

RULES

The International 18 Foot Skiff Class was born in the 1890s to satisfy a need for a boat, which was within the means of the “average man” and would provide good, competitive racing to attract public interest.

These rules have been framed to uphold this philosophy. The intent and spirit of the rules is to;

- * provide good, fair, close racing;
- * minimise the cost of competition;
- * produce an attractive vehicle for public entertainment;
- * provide enjoyment for all competitors;
- * encourage new recruits;
- * stabilize the class by restricting the hull shape and limiting development in other areas while allowing the rules to be reviewed year by year to accommodate new developments as they become more cost effective.

The intent and spirit of the Rules shall be the primary aid to the interpretation of the rules in all cases of dispute.

The Governing Body is the International 18 Foot Skiff Association (“Governing Body”).

The official language of the class is English. In the case of an interpretation dispute, the accompanying definitions and the common English usage will apply. In the case of inconsistency, the definitions will prevail.

1) **HULL**

- a) A hull, deck and attached appendages shall be constructed to the International League Design by a Registered Builder from an Approved mould.
- b) No changes or variations to the hull shape or the International League Design are permitted, other than required as part of routine maintenance or repair.

- c) No artificial distortion, whether fairing, bumps, hollows or other localised discontinuity which would affect the approved hull shape are permitted.
- d) Bowsprits shall not extend more than 750mm forward of the Stem.
- e) The jib forestay position shall not be more than 600mm forward of the Stem.
- f) With the exception of a wire or rod bobstay for the spinnaker pole, the bobstay shall not join the Stem any lower than 100mm or higher than 130mm above the keel line.
- g) The bobstay shall be a maximum width of 130mm and be parallel sided.
- h) The chain plates shall be a maximum width of 1810mm and positioned on the front wing mount.
- i) A hull may be modified by the addition of struts from;
 - i) the front wing mount forward to the gunwhale; and
 - ii) the front wing mount to immediately forward or aft of the centreboard case;

if it was constructed prior to 1 January 2006 or upon written request to the Technical Committee.

2) **WINGS**

- a) The maximum overall horizontal width of all extensions, wings, planks or any other appendages (excluding tiller extensions and foot loops) measured in the most horizontal position is not to exceed 2,135m (7ft) from the centerline.
- b) Wings shall be constructed and attached to the hull in such a way that they are not capable of adding additional righting moment, from whatever sources, beyond their own weight and the weight of the crew they support.
- c) Wings shall be constructed from up to and including 6000 series aluminium, GRP and carbon fibre up to a maximum modulus of 400GPA.
- d) Wings shall be constructed from circular/round tubing.

3) **WEIGHT**

- a) The all up dry weight of a boat shall be not less than 170kg.

- b) Boats shall be weighed including the Hull rigged with the No.1 mast, No1 rig sails, wings, rudder, centreboard and all sheets and equipment normally on board when sailing (but excluding spares, tools and non essential items).
- c) Lead weight correctors shall be used to bring a boat up to the minimum weight and shall be placed close to the centre of the skiff and permanently fastened in the following percentages of the total weight required:
 - i) 10% not aft of the forward face of the bowsprit;
 - ii) 60% with the centres of the correctors not aft of the mast; and
 - iii) 30% on the rudder frame with the centres of the correctors not forward of the aft most vertical face of the transom.

4) **SAILS**

- a) A boat is permitted and shall register the following maximum number of sails for the period after Registration Date until the next Registration Date;
 - i) Two (2) Mainsails;
 - ii) Two (2) Jibs; and
 - iii) Two (2) Spinnakers.
- b) A boat may register six (6) new sails in its first year of registration and four (4) new sails at each Registration Date thereafter.
- c) A boat attending a Championship Event in another hemisphere from its normal home continent shall be allowed to replace two (2) registered sails.
- d) No sail shall have a hole or aperture other than normal reefing or attachment points.
- e) Spinnakers shall not be constructed from cuban fibre or such like material.

