

INTERNATIONAL ETHELLES CLASS RULES

PERTAINING TO ONE-DESIGN CONTROL

AUTHORITY: INTERNATIONAL SAILING FEDERATION, ARIADNE HOUSE, TOWN QUAY, SOUTHAMPTON, HAMPSHIRE, 3014 2AQ, UNITED KINGDOM

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NOTE:

- (1) *Where a National Authority has delegated to the Etchells National Association responsibility for the administration of the Class, references herein to “National Authority” shall be deemed references to such Etchells National Association.*
- (2) *In these rules “IECA” means the International Etchells Class Association.*

1. OBJECT OF THE CLASS RULES

The Etchells is a One-Design class. The rules, official plans and specifications are intended to ensure that the yachts of this class are as nearly as possible the same as regards shape and weight of hull, including the keel, rudder, spars and sails and that the equipment is simple, functional and dependable.

2. PROTECTION OF ONE-DESIGN

- 2.1 The hull, keel, skeg, rudder, standing rigging, spars and sails are strictly controlled while the running rigging and associated fittings, lifting eyes, tiller, and tiller extension, are not controlled, except as specified in these rules. These rules shall be deemed to include the Measurement Form and measurement diagrams. Interpretations of these rules shall be given by the ISAF in consultation with IECA. In the event of a conflict between the rules, official plans, Measurement Form and/or measurement diagram the matter shall be referred to the ISAF.

NOTE:

- (1) *Builders and owners are strongly advised to refer to these rules, the builder’s specifications and Etchells Plans for guidance.*
- (2) *It is impossible to mention every suggestion that has been ruled illegal in the past, and to foresee every innovation which may be thought of in the future. Therefore when considering anything in connection with the yacht or its sails or equipment [including use of exotic materials for any item] which is not clearly covered by the plans, specifications and/or rules, it must be assumed illegal unless prior approval has been obtained from ISAF through the IECA.*

WARNING: Any yacht found to be altered contrary to these rules, official plans, measurement forms, or measurement diagram; will have its Hull and Spars Measurement Certificate withdrawn forthwith.

- 2.2 Hull, Deck and Keel Moulds — All moulds for the hull, deck, seat, skeg and

- rudder shall be constructed solely by builders licensed for that purpose by the ISAF. Moulds and/or patterns for the construction of the keel shall be obtained only from a source approved by the ISAF. All moulds and patterns shall be numbered and issued only to builders licensed by the ISAF.
- 2.3 Alterations to moulds — No alterations shall be made to any moulds, official patterns or templates except that a non-slip surface may be incorporated in any place on the deck, or seat moulds.
- 2.4 Measurement of Moulds — Tolerances are given to allow for minor variations not inconsistent with good building practice and distortions through age but intentional variations within these tolerances are prohibited except as specifically permitted in Rule 2.3. Each mould shall be measured prior to commencement of production and thereafter is subject to remeasurement at the discretion of the National Authority, the IECA, or the ISAF, by a measurer approved by the National Authority.
- 2.5 Building Licenses — Yachts shall only be moulded and/or completed by builders licensed by the ISAF. All applications for licenses shall be made to the ISAF which may request the National Authority and others of the country concerned to report on the suitability of the applicant. The premises in which the moulding of the yacht is to take place shall be inspected by Lloyd's Register of Shipping or an equivalent Classification Society at the builder's expense and a copy of the report shall be forwarded to the ISAF. The ISAF shall then forward the application of suitable builders to the IECA for its approval.
- 2.6 Issue of Moulds — Application for the issue of moulds patterns and/or measurement templates shall be made to the ISAF which, in approved cases, shall coordinate with the IECA to affect delivery from the approved source.
- 2.7 Measurement of the Finished Yacht and Components thereof — All measurements concerning the hull, deck, keel, skeg, rudder, mast and boom shall be taken by a measurer or measurers approved by the appropriate National Authority before the hull, deck, keel, skeg, rudder, mast or boom leaves the premises of the respective licensed builder and except for measurements defined in Rule 3.6, 3.9.1 and 3.9.2, shall be of the finished yacht and its components. If a measurer considers that there has been any attempt to depart from the design or these rules in any respect he shall enter the details on the Measurement Form and/or diagram which shall be promptly forwarded to the National Authority. The National Authority shall withhold the Hull and Spar Measurement Certificate pending an examination of the case and shall grant a certificate only if approval is subsequently obtained from the ISAF.

3. **HULL AND DECK CONSTRUCTION**

- 3.1 Construction shall be of glass-reinforced polyester resin (GRP) in accordance with the official plans and specifications, except that local reinforcement as described below is permitted at points of stress concentration or high loadings. Such reinforcement shall not affect the strength or rigidity of the hull and/or deck. Local reinforcement shall be:
- (a) As specified on the Construction Plan and
 - (b) Limited reinforcement in the way of the attachment of fittings to the hull,

deck, cuddy, coaming, seat, bulkheads or knees. It shall consist of the addition of glass-fibre tapes and/or back-up plates of metal, wood, filler, resin, glass-fibre or any combination thereof and shall not exceed in area and the amount required for the prevention of local crushing or the fracture of the hull, deck, cuddy, coaming, bulkheads or knees.

Reinforcement which either creates an additional structural member or connects two or more structural components of the yacht is prohibited. For example, a stanchion between the cuddy and the mast step in order to reduce the deflection is prohibited.

NOTE: Other examples could be given. Any question of whether a proposed reinforcement is a local reinforcement shall be sent, in the first instance, to the International One-Design and Technical Committee of the IECA.

