

Quiz 17

Two starboard-tack boats, L and W, are approaching the race committee boat marking the right-hand end of the starting line to start. When there are 15 seconds before the starting signal, W overlaps L to windward from clear astern. L luffs and W is able to keep clear. The starting signal is made. With L head to wind, W does not have room to pass between L and the race committee boat. W tells L to bear away immediately to her close-hauled course, but L continues sailing head to wind thereby forcing W onto the wrong side of the race committee boat. L then bears away and starts. W circles around to start and protests L for denying her room at the starting mark by sailing above close-hauled after the starting signal. You are on the protest committee; how would you decide this?

