

International Rules Committee Report for the 2022 Annual General Meeting

There were only few inquiries with technical questions to be answered.

Rule 5.6.1 "The internal dimensions of the centreboard case shall conform to the tolerances specified in the Measurement Diagram. No temporary or movable insert in the centreboard case is permitted."

We identified some features used in various boats for a couple of years which have more or less been tolerated, but do not meet the rule for the internal centreboard case, at least not when reading formally. Generally we want to harmonize reality and rules by either adjusting one or the other or both, so for good continuous transparency we should take action here.

Related aspects and features identified so far are:

1. tapered / trapezoidal internal shape of c/b case, front to back (all Ovingtons, most Rondars)
- could be resolved by IRC statement, rule change most likely not needed
2. lifting pins/J-bolts (no leaking, easy maintenance, all Ovingtons, most Rondars)
- could be resolved by IRC statement and specification, rule change most likely not needed
3. gasket velcros/zippers (minimize water drain into trunk, support dynamic lift and planing)
- needs further insight, decision depends on complexity, costs, maintenance and security
- if easy and safe, it could be resolved by IRC statement and specification, depends on details
- else rule change needed
4. gybe stoppers (used for centreboards only, which do not have a gybe stop when lifted)
- only few boats use this feature worldwide, however they used it many years
- needs further insight, decision depends on complexity, costs, maintenance and security
- more research on previous IRC statements pending, none found so far
- most likely a rule change would be needed

Sailors, boatowners, members are asked to share other features which might be questionable. Any pictures and descriptions would be welcome. Email to IRC please.

Whether or not we want to approach a rule change for above mentioned features should be discussed at the AGM. Even if we prepare a rule change proposal, the ballot could still fail.

If we stay with the current rule wording, questionable features would have to be removed within a fair time frame, e.g. until the next worlds.

All thoughts are welcome, please let us know.

Andreas Jungclaus

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Chairman IRC

+49-1749015903

int505de@okaycompany.de

IRC Members

Andreas Jungclaus – Chairman	GER
Mike Martin	USA
Christian Silvestre	FRA
Andy Smith	GBR
Wolfgang Stueckl	GER
Nigel Lott	AUS
Ian Gregg – Chief Measurer	AUS