- 3.2 **Hull and Deck Assembly** — The builder shall follow procedures and standards which ensure strict control of the One-Design shape. Specifically he shall install deck stiffeners, hull stringers, skeg, the forward and aft bulkheads, seat and all knees except the knees in the way of the chainplates, before the hull is removed from its mould. The deck shall be assembled to the hull with the hull in the approved mould or in an assembly jig approved by the ISAF. In either case the necessary support shall be given so that the hull profile and sheerline are as shown on the plans. Such support shall be approved by the ISAF. The chainplates with their associated knees may be installed before or after the hull leaves its mould at the discretion of the builder. The sequence of assembly operations not involving hull shape shall be at the builder's option.
- 3.3 **Hull** — The hull shall be measured by a measurer approved by the National Authority to ensure compliance with the Class Rules, which include the measurement diagram and Measurement Form. The official templates shall be applied, hull profile measured and all dimensions called for on the Measurement Form recorded.
- 3.3.1 **Hull Length** — The overall length of the hull excluding any stemhead fittings shall be not less than 9285mm and not more than 9300mm measured between perpendiculars at measurement points "A" and "C". Measurement point "A" shall be a tangent to the bow excluding fittings as indicated on the measurement diagram. Measurement point "C" shall be the intersection of the transom and counter extensions.
- 3.3.2 **Bulkheads** — Watertight bulkheads with watertight access hole covers as shown on the construction plan shall be fitted and shall be located not less than 2580mm and not more than 2780mm forward and not less than 2240mm and not more than 2440mm aft of Station 6. Watertight bulkhead access hole covers shall be in their proper position while racing and shall be positively fastened and incapable of accidental dislodgement.
- 3.3.3 **Cockpit sole** — Floorboards shall be readily removable and shall weigh not less than 15kg and not more than 20kg when dry. The top surface shall be positioned not less than 640mm and not more than 770mm below the theoretical deck edge at Station 6. The length shall be not less than 1780mm and not more than 1880mm; the forward end shall be located not less than 900mm and not more than 1100mm

forward of Station 6, and the width may be carried to the inside surface of the hull but the overall width shall not be less than 810mm. The floorboards may be fastened in position at the keelson and at two locations on each side no more than 50mm from each end. At each fastening point the hull may be reinforced within an area of 75mm by 75mm and in accordance with Rule 3.1 (b). Flexible materials, such as tape or mesh may be used to bridge openings between the floorboards and the hull.

The floorboards, as shown on the plans, shall contact the hull with not more than five transverse members each having a maximum thickness of 35mm measured fore and aft, and with no two of them closer together than 250mm.

With the exceptions noted above, the design and material of the floorboards are optional. Floorboards shall not be removed while racing.

- 3.4 **Deck** — The deck shall extend unbroken from stem to stern with openings for mast port and cockpit. Any other openings shall be in accordance with Rule 3.7.

Dimensions of the deck cockpit and location of fittings shall conform with the Measurement Form and measurement diagram.

- 3.4.1 **Mast port** — The location and size of the mast port as moulded shall be as specified on the Measurement Form. Devices for controlling the fore and aft position of the mast in the mast port above and/or below the deck are prohibited except that mast chocks (partner blocks) are required. Block and tackle and cleat arrangements or line led to a winch (but not a lever or mast ram) are permitted, but only to assist in changing the position of the chocks and for no other purpose. Mast partner blocks to provide sideways support to the mast shall be in place at all times. They may be attached to the mast port or to the side of the mast. If attached to the side of the mast, they may include a step in their design, which shall be a clearance fit above the raised side of the mast port when the mast is at rest with no tension on the standing rigging.

- 3.5 **Rudder and skeg** — The rudder and skeg shall be of GRP and shall be made only from official moulds. The method of construction shall be as specified on the official plans. The profile of the rudder and skeg shall be measured with the official template and shall conform to the dimensions and tolerances shown on the measurement diagram. The maximum thickness of the skeg and rudder (whichever is larger) shall be not less than 32mm and not more than 38mm. In addition the maximum thickness of the rudder shall be determined along two planes drawn perpendicular to the trailing edge of the rudder. These planes are located 100mm and 250mm respectively (measured along the trailing edge) above the straight line intersection of the trailing edge and the bottom of the rudder. The maximum thickness of the rudder at any point along the 100mm plane shall be no more than 26mm and at any point along the 250mm plane shall be no more than 33mm. A straight edge applied to the surface of the rudder or skeg in any direction shall show no systemic concavities, except in the areas immediately adjacent to the rudder stock, immediately adjacent to the hull and along the leading edge of the skeg. Only minor local concavities shall be permitted in the skeg and rudder.

The rudder stock shall be solid material with a diameter of not less than 28mm and not more than 29mm. The rudder stock shall be located not less than

1890mm and not more than 1900mm from the transom measurement point “C” measured along the centreline of the counter to the aft edge of the rudder stock and not less than 2135mm and not more than 2145mm from the transom measurement point “C” to the aft edge of the rudder stock extended to the bottom of the gudgeon. Boats built before March 1, 1995, shall conform to the tolerances in existence before that date. The design of the rudder head, tiller and tiller extension is optional.

3.6 **Keel**

- 3.6.1 **Manufacture and Weight** — The keel shall be of lead cast in an official mould. The weight of the keel including all keel bolts, but excluding all coatings, shall be $959\text{kg} \pm 6\text{kg}$. The height of the lead shall be $871\text{mm} \pm 17\text{mm}$. The hull builder shall certify these two items on the Measurement Form. The lead keel shall have a constant horizontal section before and after any coatings are applied. However, for boats built before 1 December 1998, the weight of the keel including all keel bolts but excluding all coatings, shall be $970\text{kg} \pm 17\text{kg}$.
- 3.6.2 **Keel Shape and Location** — The keel may be coated with filler, paint, resin or glass-reinforced plastic. All measurements are to the surface of the keel including any coating. The horizontal sectional shape shall be constant between a point 845mm above the base of the keel and the bottom Vee sections and shall be controlled by one section template: E22Dec 98. This template shall be positioned at 54.2 degrees to the leading edge of the keel. The surface of the keel shall be no more than 3mm from the template, all the way around (not 0mm one side and 4mm on the other). The chord length, measured along the template, shall not be less than 1141mm and not more than 1150mm and the difference between the maximum and minimum measurements shall not exceed 5mm. The radius of the leading edge shall not exceed 10mm in the part of the keel controlled by the section template. With the leading edge of the keel at 54.2° to the horizontal, the underside of the hull on the centreline at Station 0 shall be $35\text{mm} \pm 15\text{mm}$ higher than the equivalent point at Station 10. The chaingirth at Station 6 shall be 2175mm minimum, 2190 maximum. The distance from the intersection of the leading edge and the bottom of the keel to Point C shall be $4673\text{mm} \pm 13\text{mm}$. The distance from the intersection of the trailing edge and the bottom of the keel to Point C shall be $3613\text{mm} \pm 13\text{mm}$. The keel shall be fastened to the hull as shown on the construction plan with ten 16mm diameter stainless steel bolts. Boats built before 1 December 1998 shall conform to the tolerances for the keel section and location in existence before that date unless Rules 3.6.3 applies.
- 3.6.3 **Altered Keel** — If the weight or shape (sectional or profile) of the keel is altered, a measurer approved by the National Authority shall submit an amended keel weight certificate to the National Authority which shall issue a new Hull and Spars Measurement Certificate. Any keel which is altered after 1 December 1998 shall thereafter conform to Rule 3.6.2 and template E22Dec98, even if the boat in question was built before 1 December 1998. An alteration to the keel is defined as any alteration regardless of the amount of weight or shape (sectional or profile) affected that is not a repair of minor damage or seasonal maintenance. The Keel Alteration Procedure shall be followed (see Rule 8.4).
- 3.7 **Piercing of Hull Deck or Bulkheads** — The deck hull or bulkheads may be

