

Quiz 38

Within one hull length of a windward mark to be left to port, Boat PL (an 18-foot boat on port tack) tacks to a close-hauled course to leeward of Boat SW (on starboard tack). As PL's bow approaches the mark, SW remains close-hauled and hails to PL, "You have no rights!" As SW bears away to round the mark she forces PL to bear away into the mark to avoid hitting her. PL immediately gets clear of the other boats, hailing "Protest!" as she does, and does one turn that includes a tack and a gybe. SW sails on. After the race, PL files a protest against SW for failing to keep clear of her. You are on the protest committee; how would you decide this?

