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IRSA Interpretation 2015-A-4.2 of the International A Cass rules

Interpretation 2015-A-4.2
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Author: Graham Bantock

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

Q1 When a mainsail has a pocket luff which passes around the mast, are the widths measured to the luff of the sail with the mast removed, or to the aft side of the mast as

shown in diagram 5 of the class rules?

Q2 When a mainsail luff contains a jackstay attached to the aft side of the mast spar, is the sail to be measured as a double luff sail with the luff perpendicular taken to the fore side of the mast? If so, are the widths measured to the sail luff with the stay removed or to the fore edge of the spar?

Relevant rules

International "A" Class Rules 6.2.1, 6.7.1 and Diagram 5. IYRU Sail Measurement Rules 1993.

International "A" Class Rules 1.1.1, 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.7.1 and Diagram 5. IYRU Sail Measurement Rules 1993.

Discussion

1 According to the International "A" Class Rule 6.2.1: "Sails shall be measured in accordance with the current "IYRU Sail Measurement Rules", except where varied herein (in the class rules)". There is no reference in the text of the International "A" Class Rules regarding the measurement of the mainsail widths. Diagram 5 is showing double luff mainsail regarding "B" measurement only. Purpose of the Diagram 5 is not to define how the cross widths have to be measured and therefore current "IYRU Sail Measurement Rules" should be used as reference for the cross widths measurement.

2 International "A" Class is a Development Class as specified in class rule 1.1.1. A term "stay" is not defined in the IYRU Sail Measurement Rules and present ISAF Equipment Rules of Sailing so it is reasonable to use it in its normal nautical sense i.e. a stay is rigging supporting the mast in fore-and-aft direction. A jackstay inside the mainsail luff pocket is rigging but it is not a stay. Accordingly, mainsail with the luff containing a jackstay is not a double luff sail.

According to the International "A" Class Rule 6.2.1: "Sails shall be measured in accordance with the current "IYRU Sail Measurement Rules", except where varied herein (in the class rules)". Rigging, including any line inside a luff pocket, shall be removed for measurement.

Conclusion

1 Widths on a mainsail with mast inside luff pocket have to be measured to the luff of the mainsail with the mast removed.

2 Luff perpendicular and the widths on a mainsail with a jackstay inside a luff pocket shall be measured to the luff of the mainsail with the jackstay removed.

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 sails to comply with the rules in force at the time of their initial certification 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 invoke the ERS in which H.5 SAIL MEASUREMENT requires sails to be removed from spars for measurement. 2016 CR permits stays inside luff tabling not exceeding 2 mm diameter to remain in place during measurement. A stay of larger diameter inside a pocket shall be removed and the sail width measured to the luff.

end