pierced to permit free working of the rigging, but all holes piercing the forward and aft flotation compartments shall be filled, bushed or positively plugged to increase watertight integrity in the event of flooding. Unfilled holes in these compartments are prohibited. A hole shall be considered to be filled if the clearance around the rigging does not exceed 0.5mm. Watertight tubes installed in the flotation compartments for the passage of sheets, control lines or for other purposes are prohibited.

Self bailers and pumps with outlets below the deck lines are prohibited. Pumps with outlets on deck other than from a flotation compartment are permitted.

One drain hole in the bilge is permitted but shall be closed with a screw-in plug while racing. Drain holes in the bulkheads are permitted but shall be sealed and through bolted with a positively locking screw-in plug while racing.

The only access and/or inspection ports permitted in the forward or aft bulkheads are those shown on the construction plan.

- 3.8 **Lifting Eyes** — Two lifting eyes shall be located as shown on the plans.
- 3.9 **Construction Weights** — Hull builders shall deliver with each hull a “glass hull” weight certificate and a “bare yacht” weight certificate derived from a weighing device certified by the National Authority.
- 3.9.1 **The Glass Hull** — The glass hull is defined as: the glass hull with deck attached as it comes from the mould or jig including deck stiffeners, hull stringers, skeg with micro balloon fill, glassed in forestay and backstay fittings, the forward and aft bulkheads, chainplates, seat and knees but without the keel, keel bolts, keelson, micro balloon fill in the bilge, mast step, interior gel coat, floorboards, sampson post or console, tiller, rudder, bulkhead access hole covers and the partition aft of the seat. The glass hull as defined above shall weigh not less than 380kg.
- 3.9.2 **The Bare Yacht** — The bare yacht is defined as: the glass hull (as defined above) but with the keel attached and including micro balloon fill in the bilge, bulkhead access hole covers, interior gel coat, mast step, keelson, rudder and partition aft of the seat but excluding the floorboards, tiller and tiller extension, sampson post or console, spars and standing and running rigging with associated fittings. The bare yacht as defined above shall weigh not less than 1405kg.
- 3.10 **Complete Yacht Weight** — The official measurer shall weigh the complete yacht and enter this weight on the Measurement Form.
- 3.10.1 The complete yacht is defined as the yacht ready to sail including one set of sheets only, but excluding the following equipment: sails and battens, paddle, boom crutch, life jackets, hand pump(s), hand bailer(s), anchor and anchor line, mooring lines, fenders, lifting slings, tool kit and all other loose gear and personal effects.
- The complete yacht as defined above shall weigh at least 1508kg.
- 3.10.2 **Underweight Yachts** — If the Complete Yacht Weight in dry condition is found to be less than 1508kg, the measurer shall ascertain the reason why and shall file a full report to the IECA as to why the yacht is underweight and how it was corrected. To correct the underweight condition, weight shall be added by permanently fixing weight, in the forward bilge sump, which when combined

with the certified weight of the keel does not exceed 965kg and/or amidships and above the waterline plane and working towards the ends of the hull towards the bulkheads, place on both port and starboard sides one 305mm wide strip of 510gm/sq.m. glassfibre woven roving and polyester resin of sufficient length to add the required weight. If the first application is not adequate a second 305mm wide strip shall be placed above, not on, the first strip. The second strip shall be carried out towards the bulkheads only so far as necessary to add the required weight. This weight, when added, shall not increase the resulting Glass Hull Weight to exceed 400kg.

- 3.11 **Alteration to Hull and Keel** — Grinding, planing, sanding and/or the application of putty fillers and coatings on the outside of the hull and keel is permitted, provided that it is undertaken only to fair local imperfections in the surface of the hull and keel or to improve the surface finish and provided that no part of the yacht is thereby caused to be outside the measurement tolerances specified in these rules, the Measurement Form, measurement diagram and the official plans.

4. **SPARS - GENERAL**

- 4.1 **Serial Numbers** — All masts and booms shall be legibly impressed with the ISAF authorized serial numbers. For the mast the numbers shall be within 150mm of the heel and on the boom within 150mm of the outboard end.

- 4.2 **Construction** — The material, method of construction and design of the spars shall be in accordance with these rules, official Spar Plan, Spar Measurement Diagram and Measurement Form. The mast, spreader and boom sections shall be extruded from extrusion dies approved by the ISAF. Masts, spreaders and booms shall be fabricated only by builders licensed by the ISAF.

The material for the mast, boom and spreaders shall be aluminum alloy to specifications 6061-T6 or HV-90WP or equivalent. No exotic materials shall be included in the alloy. The mast taper shall be in accordance with the Spar Plan and the Measurement Form.

The attachments of the spreaders, standing rigging and halyard sheaves shall be in accordance with the Spar Plan and Measurement Form. External tangs attaching the upper and lower shrouds to the mast shall be fitted; internal shroud attachments are prohibited. A functional main halyard lock located above the upper measurement band shall be fitted but its use is optional. A gooseneck which positions the boom in a permanently fixed location is permitted.

The boom shall be of constant section throughout and shall not be tapered or cut away or drilled except for providing entry for the mainsail footrope and for the attachment of fittings. Removal of the boom end plug is prohibited.

