



Request for Interpretation No. 30

of

AC Class Rule Version 1.4: December 8th 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:
- (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;
- 7.5 Water, the weight of which could increase performance, shall not be retained in a bilge, any recess, or other volume. Any recess in a **hull** capable of retaining water at any heel angle less than 25 degrees or at any trim angle less than 10 degrees relative to **MWP** must be selfdraining with the size of the drain between 0.005 m² and 0.010 m² per 1.00 m³ of the recess volume that could contain water in **measurement condition**.
- 7.8 Each **hull** shall have watertight compartments constructed in accordance with the drawings and specifications listed in Appendix C.
- 7.9 Each **hull** between the **stern plane** and 1.250m forward of the **stern plane** shall be fitted with an enclosed watertight compartment with a volume not less than 0.30 m³.
- 7.15 Openings in the watertight bulkheads, soles, and **hulls** are permitted for the passage of permitted systems, provided they shall:
- (a) be no larger than required for their specific task;
 - (b) have a rubber gaiter boot or other means of closing the opening if the area exceeds 0.00035 m²;
 - (c) be no further forward than 8.500 m forward of the **stern plane**; and
 - (d) be at least 0.400 m above **MWP** unless the net area of the opening is less than 0.000035 m² (35 sq mm).
- 10.11 While an **AC Class Yacht** is moored:
- (a) **rudder** rotation about the axis within 0.010 m of the **hull centerplane** shall be capable of being locked at approximately 90 degrees to the **hull centerplane**; or
 - (b) **rudders** shall be capable of being removed; or
 - (c) **rudders** shall be capable of being retracted such that no part of the **rudders** and **rudder wings** extends more than 0.450 m below **MWP**.
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Questions:

In order to remove the rudders while the AC Class Yacht is moored, is it permissible to:

- 1) Extend the rudder penetration on the lower surface of the hull up to the stern plane?
- 2) Extend the rudder penetration on the upper surface of hull up to the stern plane?
- 3) Create an opening in the transom to let the rudder stock pass through?

provided that requirements of rules 7.2, 7.5, 7.8, 7.9, 7.15 are met?

Interpretation:

1. Yes, the rudder penetration may extend aft to the stern plane provided the dimension limitations of AC Class Rule 7.2 b) are met.
2. Yes, the rudder penetration on the upper surface of the hull may extend aft to the stern plane provided the penetration is no larger than required.
3. Yes. There are two relevant rules that control openings and cover plates. Rule 7.15 is for openings that have systems passing through them that are rubber gasketed and at least 0.400 m above **MWP**, and therefore does not apply to this configuration. Rule 7.13 deals with watertight covers in the hull, like the proposed transom opening. The transom opening is permitted provided all the conditions of 7.13 (a), (b), (c) and (d) are met and the outside surface of the hull still complies with Rule 6.2, and Interpretation 23 in that, while racing, the transom:
 - Shall have all penetrations closed,
 - Shall be planar, and
 - Shall be the aftmost part of the hull. Attention is drawn to 1.4 (ii).

This modification shall be of equivalent strength to that specified by Appendix C and shall constitute a hull change under AC Class Rule 6.4.

END

Issued by the America's Cup Measurement Committee on July 19, 2016