



RULE MANAGEMENT GROUP

THE VOLVO OPEN 70 RULE

PUBLIC INTERPRETATION NO.45

This public interpretation is given in accordance with rule 1.3 of the Volvo Open 70 Rule Version 2

Question:

Rule 7.1 states “ERS shall apply for sail measurement unless otherwise prescribed in the Volvo 70 Rule. All sails shall be measured and signed by a Measurer. The Measurer may refuse to measure any sail which is considered by the Measurer to circumvent the sail limitations or requirements of the Volvo 70 Rule in any way.”

Rule 7.3.9 states “Reefing of Spinnakers is permitted. Snuffer, squeezer, or other furling device for Spinnakers are permitted.”

Rule 7.4.6 states “Headsails may be furlled and/or reefed.”

Figure 1 is a diagram from the ERS 2005-2008 and depicts how the clew point of various sail types is defined.

Figure 2 depicts a spinnaker with multiple sheeting points in the clew area of the sail.

Figure 3 is contained within Figure 3 - Sail Measurement from Volvo Open 70 Rule V2.

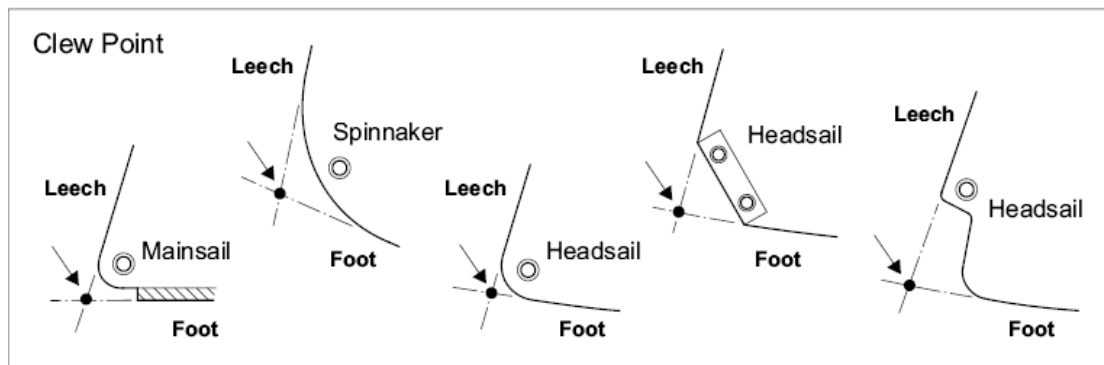


Figure 1

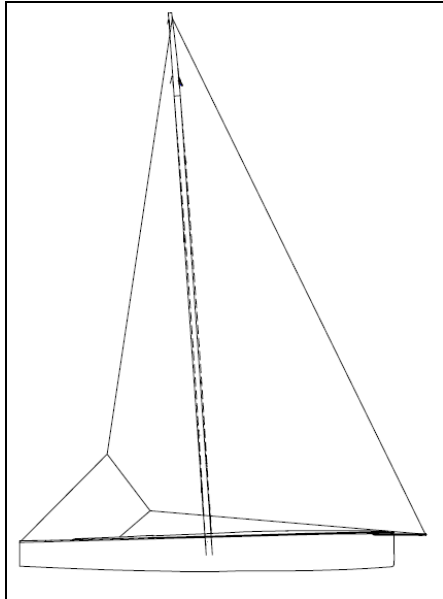


Figure 2

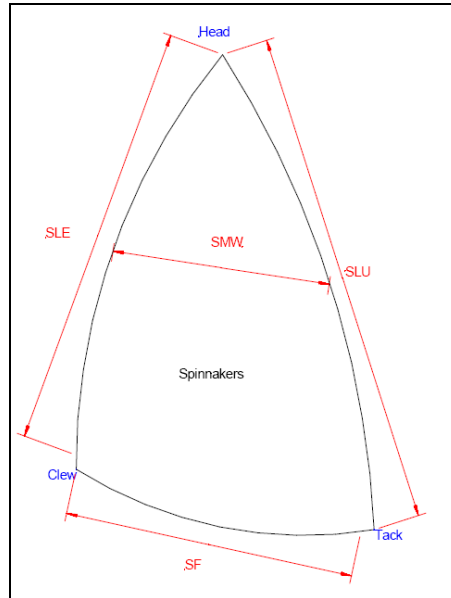


Figure 3

1. Is it correct to assume that a headsail may have multiple sheeting positions in the clew area?
2. Is it correct to assume that a spinnaker shall have only one sheeting point within the clew area?
3. Is it correct to assume that a headsail may be slab reefed by the use of an additional clew point further up the leech towards the head and/or an additional tack point further up the luff towards the head?
4. The spinnaker depicted in figure two requires two sheeting points to be used simultaneously whether or not the sail is reefed in any way. Is it correct to assume that this is not consistent with figure 1 from ERS and figure 3 from VO70 Rule V2 and is therefore not allowed?

Interpretation:

ERS G.2.1 defines the **foot** as:
The bottom edge.

ERS G.2.2 defines the **leech** as:
(a) MAINSAIL and HEADSAIL: *The aft edge.*
(b) SPINNAKER: *The edges other than the foot.*

ERS G.4.1 defines the **Clew Point** as:
The intersection of the foot and the leech, each extended as necessary.

ERS G.4.2 defines the **Head Point** as:
(a) MAINSAIL: *The intersection of the luff, extended as necessary, and the line through the highest point of the sail at 90° to the luff.*
(b) HEADSAIL: *The intersection of the luff, extended as necessary, and the line through the highest point of the sail, excluding attachments, at 90° to the luff.*
(c) SPINNAKER: *The intersection of the leeches, extended as necessary.*

VO70 rule 7.1 states:

ERS shall apply for sail measurement unless otherwise prescribed in the Volvo 70 Rule. All sails shall be measured and signed by a Measurer. The Measurer may refuse to measure any sail which is considered by the Measurer to circumvent the sail limitations or requirements of the Volvo 70 Rule in any way.

VO70 rule 7.3 states:

7.3.2 **Spinnaker Foot Length (SF)**

SF shall be the distance between tack point and clew point.

7.3.3 **Spinnaker Half Width (SHW)**

SHW shall be the distance between the half points of the luff and leech measured along the shortest path on the surface of the sail.

7.3.4 **Spinnaker Luff Length (SLU)**

SLU shall be the distance between the head point and the tack point.

7.3.5 *Spinnaker Leech Length (SLE)*

SLE shall be the distance between the head point and the clew point.

1. Yes. Neither ERS nor the Volvo Open 70 rule refer to or limit sheeting points for headsails. The leech shall be considered the aft edge which extends down from the head point to the clew area. The Clew Point shall be established in accordance with ERS.
2. No. Neither ERS nor the Volvo Open 70 rule refer to or limit sheeting points for spinnakers. The Volvo Open 70 Rule defines spinnaker dimensions differently from ERS, as permitted in rule 7.1, effectively applying the same rules as ERS applies for headsails. As such the leech shall be considered the aft edge which extends down from the head point to the clew area. The Clew Point shall be established in accordance with ERS.
3. Yes.
4. No.

END

Signed on behalf of the Volvo Open 70 Rule Management Group



James Dadd, Chief Measurer

14th April 2008