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# IRSA Interpretation 2015–A–2.2 of the International A Class rules

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Interpretation 2015-A-2.2  
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## ABBREVIATIONS

EC Executive Committee of IRSA  
ISAF International Sailing Federation  
IRSA International Radio Sailing Association  
CR Class Rules  
ERS Equipment Rules of Sailing  
RRS Racing Rules of Sailing

## DEFINITIONS

The following words and phrases have these definitions in this interpretation.

**bold**, *italics* A **term** in bold is defined in the ERS, whereas a *term* in italics is defined in the RRS.

Member A DNM, an Associate Member, or a Provisional Member of IRSA.

shall/may In this document, the word "shall" specifies a mandatory action or procedure, while the word "may" is permissive.

will In this document, the word "will" specifies an intention.

## Request received

Do Class Rules 3 and/or 4 prohibit one or more appendages, placed on the centreline and aft of the aft waterline ending and wholly above the waterline, and which is/are:

- movable?

- fixed?

## Relevant rules

International "A" Class Rules 1.1.1, 3.3 and 4.1.1.

## Discussion

The current "A" Class Rules were written in 1994 and at that time there were no ERS applicable to the hull and its component parts. However the current definitions given in the ERS may be used to give an insight into the meaning of the "A" Class rules because they objectively define various parts of the boat using commonly understood terms.

Even though the "A" Class rules do not refer to the current ERS definitions, ERS D.1 Hull and E.1.1 Hull Appendage, it may be assumed that most people associated with the sport would accept the definitions of the hull and hull appendages. There should be a good reason not to use the ERS definitions before rejecting them as invalid.

Restrictions regarding appendages are given in the "A" Class Rule 4.1.1. Number and shape of fixed appendages are not restricted. As to movable appendages, only those which move fore and aft and retracting appendages are not permitted.

The "A" Class is described in the Class Rule 1.1.1 as a Development Class (now called an Open Class) where anything is permitted unless it is specifically prohibited.

## Conclusion

One or more fixed and/or movable appendages joining the hull aft of the aft waterline ending and wholly above the waterline are permitted if they are:

- within 25 mm of the centreline and
- are not movable fore and aft and
- are not retractable.

## Notes

### Quote from IRSA Regulations 2003

6.2.5 Interpretations shall have the status of a class rule and shall remain valid for a maximum period of 2 years or until superseded by a Class rule change or modification carried out following the procedures of Regulation 6.4.

## Comment

The 2016 Class Rules require appendages to comply with the rules in force at the time of the hull's initial certification or those relating to the hull's certificate or the current class rules. To know what the previous class rules required it is necessary to know what was the effect of interpretations issued during that time. For that reason, even though the original lifetime of the interpretation has expired, this interpretation remains effective.

The 2016 Class Rules prohibit appendages that cut the waterplane outboard of the flotation waterline length limit marks.

end