All fittings welded or mechanically attached to the mast and boom shall accomplish their specified and/or intended functions and shall be located in their specified positions. The detailed design of the fittings is optional provided that they are of the general types shown on the Spar Plan. If other types are used prior written approval is required from the ISAF through the International Etchells Class Association.

Sleeves of one metre or less may be inserted into the mast or of 1.3 metres or less into the boom in the vicinity of a break or fracture solely for the purpose of

repair and may be fastened mechanically or by welding. Welded reinforcements which are in excess of those required to restore the local integrity of the mast are prohibited.

Internal and external repairs may only be made on masts and booms when broken or fractured or in the following circumstances. Either:

- (1) The spar in question shows damage which will cause failure. Such damage shall have been caused by accident or in normal use. Or
- (2) Masts or booms from the manufacturer concerned have shown a history of failure at the location of the intended repair.

No more than two repairs (sleeves or doublers) may be fitted to any one mast.

No more than one repair (sleeve or doubler) may be fitted to any boom.

Any external repair to the mast wholly or partly above a point 4360mm above the lower measurement band shall be no longer than 400mm.

No external sleeve shall be longer than 500mm.

Materials used for any sleeve or doubler shall be to the same specifications as those used in spar construction.

Procedure: Prior to commencing the repair the Fleet Captain and Measurer shall inspect the spar and agree that the spar is broken or fractured or that the repair is necessary under either category (1) or (2) above. On completion of the repair the same Measurer shall check the repair for compliance with Class Rules with particular attention to any attempt to change the bending characteristics of the spar with a repair larger than that required to restore local integrity, and report to the National Authority if the repair is not satisfactory.

4.3 **Mast**

4.3.1 **Bent Masts** — Permanently bent masts are prohibited. However, a permanent set due to distortion not exceeding 50mm between the upper and lower measurement bands is permitted.

4.3.2 **Measurement Bands** — Two measurement bands 25mm minimum width and of a color contrasting with the mast shall be located as follows:

The upper edge of the lower band (measurement point “LB”) shall be at a minimum of 725mm and a maximum of 740mm above measurement point “B” (theoretical deck edge in the plane of the mast). The upper surface of the boom groove projected to the mast shall not extend below this point and a stop shall be fixed to the mast accordingly.

The lower edge of the upper band shall not be more than 9906mm above the upper edge of the lower band. No part of the mainsail shall extend beyond the lower edge of the upper band.

4.3.3 **Spreaders** — Spreaders, after assembly on the mast may be rigidly attached or shall swing at the tips by not more than 75mm forward or 100mm aft of the athwartships plane at the centreline of the spreader socket when measured with 15kg applied at the tip of each spreader. Rigid spreaders shall be fixed within these same limits when measured with no weight attached.

4.3.4 **Rigging** — All standing rigging (including backstay wire pennant) shall conform with the Rigging Schedule. [See I.E.C.A. Yearbook 2005/2006 - page .] With specific exceptions as noted elsewhere in these rules, running rigging and associated fittings, sizes, types and lengths are optional. The mainsail and headsail

- halyards may be of wire, rope, or wire and rope, and the spinnaker halyard shall be of rope and the diameters shall be not less than those shown in the Rigging Schedule. The halyards shall be led over sheaves or fairleads fixed in the positions shown on the plans.
- 4.3.5 **Bare Mast Tip Weight**—The mast, complete with all fittings but excluding spreaders, mast heel plug, and standing and running rigging shall have a tip weight of not less than 12kg. The tip weight is measured at the lower edge of the upper band with the mast supported horizontally at measurement point “LB”.
- 4.3.6 **Rigged Mast Tip Weight** — The mast complete with all fittings and rigging shall have a tip weight of not less than 13kg. The tip weight shall be measured at the lower edge of the upper band with the mast supported horizontally at measurement point “LB” with:
- (a) the halyards and spinnaker boom topping lift in their fully hoisted positions
 - (b) the slide on the spinnaker boom track shall be positioned at the lower band or if the lower end of the track terminates above measurement point “LB” at the lower end of the track
 - (c) excess slack shall be removed from the running rigging and the bitter ends placed on the ground
 - (d) excess slack shall be removed from the standing rigging and secured to the mast 50mm below measurement point “LB”.
- 4.4 **Boom**
- 4.4.1 Permanently bent booms are prohibited. However, a permanent set, due to distortion not exceeding 25mm measured between the forward end of the boom and the measurement band is permitted.
- 4.4.2 **Measurement Band** — A band of contrasting colour shall be placed on the boom with its forward edge no more than 3530mm from the after side of the mast extrusion projected downwards and measured along the top of the boom extrusion.
- 4.4.3 **Fittings and Rigging** — Running rigging and associated fittings except as noted in these rules attached to the boom are optional.
- 4.5 **Spinnaker Boom**
- 4.5.1 The design and method of construction of the spinnaker boom are optional. The prohibition of the use of exotic materials for spars applies also to spinnaker poles.
- 4.5.2 The length of the spinnaker boom including end fittings shall not exceed 2895mm.
- 4.5.3 The point of attachment of the spinnaker boom shall be on the forward face of the mast, not more than 1525mm above measurement point “LB” and shall be capable of being moved on a track not less than 1220mm in length. This track shall be permanently fixed to the forward face of the mast. The spinnaker ring shall not exceed 95mm from the forward face of the mast to its forwardmost point.
5. **SAILS**
- 5.1 **General**
- 5.1.1 Sails shall be constructed and measured in accordance with the ISAF Measurement Instructions except where otherwise specified. They shall be measured in a

dry state laid flat on a flat surface with just sufficient tension to remove wrinkles across the line of the measurement being taken. All measurements shall be taken as a straight line.

5.1.2 **Definition** — The term “sail” shall be taken to include the headboard, tabling, bolt and foot ropes (or tapes). It shall not include cringles which are wholly outside the sail. The terms “head,” “tack” and “clew” shall be as defined in Rules 5.2.2, 5.3.2 and 5.4.2. The term “luff” shall be determined by the distance between the “head” and “tack” as defined in the above mentioned rules. The term “corner” shall be determined by the actual physical corner of the “sail” as defined above.