5) **MASTS**

- a) Masts shall be constructed from up to and including 6000 series aluminium, GRP and carbon fibre up to a maximum modulus of 400GPA.
- b) A boat is permitted and shall register a maximum of two (2) masts.
- c) If a boat registers two (2) masts, that boat shall register a No. 1 mast and a No.2 mast.
- d) Each mast shall be of fixed length and shall have a maximum length, measured without prebend and above the sheerline at the mast step, of:
 - i) No. 1 10.225m

ii) No. 2 9.200m

e) Alternately, a boat may use and register one (1) mast adjustable to the No.1 and No.2 maximum height positions.

6) **BOOMS**

a) The boom shall be constructed from up to and including 6000 series aluminium, GRP and carbon fibre up to a maximum modulus of 400GPA.

b) A boat shall not use a more than one (1) boom during any one regatta.

7) **SPINNAKER POLES**

a) The Spinnaker Pole may be constructed from up to and including 6000 series aluminium, GRP and carbon fibre up to a maximum modulus of 400GPA.

b) A boat shall not use more than one (1) spinnaker pole during any one regatta.

c) The Spinnaker Pole shall be of a fixed length and shall not extend more than 3.8m and not less than 3.75m forward of the stem.

8) **CREW**

a) There shall be a minimum crew of three (3).

b) The minimum age of any crew member shall be 14 years.

c) A boats crew shall include a maximum of two group 3 sailors as classified under the ISAF Classification Code, provided that the work undertaken or pay received by that group 3 sailor shall not have related in any way to 18foot skiffs.

9) **HYDROFOILS**

a) Hydrofoils are prohibited.

10) **CENTREBOARD AND RUDDERS**

a) A boat shall not use more than one (1) centerboard and one (1) rudder during any one regatta.

b) Centreboards and rudders shall be constructed to the International League Design by a Registered Builder from an Approved Mould.

c) No changes or variations are permitted to a centerboard or rudder, other than required as part of routine maintenance or repair.

- d) The top of the centerboard shall remain above the deck at all times while sailing.
- e) The centerboard case may be packed with any material with the purpose only of ensuring that the centerboard fits firmly in the centerboard case. Any packing in the centerboard case shall not act as structural replacement for the centerboard case or reinforcement of the centerboard case.

11) **RIGGING, FITTINGS**

- a) Titanium, or similar materials, are not permitted in rigging, fittings or fastenings.
- b) Rigging wires supporting the mast and spinnaker pole shall be made from stainless steel.

12) **MEASUREMENT/RULES COMPLIANCE**

- a) It is the skipper's and owner's responsibility to ensure that their boat complies with the rules at all times.
- b) The Governing Body, or its Approved Representative acting on behalf of the Governing Body, is responsible to confirm compliance with these rules and issue a measurement certificate.
- c) A Skipper/owner must make the boat available for scrutineering at the request of the Governing Body or its Approved Representative.
- d) Only a measurers officially recognised by the Governing Body or its Approved Representative shall measure boats and equipment and complete and sign a boats measurement certificate.
- e) By the Registration Date each year a boat shall have registered its Hull (including weighing if required), Sails and Masts ("Registered Equipment").
- f) Registered Equipment shall be indelibly signed, numbered and be recorded on a boats measurement certificate.
- g) A boat shall only race with Registered Equipment.
- h) Notwithstanding clause 12 g), National Authorities may at their own discretion allow boats to race with sails that have been registered in prior years but not within eight calendar weeks of either the JJ Giltinan Championship or Mark Foy Trophy.
- i) Boats which have not been registered by the Registration Date shall be registered at the first Championship Event they attend.

