



Request for Interpretation No. 93 A

of

**AC Class Rule** Version 1.8: November 18<sup>th</sup> 2016

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**Rule References:**

- 1.4 (dd) **rigging** means ropes, cables or rods that are primarily loaded in tension and are essentially ineffective in compression;
- 6.20 While racing: ...
- (f) the top and bottom strop lengths on each element of wing rigging and the position of the wing rotation point shall be as measured in rule 25.11.
- ...
- 13.1 The wing rigging shall be as specified in Appendix E Drawing # ACC-W-1001 RIG AND SAILPLAN.
- 3.2 Wings shall:
- (a) only have two shrouds per side, and one forestay;
- (b) have the shrouds and forestay connected to their corresponding chainplates on the wing, hulls and bowsprit and arranged as shown in ACC-W-1001 RIG AND SAILPLAN.
- 25.11 The measurer shall measure the top and bottom strop lengths on each element of wing rigging and the position of the wing rotation point with the wing positioned and rigging tensioned as specified in Drawing # ACC-W-1001 RIG AND SAILPLAN.pdf.

**Interpretation 78 (excerpt)**

1. Forestay tension shall be between 3.2t and 3.4t and **wing** rake shall be between 4 degrees and 5 degrees, per Drawing ACC-W-1001 REVC. There is no other specified limit on **wing rigging** tension. Strops on **wing rigging** shall be built and lashings shall be adjusted to attain the specified **wing** rake and forestay tension, and the lengths of those strops and lashings shall be measured and recorded by the **Measurement Committee**.
2. Forestay tension and **wing** rake will be verified by the **Measurement Committee** using methodology agreed between the **Measurement Committee** and the **Competitor**, and may be further specified via a published Measurement Methodology, including methods for verifying ongoing compliance. No change to the **AC Class Yacht** that could affect measured **wing** rake or the allowed forestay tension shall be made without invalidating the **AC Class Yacht's** current measurement certificate.
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**Questions:**

1. Does Rule 25.11 require all elements of **wing rigging** to be tensioned (not left un-tensioned on slack strops) when top and bottom strop lengths are measured?
  2. If the answer to Question 1 is 'Yes', is it sufficient to take up all the slack in the strops so that they are tight and a point-to-point strop length measurement can be taken?
  3. If it is permissible for some rigging elements to be left slack when strop lengths are measured, is there a maximum amount of slack that is permitted?
  4. Is it permissible for strops to be made of highly elastic material such as bungy, such that their lengths change significantly under load?
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**Interpretation:**

1. No. Rule 25.11 and Drawing # ACC-W-1001 RIG AND SAILPLAN.pdf require the forestay to be tensioned but there is no other specified limit on **wing rigging** tension. See Interpretation 78.
2. Not applicable.
3. It is permitted for some **rigging** elements to be left slack and the amount of slack is not regulated.
4. Rule 6.20 (f) states:  
*"While racing:  
(f) the top and bottom strop lengths on each element of **wing rigging** and the position of the **wing rotation point** shall be as measured in Rule 25.11."*

END

Issued by the America's Cup Measurement Committee on May 24, 2017