5.1.3 **Material and Reinforcement** — Sails shall be flexible, soft and capable of being easily rolled and stowed. The body of the sail shall be of woven polyester or woven Nylon. Minimum weights for sail cloth shall be as follows: main and jib – 270gm/m² (6.5 oz. per U.S. sailmaker yard); spinnaker - 32gm/m² (.75 oz. per U.S. sailmaker yard. [Note: The Rule weights are of finished cloth in the hands of the sailor, not unfinished cloth.]

Primary reinforcement of any fabric having the effect of stiffening the sail is permitted only within a distance from each corner of 150mm plus 7% of the length of the luff of the sail. Batten pocket and leech flutter reinforcements are permitted but shall not exceed 250mm. Secondary reinforcement, comprising not more than two additional plies of permitted material each not thicker than the maximum thickness of the ply of the body of the sail is permitted, only within a distance of 1800mm from each corner, provided it is not stiffened by the addition of bonding agents, close stitching or otherwise. Glued seams and stitching are permitted and shall not be considered as stiffening. Normal tabling at the edges of the sail is permitted provided that it is not stiffened. A leech cord and fastener is permitted.

Materials incorporating plastic film or aromatic polyamide fibres (Kevlar) are not permitted as a sail material either in the body of the sail or as reinforcement and tabling.

5.1.4 **Windows** — Unwoven transparent windows are permitted in each of the mainsail and headsail, the total area of which shall not exceed 1.0m² for each sail. Windows shall not be placed closer to an edge of the sail than 100mm.

5.1.5 **Batten Pockets** — The length of batten pockets shall be the maximum inside dimension, ignoring the effect of any elastic or other retaining devices.

5.1.6 **Double Luffed Sails** — Sails passing round a stay or spar and attached back on themselves by stitching, zipper or similar device are prohibited.

5.1.7 **Emblem, Letters and Numbers** — The sail number, letter(s) and class emblem shall be placed in accordance with RRS Appendix G. Letters and numbers shall be of the following minimum dimensions:

Height: 380mm

Thickness: 50mm

Width: 250mm (excluding number one and letter l)

Space between adjacent letters and numbers: 75mm

The official colours (as specified on drawing number 3MKB-14A-1) are those preferred. However other colors may be used except that gold shall only be used for the emblem of a yacht owned by a World Champion.

5.2 **Mainsail**

5.2.1 **General**

No part of the sail shall extend above the lower edge of the upper mast measurement band or beyond the forward edge of the boom measurement band. Cunningham tackle is allowed, but only to adjust the tension of the luff. Tackle, parallel to the boom, to tension the tack forward is not permitted. Luff and foot bolt ropes shall be attached along the entire length of the rope. The headboard, if fitted, shall not be higher at the aft upper corner than the forward upper corner.

5.2.2 **Definitions**

- (a) The head point shall be the point on the forward edge of the luff or its extension level with the highest point of the sail.
- (b) The clew point shall be the intersection of the leech and the foot bolt rope, ignoring any cut-out to accommodate outhaul fittings.
- (c) The length of the leech shall be measured in a straight line from the head point to the clew point.
- (d) Three leech measurement points and three widths are defined as follows: the half leech point is found by folding the head point to the clew point; the three-quarter leech point is found by folding the head point to the half leech point; the upper leech point is the point on the leech 450mm below the head point.

Any hollow in the leech between adjacent battens shall be bridged with a straight line. The half-width, three-quarter width and upper width are the distances from each leech measurement point to the nearest point on the forward edge of the luff, including the bolt rope.

5.2.3 **Measurement**

The following are permitted dimensions in millimetres:

Leech, 10425 maximum

Upper width, 342 maximum

Three-quarter width, 1400 maximum

Half width, 2267 maximum

Headboard, 102 maximum perpendicular to the luff

Bolt rope diameter, 8 minimum including covering

5.2.4 **Battens**

There shall be four battens in the mainsail, spaced equally ± 80 mm along the after edge of the sail, measured to the upper edge of each batten at the leech. No batten shall exceed a maximum length of 1300mm and a maximum width of 35mm.

"After edge of sail" means the material of the sail itself, measured from the highest point on the leech to the bottom of the leech. Battens may be permanently attached to the sail or may be removable.

5.3 **Headsail**

5.3.1 **General** — Head, clew and tack boards are prohibited. The profile of the leech shall be straight or concave between each batten, between the head and the top batten and between the clew and the bottom batten, and shall not show additional curvature near width points. Foot roach shall be a fair curve. The forestay shall not be disconnected for the attachment of the headsail. The forward edge of the

headsail luff or its extension when hoisted shall intersect the deck aft of, and not more than 50mm from the forestay. Luff wires or ropes shall not be permitted in a headsail.

5.3.2 Definitions

- (a) Head point — The head point shall be taken as the highest point of the sail.
- (b) Tack point — The tack point shall be taken as the intersection of the luff and foot.
- (c) Clew point — The clew point shall be taken as the intersection of the leech and foot.
- (d) Top Width — The top width is the distance between the luff or its extension and the leech or its extension, at the highest point of the sail, measured perpendicular to the luff.
- (e) Mid Foot — The mid foot point is found by folding the sail so the tack point is over the clew point.
- (f) Foot Irregularity — A fair curve in the foot of the headsail is defined and determined as follows: with the sail lying flat when the tack point is superimposed on any point along the foot, every point on the bottom edge of the folded portion shall lie within 25mm of some point on the bottom edge of the other portion.
- (g) Widths — The three width measurement points are defined by dividing the leech into four equal lengths. Fold the head point to the clew point to give the half leech point, then fold the head point and the clew point to the half leech point to give the three-quarter leech point and quarter leech point. The widths are measured from each of these points to the nearest point on the luff.

5.3.3 Measurement

The following are maximum permitted dimensions in millimeters:

Top width	55
Luff length	7915
Leech length	7370
Head point to mid foot point	7700
Foot length	2540
Three quarter width	650
Half width	1275
Quarter width	1860

- 5.3.4 **Battens** — There shall be three battens in the headsail, each of maximum length 800mm and maximum width 35mm. Battens shall be positioned 40mm \pm 20mm below each of the width measurement points, measured to the top edge at the leech. Battens may be permanently attached to the sail or removable.

