

VOLVO OCEAN RACE

Request for an Interpretation from Equipo Telefonica Case VOR 06

JURY NOTICE JN12 Jury Decision

14th January 2009

To: Teams, Volvo Event Management, Rule Management Group, VOR Media Centre
From: International Jury

1. On 31st December 2008 the Jury received a request referred to it by the Organising Authority under RRS N2.3¹ asking the Jury to make an interpretation in response to a request from Equipo Telefonica.
2. Equipo Telefonica asked: 'Does the jury consider that this 5mm wear-pad and the associated fittings could exert outward pressure [on] the sheet in contravention of [Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)] rule 50.3(a) when the sheet is lead to either trimming winches?'
3. Included with the question was a document detailing the method of attachment of blocks to the hull. The Jury circulated the question and document to all teams inviting submissions. None were received.
4. RRS Rule 50.3(a) reads as follows:
'Use of Outriggers. No sail shall be sheeted over or through an outtrigger, except as permitted in rule 50.3(b) or 50.3(c). An outtrigger is any fitting or other device so placed that it could exert outward pressure on a sheet or sail at a point from which, with the boat upright, a vertical line would fall outside the hull or deck planking. For the purpose of this rule, bulwarks, rails and rubbing strakes are not part of the hull or deck planking and the following are not outriggers ...'
5. The Jury consulted with the Rule Management Group (RMG) members James Dadd and Nick Nicholson, before making its decision.

DECISION

6. The proposed arrangement is permitted provided that in normal use, all of the bearing surface of the sheet against the sheave lies inboard of a vertical line representing the outer edge of the hull or deck when the boat is upright.



Bryan Willis
Chairman

International Jury:
Shane Borrell (NZL), Rut Subniran (THA), David Tillet (AUS), Tee Suan Tan (SIN), Bryan Willis (GBR)

¹ RRS N2.3: 'The jury shall also decide matters referred to it by the organizing authority or the race committee.'