

Racing Rules of Sailing RRS 87

A submission from the Chair of the Classes

Committee and 420 Class

Purpose or Objective

To clarify the conditions for changing a class rule at an event and bring the RRS in line with the WS Regulations.

Proposal 1

87 CHANGES TO CLASS RULES

The notice of race may change a class rule only when the class rules permit the change, or when written permission of the **class authority and the class rules authority (as defined in the *Equipment Rules of Sailing*)** ~~class association~~ for the change is posted on the official notice board.

Proposal 2

If the terminology of the Equipment Rules of Sailing is adopted by the Racing Rules of Sailing, then the terms “class authority” and “class rules authority” shall be used in bold and the sentence “(as defined in the *Equipment Rules of Sailing*)” is not required to be in the rule text.

Current Position

As above

Reasons

1. RRS 87 refers to a “class association”, which is a generic term and could be taken either for an International Class Association or a National Class Association. For World Sailing Classes, there is an additional requirement by the Regulations, which obliges them to seek World Sailing approval for any class rule changes at an event, and of course to prevent their members (National Class Associations) to change their class rules without their approval.
 2. The ERS term “class authority” means the body that governs the class as specified in the class rules. It includes both the International Class Associations running WS recognized classes, and the associations running classes not recognized by WS. The use of this term in RRS 87 clarifies which body is responsible for giving the class approval.
 3. The ERS term “class rules authority” means the body that provides final approval of the class rules, class rule changes and class rule interpretations. It means World Sailing for all World Sailing Classes and the ORC and IRC/RORC for the two recognized rating systems, and any other body which performs this function for non-WS Classes. The use of this term brings RRS 87 in line with the WS Regulations. For the classes which are not recognized by World Sailing, the addition of the body responsible for their class rules approval as the other source of approval will help ensure that any change at a specific event is reasonable and justified.
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