



## RULE MANAGEMENT GROUP

# THE VOLVO OPEN 70 RULE

### PUBLIC INTERPRETATION NO.64

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

#### Question:

PI45 states "... Neither ERS nor the Volvo Open 70 rule refer to or limit sheeting points for spinnakers. The Volvo Open 70 Rule defines spinnakers .... effectively applying the same rules as ERS applies for headsails. .... The Clew Point shall be established in accordance with ERS."

Figure 1 below is a diagram from the ERS 2005-2008 and depicts how the clew point of various sail types is defined. The labels A through E have been added in the interests of clarity of interpretation.

Figure 2 on the following page is a diagram representing 4 masthead spinnakers, with multiple sheeting points at varying positions along the foot and leech. Indicative dimensions are given in millimetres. In each case the red lines and dimensions denote the projections of leech and foot to find the clew point in a manner similar to that shown for corner type D in Figure 1 below. The grey area and dimensions denote the sail surface and its edge lengths respectively.

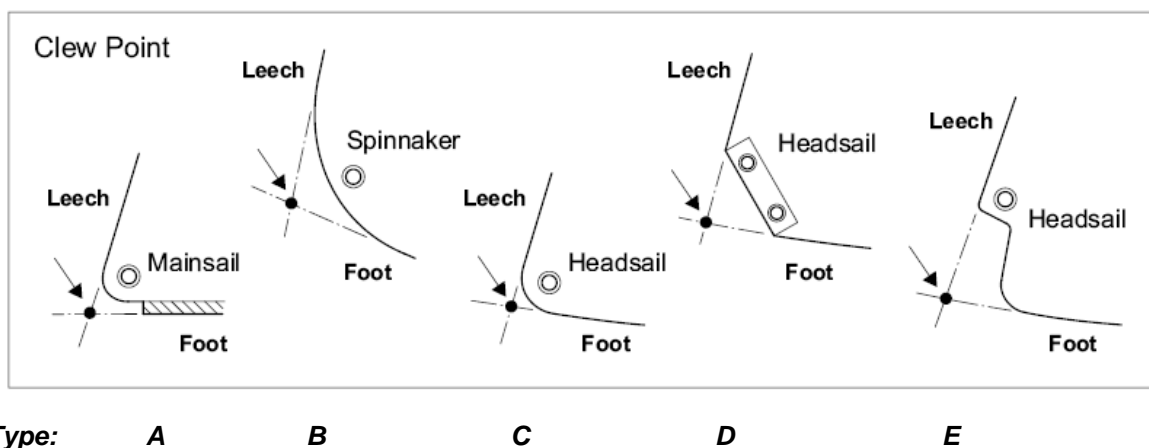


Figure 1 – Clew Points from ERS

1. With reference to Figure 1 above, which of the clew types B-E would be considered to most closely represent the quadrilateral planform depicted in PI45, Figure 2.
2. With reference Figure 2 below, and for *each* of the sails shown, please clarify which of the points labelled A, B, or C would be taken to be the clew point for the purpose of measurement.
3. For such a quadrilateral sail of arbitrary planform (i.e. with dimensions different to those shown in figure 2 below) please issue general guidelines as to how the clew point would be found.