5.4 Spinnaker

- 5.4.1 **General** — The spinnaker shall be symmetrical in shape and construction about its centreline. Fittings shall be limited to head swivel and corner cringles or rings. Headboards are prohibited.

5.4.2 Definitions

- (a) Head point — The head point shall be taken as the straight line

intersection of the two leeches extended as necessary ignoring any hollow or round to the leeches.

- (b) Clew point— Each clew point shall be taken as the straight line intersection of the foot and the leech extended as necessary ignoring any foot irregularity and clew cringle.

5.4.3 **Measurement** — All the following measurements shall be taken with just sufficient tension to remove the wrinkles across the line of measurement.

The distance from the head point to each clew point measured in a straight line shall be 8350 ± 100 mm. With the sail folded in half about its centreline, half cross width measurement points shall be marked on the leech and centrefold at 2745mm and 5485mm measured in straight lines from the head. The half cross widths between these two pairs of measurement points shall be 2525 ± 100 mm and 3055 ± 100 mm respectively. The half length of the foot measured in a straight line from the mid foot point to the clew points shall be 2645 ± 100 mm.

The distance (foot median) from the head point to the mid foot point shall be 9400 ± 100 mm. This measurement shall be taken with the sail opened out, laid on a flat surface, with just sufficient tension applied at the head and the centre of the foot to remove the wrinkles across the line of measurement.

5.5 **Sail Acquisition, Registration and Use**

5.5.1 **Acquisition**

- (a) A sail is acquired for a registered yacht on the date upon which it is originally measured by an official measurer on behalf of the yacht's owner, whether or not the measurement information is entered on the yacht's Sail Measurement Certificate at that time or at a later time. In the case of a previously measured sail being acquired by a second registered yacht, a sail is acquired on the date upon which it is delivered or the date of first use, whether or not the sail's measurement information is entered on the second yacht's Sail Measurement Certificate at that time or a later time.
- (b) A yacht is registered when the following requirements have been fulfilled:
 - (1) the yacht must have been completely measured and the Measurement Form with all measurement data submitted to the National Authority or Class Administrator to issue the Hull & Spars Measurement Certificate;
 - (2) the yacht must be on record with the National Authority or Class and have been issued an ISAF plaque;
 - (3) the yacht's owner or owners of record must be Active members of the Etchells Class and have paid full international and national dues for that year.
- (c) Subject to paragraph (e), each registered yacht has the following sail acquisition right: Effective January 1, 2006, each registered yacht may acquire in any manner in each calendar year, six sails of any type.
- (d) Sail acquisition rights apply to the yacht and not the owner. Unexpended sail acquisition rights applying to a particular year shall not be carried forward to subsequent years.

- (e) If the owner upon discovery that a sail is lost/stolen or destroyed can demonstrate that he is in a noncompetitive position he may apply to his National Authority for an exemption. Such application shall be in a form as required by the National Association and shall include at least the details as set out in subparagraph (2) below. Unless all requirements are documented to the National Association, the sail(s) shall not be replaced.
- (1) On the showing of a non-competitive position, the National Association may grant in writing an exemption allowing the yacht to acquire a replacement sail or sails. Such a grant or exemption shall be notified to the IECA promptly in writing by the National Association.
- (2) In order to demonstrate to the National Association that a sail has been lost/stolen or destroyed, the owner shall document the following in an affidavit signed by himself, his Fleet Captain and Fleet Measurer:
- If lost/stolen:
- (a) The circumstances of the loss or theft.
- (b) The fact that the sail(s) was (were) the newest or latest in the given category (main, jib, spinnaker) of the yacht and not more than three years old.
- (c) That the replacement is or will be as nearly as possible the same as the lost/stolen sail; i.e. it must come from the same sailmaker, be of the same cut, and same weight of cloth.
- (d) Acknowledge that if the lost/stolen sail is found, it shall not be used for racing.
- If destroyed:
- (a) The destruction was from circumstances beyond the control of the owner.
- (b) The destruction caused a rip or tear in the sail necessitating replacement of more than one-third of the material.
- (c) The fact that the sail(s) was (were) the newest or latest sail in the given category (main, jib, spinnaker) of the yacht and not more than three years old.
- (d) That the replacement is or will be as nearly as possible the same as the destroyed sail; i.e. it must come from the same sailmaker, be of the same cut, and the same weight of cloth.
- (e) Acknowledge that the destroyed sail will not be used again for racing.

5.5.2 Registration

- (a) Each sail shall be passed by an official measurer who shall sign and date the sail near the tack in indelible waterproof marking. Details (maker, serial no., category and date) shall be entered on the yacht's Sail Measurement Certificate by the Measurer.
- (b) Any sail recutting resulting in an alteration to a sail requires remeasuring of that sail; but such recutting and remeasuring shall not constitute acquisition of an additional sail unless said sail is recut, redesigned,

repaired or altered in a manner that 33 1/3% or more of the material used in the same is new or replaced. The said sail is then an “additional” or new sail within the meaning of Rule 5.5 and must comply with the requirements thereof.

5.5.3 Use

- (a) Subject to this rule, a yacht shall not use at any time while racing, any sails other than sails properly acquired for that yacht under rules 5.5.1 and 5.5.2.
- (b) No more than one mainsail, one jib and one spinnaker shall be hoisted at the same time. No more than two jibs, one mainsail and two spinnakers shall be carried on board while racing.
- (c) At any regatta at which sails may be measured and the Sail Measurement Certificate inspected, no more than one mainsail, two jibs and two spinnakers shall be presented for measurement and the same sails measured shall be the only sails used at that regatta.
- (d) The borrowing of sails is prohibited for use in racing. All sails used by a yacht while racing shall match the hull number and sail number, and shall comply with the acquisition rights of the yacht under rules 5.5.1 and 5.5.2.
- (e) The Class International Governing Committee (IGC) may make and publish from time-to-time, competition rules governing the circumstances under which the owner of a yacht may use sails validly acquired for that yacht on another yacht while racing, and the manner in which and the authority to which an application for dispensation under this rule shall be made.