- j) The Governing Body has absolute discretionary powers to withhold a Measurement Certificate.
- k) A measurer may report to the Governing Body anything he considers to be unusual or to depart from the intent or spirit of the rules or that in his opinion a boat submitted for measurement does not comply with the intent and spirit of the rules.
- l) Registered Builders may submit details to the Governing Body any feature which may impinge upon the intent and spirit or letter of these Rules. Upon submission of full drawings and explanations, an advisory ruling will be given and recorded.

DEFINITIONS

1 HULL

That integral part of the boat constructed so as to provide buoyancy by the containment of air, or the partial or complete exclusion/displacement of water. Specifically excluded are spinnaker poles, bowsprits, wings, centerboard and rudder fittings.

2 GUNWALE

The points at which the plane of the outside of the hull skin, or its extension, would or does, meet the plane of the top of the deck or its extension.

3 OUTER GUNWALE

The outer-most edge of the hull and deck excluding removable appendages.

4 STEM

The most forward extremity of the hull.

5 DECK

A two dimensional (2D) surface, (or near 2D surface, allowing for the sheer of the gunwale), real or imaginary, that has or would have the effect of forming a lid for the skin.

6 TRANSOM

A surface at the aft extremity of the hull.

7 SKIN

Continuous outer layer of the hull, which below the waterline, when afloat, is in contact with the water. The skin includes the surface above the waterline extending there from the gunwale

8 MAST

Integral structure supporting, and/or forming whole or part of the sails, in vertical dimension.

9 MAINSAIL

The sail aft of the mast.

10 JIB

A sail set with its luff in front of the mast; not permitted to be lowered while racing.

11 SPINNAKER

Any other sail set during a race.

12 BOWSPRITS

A bowsprit is a structure extending in front of the stem, which is used to support the tack of the jib and may support the spinnaker pole/bowsprit.

13 SPINNAKER POLE

A spinnaker pole is a structure which is used for the purpose of supporting the tack of the spinnaker in a substantially horizontal manner away from the mast. It is measured as a separate hull extension.

14 HYDROFOILS

Devices comprising surfaces attached directly or indirectly to the hull; and which are designed to provide a level of vertical lift force that has the intent of reducing the immersion or drag of the hull while sailing.

15 WINGS

Wings are any structure that extend beyond the gunwale in an outward direction, which are attached to the hull, and whose principle purpose is to increase righting moment by moving the crew outward.

16 REGISTRATION DATE

The Registration Date shall be nominated by individual National 18ft Skiff sailing Associations to be either the nearest Sunday eight calendar weeks prior to race 1 of the JJ Giltinan Championship or the nearest Sunday eight calendar weeks prior to race 1 of the Mark Foy Trophy.

17 MEASUREMENTS

Points of reference:

For the purpose of these rules, and the directions herein, the word vertical shall refer to the direction perpendicular to both the design waterline and the plane of the gunwales. Upward shall refer to the vertical direction away from the waterline and toward the deck. Outward shall refer to a position extending furthest from the centerline of the hull in a horizontal plane.

18 FITTINGS

Fittings and other hull attachments that are for the purpose of attaching or supporting fittings, may be excluded from measurement, provided that in the measurer's opinion such fittings/attachments do not outwardly flaunt the rules, that they do not affect the skiff's hydrodynamic performance, and that they are functional.

19 NEW vs REPAIR

A sail, mast, hull, or any other item mentioned in these rules, will be deemed new if more than 25% of its original area, volume or weight is replaced or altered.

Any alterations and/or repairs to any registered item (i.e. sails, masts, etc) or repairs to the hull must only be done with written permission of the Governing Body, or its approved representative.

20. International League Design.

Means the design specifications approved by the Governing Body.

21. Approved Mould

Means a mould which has been approved by the Governing Body.

22. Registered Builder

Means a builder who has been approved by the Governing Body.

23. Championship Event.

Means the JJ Giltinan Championship, the European Championship, the San Francisco International Regatta and the New Zealand International Regatta (ANZAC) noting that the Mark Foy is held in conjunction with these events.

24. Approved Representative

Means a National 18 Foot Class Association.