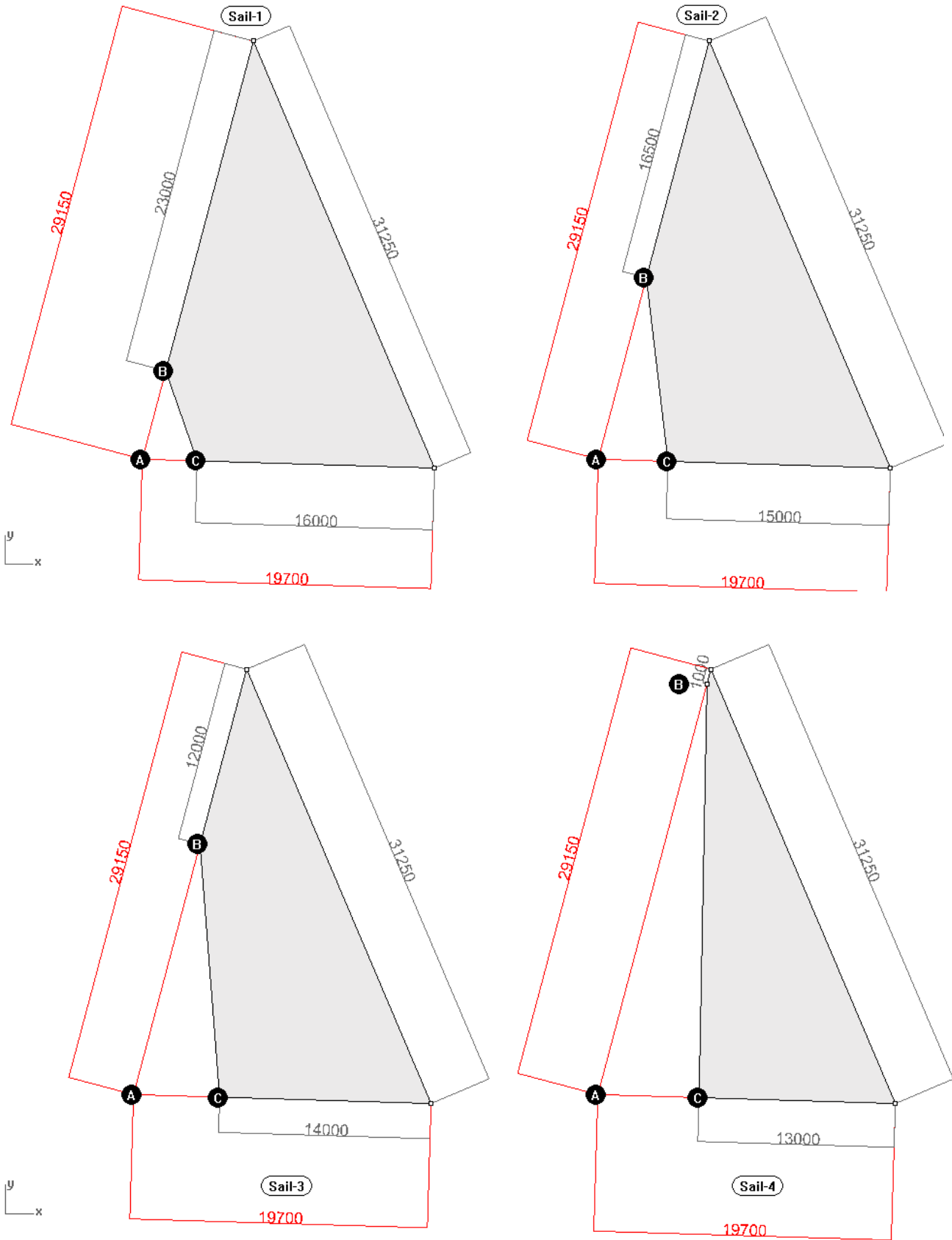


Figure 2 – Quadrilateral sails 1- 4

**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.*

1. The Volvo Open 70 Rule does not consider “quadrilateral planforms”, as all sails are triangular, with a single **tack point**, **clew point** and **head point** as defined in ERS 2005-2008. However, type D in figure 1 is considered to be most appropriate in consideration of PI45.
2. Each sail would be measured in accordance with ERS 2005-2008, and the **clew point** would be established by extending the **foot** and **leech** as necessary. The actual sheeting points are irrelevant when establishing the **leech** of the sail (using ERS G.2.2(a)), and as such in several of the examples the **leech** may be considered to extend through the upper sheeting point to the lower sheeting point and the **clew point** would be established at point C. Otherwise the **clew point** would be established at point A. Determination of this would only be possible on inspection of the actual sail, considering edge curvature etc.
3. Quadrilateral sails are not considered in the Volvo Open 70 Rule, as such it is not possible to issue guidelines as to how they should be measured.

Attention is drawn to the ISAF Guide to Sail Measurement, B.3 Measurement Points (ERS G.4, G.5 & H.4.2), B.3.1 CORNER MEASUREMENT POINTS AND AFT HEAD POINT (ERS G.4 & G.5.5), which states “Where the line of the extension of the edge is uncertain and not repeatable leading to inconsistent **measurement points**, the measurement of a **sail** should be refused.”

END

Signed on behalf of the Volvo Open 70 Rule Management Group



James Dadd, Chief Measurer

26<sup>th</sup> August 2008