6. SAFETY EQUIPMENT

This rule establishes minimum equipment standards for Etchells Class yachts when racing in daylight. This rule shall not be deemed to prevent a yacht from carrying other safety equipment when racing whether or not required by 6(f) such as: waterproof flashlight, buoyant heaving line, throwable PFD device, re-boarding device, sound signaling device, day/night flares, knife, first aid kit, or VHF radio, and no yacht shall be subject to protest for carrying these or other safety items. The following equipment shall be carried aboard when racing:

- (a) For each crew member one Personal Flotation Device with whistle attached, to be readily available, and be of pattern or type approved (if required) by the national or local law or National Authority of the yacht’s national registry.
- (b) Two paddles each of a length not less than 1200mm with a minimum blade area of 0.04 square metres.
- (c) One or more hand operated pumps, and two buckets of not less than 9.5 litres capacity each and fitted with 1.5 metre lanyards.
- (d) One anchor weighing a minimum of 3.5kg with sufficient chain of a minimum diameter of 6mm to give a total weight of anchor and chain of not less than 5.5kg and not more than 9.0kg.
- (e) Minimum 45 metres of minimum 10mm diameter anchor line, and a separate minimum 25 metres of minimum 12mm diameter towline. Running rigging shall not be deemed anchor or towline.

- (f) Plus any safety equipment required pursuant to national or local law affecting the yacht by reason of her registration or licensing or pursuant to the requirements of her National Authority.

7. PROHIBITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

- 7.1 **Crew** — There shall be three or four persons on board when racing and their total combined weight as measured wearing light clothing shall be no more than 285kg. For any sanctioned event a boat shall sail with the same crew throughout.
- 7.2 **Wet Clothing** — The total weight of clothing and equipment worn or carried by a competitor shall not be capable of exceeding 10 kilograms when weighed as provided in RRS Appendix H. This amends RRS 43.1(b) for the IECA. [Note: The 10kg includes footwear and other clothing below the knee.]
- 7.3 **Lightening of the Hull** — No stripping or lightening of the hull by means of cutting holes in knees, bulkheads, partial bulkhead or the seat or by the removal of material from the hull, deck, seat, bulkheads or partial bulkhead shall be permitted. An open hole(s) is permitted in the knees and/or seat thwart to permit the passage of running rigging, storage of spinnaker pole and/ or paddle and to provide access to the seat storage compartment. No open hole shall be located within 50mm of any edge of any knee or seat thwart except those holes carrying running rigging which shall not be within 25mm of any edge of the knee or seat thwart.

The total area of the open hole(s) located in a single knee shall not exceed 75cm². The total area of the open hole(s) in either the forward or after vertical athwartship seat member shall not exceed 250cm². The area of any one open hole passing running rigging through a knee or seat thwart shall not exceed 250cm² (i.e. maximum diameter of 50.5mm).

- 7.4 **Hiking Devices** — No rope, wire, rail, handhold or other special device shall be used by any member of the crew for the purpose of supporting his weight outboard of the sheer line. However the use of the headsail, spinnaker and/or main sheets, and/or a single line attached to the top of the midship console (Safety Line) and held solely by the hands, is permitted. Said Safety Line shall be of a constant diameter of no more than 10mm and when extended perpendicular to the sheer with all knots removed, shall not extend more than 30cm beyond the deck edge. There may be no loops, knots or splices in said Safety Line other than where necessary to attach it to the console. Hanging on the mast or shrouds to promote roll tacking or gybing is prohibited.

NOTE: A shelf or bracket attached to the under side of the deck or top of the cuddy, extending aft from the aft edge of the cuddy, is considered a violation of Rule 7.4. A small block attached to the cleat shelf face extending not more than 75mm from the centreline of the boat for the purpose of a brace to prevent a crew member from falling or sliding inboard while trimming is permitted.

- 7.5 **Kicking Straps, Vangs and Preventers** — Kicking straps, vangs including “gate” or strut vangs and preventers are prohibited except those leading from the boom to the chainplates, or to the cabin top (as shown on the Construction Plan) and/or to the mast above the partners.

- 7.6 **Mast Heel** — Movement of the mast is permitted only in a fore and aft direction. The design of the plug at the heel of the mast and the shoe attached thereto is optional provided that the combined assembly of plug and shoe is attached to the mast step. Fore and aft movement while racing is prohibited.
- 7.7 **Rotating Mast** — Rotating masts are prohibited.
- 7.8 **Bridge decks and Travellers** — No bridge decks or travellers crossing the yacht's centreline are permitted other than the mainsheet traveller under the after end of the boom. This rule applies to, amongst other things, self-tacking headsails and vang.
- 7.9 **Forestay adjustments** — The forestay shall not be adjusted except by means of a turnbuckle attached to the stem fitting. Any changes to the mast rake while racing by any means except by the adjustment of the backstay, mainsheet, mast partner blocks, and/or vang are prohibited. The use of a separate line attached to the forestay or the head of the jib in order to remove forestay slack is prohibited.
NOTE: While sailing downwind with the jib lowered on deck, the following two methods of steadying the mast downwind are legal, and do not violate Rule 7.9 provided no slack is removed from the forestay:
1. *Unfasten the jib halyard from the head of the jib, attach it to the jib tack fitting, and then take tension on the halyard; or*
 2. *Attach a separate line from the jib tack fitting to the head of the jib without unfastening the halyard, and then take tension on the halyard.*
- 7.10 **Access Hole Covers** — Bulkhead access hole covers shall be in place while racing with all wing nuts and drain plugs in place and securely fastened.
- 7.11 **Shroud Adjustment** — Adjustment of shroud length shall be made only by means of turnbuckles attached to the chainplates above the deckline. The fore and aft position of the shrouds shall not be changed while racing.
- 7.12 **Backstay Adjustment** — The method of adjusting the backstay tension shall be optional, but the wire backstay pennant shall be led around the backstay sheave permanently fixed at the intersection of the transom and counter inside the hull.
- 7.13 **Sheeting Arrangement** — No sheeting arrangements shall pass through the sides of the hull. All other running rigging arrangements and associated fittings are optional with the exception of specific items mentioned elsewhere in these rules.
- 7.14 **Special Navigation Devices** — Devices transmitting and/or correlating data relative to wind direction or speed, or boat speed and location, by means such as, but not limited to electronic, mechanical, hydraulic or pneumatic, are prohibited. Depth sounders not piercing the hull may be permitted by National Authorities in races confined to yachts of their own nationality. Digital compasses that are entirely self-contained units giving solely direction, a tacking prompt and have a timer are permitted.
- 7.15 **Console limitations** — Length (not including fittings) shall not exceed 530mm at the top. Width (not including fittings) shall not exceed 220mm at the top. The top (not including fittings) shall be 50mm or more below the top of the coaming.
No exotic material shall be used.
The console shall not be attached so as to affect the rigidity of the hull.
For the purposes of this rule fittings are defined as any part which is attached to and is not an integral part of the console structure. Fittings shall not

be attached to bases any higher than necessary to position the fittings for a fair lead.

