

Quiz 49

Boats PW and PL, two close-hauled port-tack boats, are half a length apart and approaching Boat S, a close-hauled starboard-tack boat. If PL and S hold their courses PL will hit S a few feet back from her bow. PW hails PL for room to pass astern of S. PL then hails PW for room to tack at S. PW does not respond and begins bearing away to pass astern of S. PL bears away also to avoid a collision and protests PW. In the hearing PW defends her actions by saying that she hailed first. You are on the protest committee; how would you decide this?

