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## Model Yachting Association

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To IOMICA executive

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The MYA, NCA for GBR request the following interpretations of the IOM Class Rule.

### Question 1

Are leech **tablings** permitted?

#### Discussion

This question arose after a club sailor asked a question of the MYA tec team. Is it permitted to use a discontinuous coloured tabling on the leech? After the MYA tec team studied the current class rules it appeared that not only is this construction not permitted, but neither is the narrow Mylar tape common to many IOM sail leeches: indeed any form of leech tabling would appear not to be permitted under the current class rule.

It would appear that this problem was caused by an error when the 2002 CR was rewritten to form the 2003 CR. Tabling was specifically permitted by clauses G.3.1 (l) and G.4.1 (h) in the 2002 CR, but this permission was not transferred to the 2003 CR, which then became the 2007 rule.

The current situation is that everyone involved in the class from rule makers, sail makers, measurers, Championship officials down to the club sailor have inadvertently assumed that tablings on all sail edges are permitted without querying the Class Rule and have made, measured and used sails with leech tablings. As a result many IOM sails probably do not comply with the Class Rule. Such tablings are obviously desirable as they are regularly used by sail makers on leeches of many classes and by their inclusion in a previous version of the rule it shows that the intention was that they should be permissible.

The relevant current rules are:

### **IOM class rule 2007 v.1**

#### ***Introduction***

*The rules in Part II and III are closed class rules which means that anything not specifically permitted is prohibited.*

## **Part II – requirements and limitations**

### **G.3 MAINSAIL**

#### G.3.1 CONSTRUCTION

##### b) OPTIONAL

(1) **Tabling** at the **luff** may form a pocket for a mast **spar** jackstay.

G.3.3	DIMENSIONS	minimum	maximum
	<b>Tabling width</b> .....		15 mm

### **G.4 HEADSAIL**

#### G.4.1 CONSTRUCTION

##### (b) OPTIONAL

(1) **Tabling** at the **luff** may form a pocket for a headsail stay

G.4.3	DIMENSIONS	minimum	maximum
	<b>Tabling width</b> .....		15 mm

## **2005-2008 ISAF ERS**

### **G.1 GENERAL SAILING TERMS**

#### **G.1.10 Tabling**

Additional **ply** or folded **ply** overlap(s) at a **sail edge**.

The wording of G.3.1 and G.4.1 (b) (1) specifically permits '**Tabling** at the **luff**'. It cannot be read more generally. It is clearly referring to the luff only.

G.3.3 and G.4.3 restricts the maximum dimension of the width of a **tabling**. However this only applies to the luff **tablings**, which are the **tablings** specifically permitted.

As leech **tablings** are not specifically permitted they are prohibited.

The NCA for GBR awaits an IOMICA interpretation.

### **A SUGGESTION**

The NCA for GBR suggests a solution. With the World Championship fast approaching it is suggested that **IOMICA immediately make an emergency rule change** to regularise the situation by changing the wording of G.1.3 (b)(1) to:

"**Tabling**, which at the **luff** may form a pocket for a mast **spar** jackstay."

And G.1.4 (b)(1) to:

"**Tabling**, which at the **luff** may form a pocket for a headsail stay."

If quick action is not taken there is a risk that there will be a rush to make sails complying with the current rule and potential protests against those with existing sails that don't comply.

## Question 2

Assuming that the current situation is regularised and a CR change permits tabling there is another question to be asked.

"Is more than one layer of **tabling** permitted?"

### Discussion

The ERS definition of **tabling** as mentioned above implies that it is only one layer of additional ply. However it is not absolutely clear as the '(s)' presents an element of doubt. Does the "overlap(s)" apply both to the additional ply and the folded ply? In the IOM CR, primary reinforcement is any number of layers, secondary is one or two which would imply that **tabling**, could to be considered as none of these; just a layer, which could be taken to mean no more than one. An interpretation of the ERS is required which needs to be requested from ISAF.

The relevant ERS clause is

### G.1.10 Tabling

Additional **ply** or folded **ply** overlap(s) at a **sail edge**.

The NCA for GBR asks IOMICA to make a request to ISAF for an interpretation on this question.

### A SUGGESTION

It may take some time to get an answer from ISAF so it may be better for the IOM CR to make a rule change to remove any doubt about the compliance of existing sails as well as new sails. There is a choice of two scenarios. Either one or more than one layer is permitted.

### One layer

Add to the suggested rule change for question 1

G.3.1(b)(1) "Except for overlaps specified at G.3.3, a single layer of ....."

and

G.4.1(b)(1) "Except for overlaps specified at G.4.3, a single layer of ....."

For the assumption is that only one layer is permitted, then it is necessary to regularise the class rule to permit existing sails construction where **tablings** are overlapped at changes of leech angle or to join lengths of tape. It may be advisable to add a clause to both G.3.3 and G.4.3

### DIMENSIONS

"Overlap of **tabling** .....max 15mm

OR

**More than one layer**

Add to the suggestions for question 1  
G.3.1(b)(1) "One or more layers of ....."”  
and  
G.4.1(b)(1) "One or more layers of ....."”

## Question 3

Is it permitted to use coloured ply for **tablings**?

**Discussion**

This relates to the original question asked by the club sailor and assumes that leech **tablings** will be permitted by a rule change.  
The IOM class rule is silent on the question of colour, which poses an impossible problem for those trying to understand the rule. Current practice is that colour is not restricted in any way as indicated by corner reinforcements of different colours in the class.

The relevant rules are:

### IOM class rule

***Introduction***

*The rules in Part II and III are closed class rules which means that anything not specifically permitted is prohibited.*

**A suggestion**

GBR NCA awaits IOMICA interpretation, but suggests a solution, which would make it clear that coloured sail material is optional.

Add to G.1.3 (b)

(14) Self coloured **ply**

Add to G.1.4 (b)

(11) Self coloured **ply**

The NCA for GBR awaits IOMICA's interpretation.

Roger Stollery, MYA technical team.