8. REGISTRATION

8.1 **ISAF Plaque** — The yacht shall have an official ISAF plaque fixed approximately on the centreline of the forward face of the aft bulkhead. The builder's serial number and the number of the mould from which the hull came shall be permanently shown on the plaque. The ISAF plaque number shall also be cut into the keelson or moulded into the glass of the hull in the bilge area. The ISAF plaque serves as the building fee receipt.

8.2 **Sail Number** — The sail number shall be the boat's ISAF plaque number together with the national letters as required by the Racing Rules of Sailing. Until 1st March 2003, a boat may use sails bearing the number assigned to it before 1 March 2000 by its National Authority.

8.3 **Measurement Certificate** — The Hull and Spars Measurement Certificate shall be obtained from the National Authority or, if the National Authority is not administering the class, from the IECA in the following way:

- (a) in the case of a new yacht or one so substantially reconstructed or repaired as to require remeasurement by sending a Measurement Form properly completed and signed by the builder and an official measurer to the appropriate authority above.
- (b) in the case of change of ownership by sending the invalid certificate to the appropriate authority as above. A copy of the certificate shall in each case be forwarded to the Etchells Class Association of the country concerned.

8.4 **Keel Alteration Procedure**

NOTE: The purpose of this procedure is to:

- (1) *ensure that the owner is aware of his responsibilities and makes the keel alteration in accordance with the class rules,*
- (2) *ensure that the measurer is aware of his responsibilities and is notified of the pending alteration, and*
- (3) *ensure that the owner's Fleet Captain is notified of the keel alteration and suspension of the Hull Measurement Certificate pending remeasurement of the keel and the reissue of the Hull Measurement Certificate.*

An owner intending to alter the weight of his yacht's keel beyond what is considered a repair of minor damage or seasonal maintenance shall comply with the following procedure:

- 8.4.1 The owner shall notify his Fleet Captain and shall contact the National Authority for permission and instructions to alter the keel weight and shall submit the name of the official measurer to be involved.
- 8.4.2 The National Authority will advise the owner and the above measurer of the current Hull Measurement Certificate details and suspend the Hull Measurement Certificate during the alteration process.
- 8.4.3 Prior to the alteration the official measurer shall measure and record the Complete Yacht Weight.
- 8.4.4 The alteration shall be done in accordance with class Rules 3.6.1., 3.6.2. and 3.6.3.

- 8.4.5 In the case of an owner wishing to
- (a) Remove lead from a heavy keel.
If the weight is removed by drilling hole(s), the location of the hole(s) shall be 430mm ± 50mm above the bottom of the keel and 405mm ± 100mm from the leading edge of the keel in the waterline plane. *[NOTE: The ODT interprets this section as also permitting planing the entire lead surface.]* The official measurer shall reweigh the boat to Rule 3.10.1, weigh and record the lead removed, and shall send the measurements to the National Authority on the IECA Alterations to Keel form with a recommendation as to whether a new Hull Measurement Certificate should be issued.
 - (b) Add lead to a keel that is less than maximum weight but not maximum chaingirth.
 - (1) Mark the 80mm girth measurement on both sides on the keel at Station 6.
NOTE: Refer Yearbook Measurement Diagram.
 - (2) Add lead to bottom of keel. This total keel weight not to exceed 965kg.
 - (3) The official measurer shall check all measurements and reweigh the boat to Rule 3.10.1.
 - (4) The measurer shall send the measurements to the National Authority on the IECA Alterations to Keel form with a recommendation as to whether a new Hull Measurement Certificate should be issued.
 - (c) Add lead to a keel that is heavy but not maximum chaingirth. Proceed as per 8.4.5(b) (1) (2). Then remove lead per 8.4.5.(a).
NOTE: The locations of the holes for the removal of lead shall be taken from the new keel bottom and leading edge. The removal of lead by any other method than per 8.4.5 (a) is prohibited. Finish up according to 8.4.5 (b) (3) & (4).
- 8.4.6 If the alteration complies with all rules, the National Authority shall issue a revised Hull Measurement Certificate to the owner. The owner shall inform the Fleet Captain that a revised Hull Measurement Certificate has been issued.
- 8.4.7 If any yacht is not measured after alteration to her keel and a new certificate issued in accordance with the above, the yacht is ineligible to compete as an International Etchells Class yacht.

9. **OWNER'S RESPONSIBILITY**

The owner shall be obliged to satisfy himself that the One-Design principle has not been violated and to do nothing during the course of his ownership to cause this principle to be violated.

No yacht shall be entitled to race as a bona fide Etchells unless:

- (a) the owner holds a valid measurement certificate in his own name and
- (b) the annual dues have been paid to his National Etchells Class Association. The owner shall be obliged to satisfy himself that the

One-Design principle has not been violated and to do nothing during the course of his ownership to cause this principle to be violated.

No yacht shall be entitled to race as a bona fide Etchells unless:

- (a) the owner holds a valid measurement certificate in his own name and
- (b) the annual dues have been paid to his National Etchells Class Association or, if there is none for the owner's country, to the IECA.

10. **REMEASUREMENT**

- (a) All certified yachts shall be liable to remeasurement at any time on protest or at the discretion of the ISAF, the IECA, a National Authority, or a Race Committee.
- (b) If a builder is found to have signed a Measurement Form for a yacht that does not measure correctly he shall be liable to rectify the error and may have his license as a builder withdrawn.

11. **TRANSLATIONS OF RULES**

The official language of the Class is English and the English text shall prevail in the event of a dispute over the translation.