B is a few feet clear astern of A and yelling "Up! Up! Up!" A holds her course. B then becomes overlapped to leeward of A and holds her course. A immediately luffs (heads up) approximately 15 degrees and there is contact between the starboard bow of B and the port corner of A's transom. There is no damage or injury. Both boats protest. You are on the protest committee; how would you decide this?



ANSWER TO QUIZ 13

B is penalized under rule 15, Acquiring Right of Way. Before the boats are overlapped, B is required to keep clear by rule 12, On the Same Tack, Not Overlapped; and despite B's hails, A, as the right-of-way boat, is under no obligation to take any action relative to B. When B becomes overlapped with A, she instantly becomes the right-of-way boat under rule 11, On the Same Tack, Overlapped; however she is initially required to give A room to keep clear by rule 15 which she fails to do by holding her course after the overlap is established. A immediately responds to her obligation to keep clear of B under rule 11, but does not have the room (space) she needs to keep clear as evidenced by the contact. B breaks rule 15; and A breaks rule 11 but is exonerated (freed from penalty) by rule 43.1(b), Exoneration.

Both boats are required by rule 14, Avoiding Contact, to avoid contact if reasonably possible. A responds immediately to B's overlap but is unable to avoid contact; therefore she does not break rule 14. B clearly breaks rule 14; but as she is the right-of-way boat at the time, she is exonerated by rule 43.1(c) because the contact does not cause damage or injury.

Answers Quiz 13 Dave Perry's 100 Best Racing Rules Quizzes