Explanation 6 Luffing past head to wind.

Boat A is overlapped to leeward of Boat B. Rule 17 does not apply.

Boat A luffs Boat B head to wind.

Boat B then stops luffing, shouting “ If I tack there will be contact”

Boat A protests.

Question 1. What should the umpires do?

Answer 1. Penalize Boat B.

Explanation:

*If B was keeping clear throughout her response to A's luff, she cannot pause upon reaching HTW. Many boats do so.  When that happens it is all on B, and she will break rule 11. If B could have continued to keep clear by not pausing but rather smoothly continuing into a tack, and there is contact, A breaks rule 16.1.*

*In these situations A may have to bear away slightly to avoid the contact as B luffs and her stern swings.*