

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 78.1

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose

To make it clear when rule 78.1 applies.

Proposal

1. Amend rule 78.1 as follows:

78.1 **While a boat is racing and at other times specified in the notice of race or sailing instructions, her** ~~A boat's~~ owner and any other person in charge shall ensure that the boat is maintained to comply with her class rules and that her measurement or rating certificate, if any, remains valid.

2. Add the following at appropriate locations in Appendix K, Appendix L and Appendix LE

Insert the date(s) and time(s). A boat shall comply with rule 78.1 on _____ at _____.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

It is not clear when current rule 78.1 applies. After studying the rule, some knowledgeable persons have formed the opinion that it applies at all times during an event. Others have interpreted it to mean that it applies only while a boat is racing. The rule should be clarified so that (1) it is clear whether or not the rule applies between races while the boat is being repaired, and (2) it is clear whether or not a boat may be penalized if she is presented for equipment inspection prior to, during or after an event and found not to comply with her class rules.

The proposed change in rule 78.1 clarifies when the rule applies and enables the notice of race or the sailing instructions to specify times when a boat is not racing, yet must nonetheless comply with her class rules. This can be helpful if there are required equipment inspections for which a boat must be presented before the first race, between races or after the last race.
