

Life lines

Clarification of use of lifelines in areas of bulwarks

A submission from James Dadd, SRSC Member

Purpose or Objective

To ensure that crew hiking along the full length of the side-deck around the cockpit has the same level of safety as forward of the cockpit area.

Proposal

Add new rule 3.14.1 j)

j) **Pulpits, stanchions and lifelines may not be replaced by bulwarks.**

Current Position

The rule is silent on bulwarks and whether they can be considered within rule 3.14.

Reasons

A number of designs have appeared where the designer considers the cockpit sides as bulwarks and the cockpit sole as the maximum height of the deck. They are then not fitting lifelines on top of the “bulwark” and crews are using hiking bars or no protection to hike from the top of the bulwark instead of sitting with their torso inside the lifelines. This is not considered to be a safe practice for categories where lifelines are required and further clarification that this is not permitted should be provided. Examples are provided below.

It is proposed that no grandfathering options are provided for.

