



Request for Interpretation No. 4

of

AC Class Rule Version 1.2: June 10th 2015

Rule References:

7.2 The **hulls** outer surfaces shall be built from a **Measurement Committee** approved mold referenced in Rule 6.2 except for **hull** surface that is:

- (a) on the lower outer surface of the **hull** surrounding the **daggerboard** penetration in accordance with Rule 11.2 and does not exceed 0.750 m **longitudinally** by 0.150 m **transversely** either side of the **hull centerplane**;
- (b) on the lower outer surface of the **hull** surrounding the **rudder** penetration in accordance with Rule 10 and does not exceed 0.600 m **longitudinally** by 0.150 m **transversely** either side of the **hull centerplane**;
- (c) an area on the upper surface of the **hull** no larger than required, for permitted **rudder** and **daggerboard** movements and systems;
- (d) as defined in Rule 7.11;
- (e) within 0.050 m of fittings, **rigging** attachments, or instruments;
- (f) local reinforcements;
- (g) openings for cockpit drainage complying with Rule 7.5, and positioned no lower than the cockpit sole.

7.6 No part of a **hull** shall be adjusted or trimmed except for a flexible surface on the upper part of a **hull** that connects to:

- (a) the **daggerboard** case, permitting movement of the **daggerboard**; and
- (b) the **rudder** stock, permitting movement of the **rudder**.

These flexible surfaces shall be no larger than necessary to permit this movement, and need not comply with the limits on materials in Rules 18 and 19.

11.13 **Daggerboard** bearing fairings are allowed within the area defined in Rule 7.2 (a); they shall not be controllable and shall move only passively as the result of the permitted movements of **daggerboards** and their bearings.

1.4 In interpreting this **AC Class Rule**, the definitions in Article 1 of the **Protocol** shall apply, and:

- (a) **appendage** means any component that is wholly or partially submerged at any time during racing that is connected to and external to the **hull** canoe body, or a **rudder wing** that is connected to a **rudder**, and including integral components that extend from outside the **hull** into the **hull** (e.g. **daggerboard** head or **rudder** stock). **Appendage**

does not include **cross structure**, **daggerboard** bearings, **rudder** bearings, **daggerboard** fairings, other fairings that are above 0.100 m above MWP, deck hardware and small fittings;

(m) hull means one of two canoe bodies including their removable bows, which together displace the majority of the AC Class Yacht's weight when floating in measurement condition;

- 10.4 **Rudders** shall rotate only, and shall have a maximum of two axes of rotation. One axis shall be within 0.010 m of the **hull centerplane**, measured between the upper and lower bearings, and the other shall be on a **rake axis**. **Rudder** rotation about the **rake axis** shall be limited to a 3.00 degree range while racing.
- 10.7 **Rudder** and **rudder wing** components shall be rigidly fixed to each other and their shapes shall not be adjusted while racing. The **rudder wings** shall be rigidly fixed to the **rudders** and shall not be adjusted relative to the **rudders** while racing.
- 22.4 Devices in, on or near the surface of any **hull**, **appendages** and **appendage** fairings, the purpose or effect of which is or could be to bleed off or alter the water or air flow of the boundary layer, including (but not limited to) holes in surfaces and Large Eddy Break-Up Devices (LEBUs), are prohibited. Normal through-**hull** fittings (such as self-bailers, drains, and boatspeed transducers) are permitted.

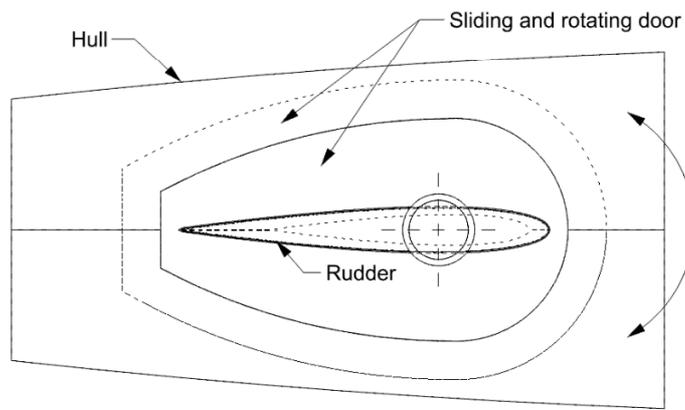
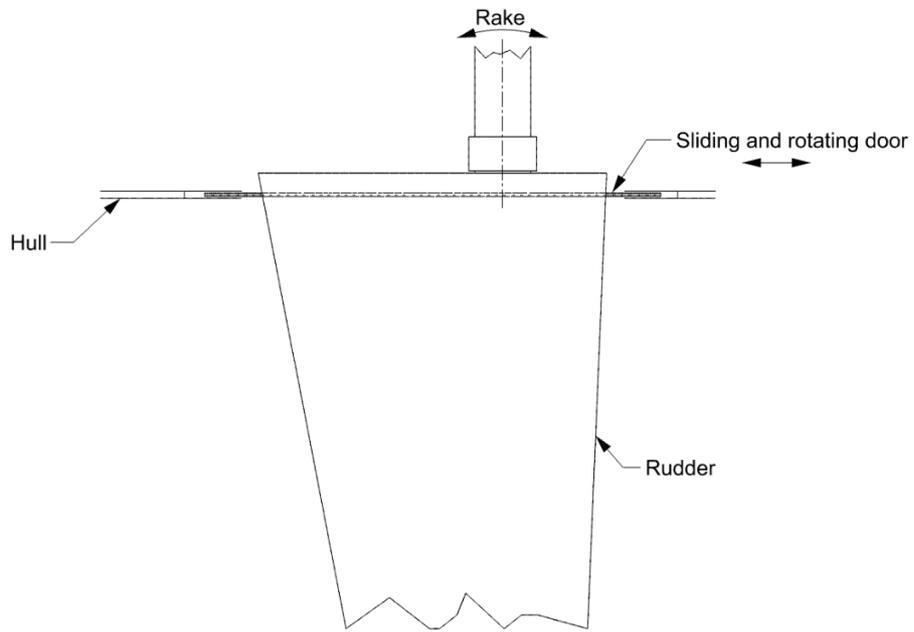
Question:

System

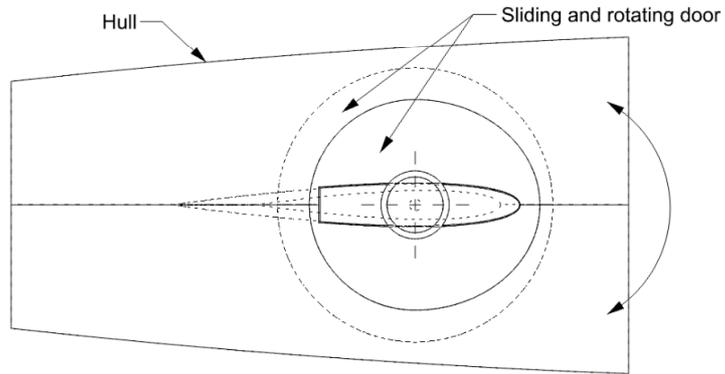
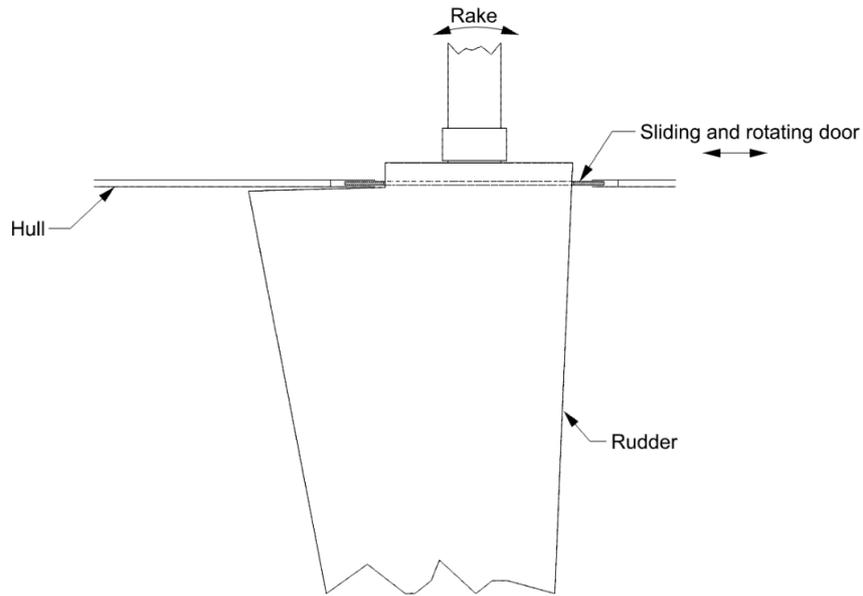
The system would be a sliding door, as shown in schemes 1 and 2. When the rudder angle, or the rudder rake, changes, there is a sliding plate that follows the top of the rudder blade, and slides relative to the hull, the purpose of which is to suppress the gap between the hull and the top of the rudder blade.

1.
 - a) is the sliding plate around the rudder considered part of the hull?
 - b) is it considered part of the rudder?
 - c) is it considered an appendage?
 - d) is it considered a rudder bearing fairing?
2. It is noted that AC Class Rule 11.13 specifically permits daggerboard bearing fairings. If the described design is a rudder bearing fairing, are rudder bearing fairings permitted, and if so, under what rule?"
3. If the described design is not a rudder bearing fairing, is it permitted, and if so, under what rule?

Scheme 1



Scheme 2



Interpretation:

There is no provision in the America's Cup Class Rule to permit lower rudder bearing fairings.

Attention is drawn to Rules 10.3 and 10.11. End

Issued by the America's Cup Measurement Committee on November 24 2015