

**PROTEST COMMITTEE DECISION****Case No: 1 Race: 1 (31 May 2026)**

<b>PARTIES</b>		
<b>Boat or Committee or Person</b>	<b>Class/Fleet</b>	<b>Represented By/Not Present</b>
Sassy	Division 4	Lyn Evans
Conquista	Division 3	Alan Bull

<b>WITNESSES</b>	
<b>Name</b>	<b>Boat – Committee - Role</b>
Gabrielle Menge	Crew on Conquista
Micheal Maioio	Crew on Conquista

**Valid – Yes**

<b>Case Introduction:</b> <i>Boat observed using their engine prior to the start.</i>	
<b>Procedural Matters:</b>  Kathy Meyers attended as an observer.  Sassy hailed “protest’ and displayed her red flag. They also hailed Conquista on channel 77. Conquista did not hear hail or see the flag as they were too far away.  Protest is valid.	
<b>Facts found:</b>  1. Conquesta’s (division 3) start time was 1140. 2. Conquesta motored towards the start line as she was late for the start (leaving the nearby dock at 1125). 3. Conquesta put her engine into neutral between 1140 and 1145. 4. Conquesta switched off the motor when she turned towards the start line to start at approximately 1148. 5. Sailing Instruction 18.2 states “A boat that is towed or uses her motor to get to the start after the preparatory signal shall carry out a minimum 360 degree turn (including one tack & one gybe), keeping clear of all other boats, after ceasing to be towed or using her motor and before starting. This changes RRS 42.1.” 6. Conquesta did not complete a 360 degree turn and finished 5 <sup>th</sup> out of 8 in the race.	
<b>Conclusion &amp; Rules:</b>  1. Conquesta used her motor after her preparatory signal (1136), propelling the boat and broke Sailing Instruction 18.2.	
<b>Decision:</b>  Conquesta to be scored DSQ in race 1.	
<b>Request to Withdraw:</b>	<b>Request Approved:</b>
<b>Protest Committee:</b> Name Erica Kirby IJ (Chair), John Blair, Geoff Ford	

**2025-2026 West Harbour Series – Winter Series**