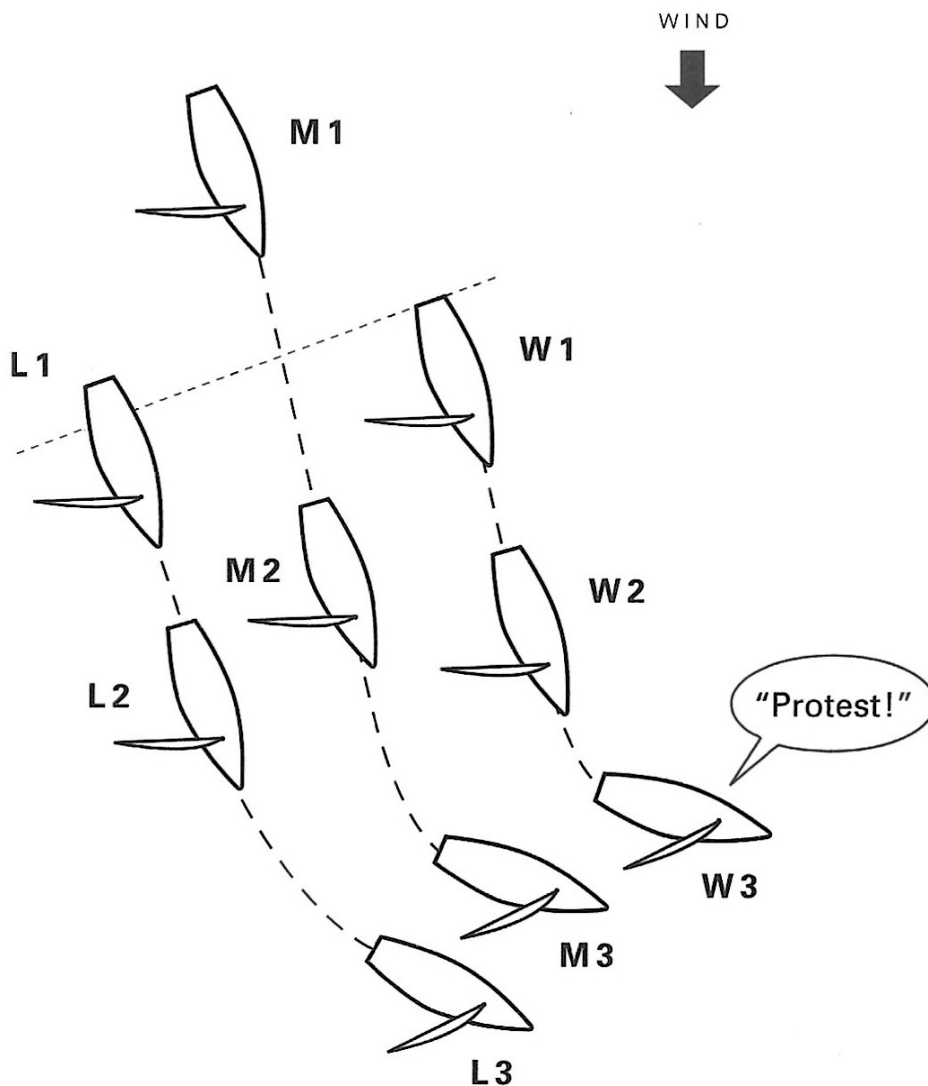


Quiz 25

Boats L, M and W are broad reaching on port tack on their proper courses. L and W are overlapped about two lengths apart, and M is clear astern of both L and W. Rule 17, On the Same Tack; Proper Course, does not apply between L and W. M establishes an overlap between L and W. L then luffs and both M and W luff to keep clear. W protests M for sailing above her proper course. You are on the protest committee; how would you decide this?



Dave Perry's 100 Best Racing Rules Quizzes

ANSWER TO QUIZ 25

Boat W's protest is disallowed. When M becomes overlapped with W, she is required to initially give W room to keep clear by rule 15, Acquiring Right of Way, which she does. Because M and W are required to keep clear of L, L is an obstruction (see the definition Obstruction). W is therefore required to give M room to pass L by rule 19.2(b), Giving Room at an Obstruction, if she is able to do so from the time the overlap began, which in this case she is. Furthermore, W is required to keep clear of M by rule 11, On the Same Tack, Overlapped, which she does. Because M becomes overlapped to leeward of W from clear astern within two of her hull lengths, M is required to sail no higher than her proper course. M's proper course in the absence of W, the other boat referred to in rule 17, On the Same Tack; Proper Course (see the definition Proper Course), is to luff in response to L's luff, which she does as required by rule 11. Therefore M is not sailing above her proper course. (See US Sailing Appeal 4 and World Sailing Case 29.)

Answers to Dave Perry's 100 Best Racing Rules Quizzes are based on The Racing Rules of Sailing for 2021–2024. For a comprehensive explanation of the rules, read Dave Perry's Understanding the Racing Rules of Sailing through 2024, which is available from US Sailing: 1 (800) 877-2451 or ussailing.org. Permission to reprint this quiz for non-commercial use is granted by the author.