

Changes to the Class Rules Amendment System

Regulation 26

A submission from the Chairman of the Equipment Committee

Proposal:

Class rule changes will not be approved by ISAF Council.

Applications for Class rule changes will be made throughout the year on a rolling agenda basis in accordance with an agreed procedure document.

Add to Regulation 15.2.6, sub-paragraph (a) as follows and re-letter the remaining sub-paragraphs:

- (a) approve class rule changes as and when submitted by ISAF Class Associations.

Delete in Regulation 20.4.4 the words 'and ISAF Council's'

- 26.10 International and Recognized Class Associations shall not change their class rules except with the approval of the ISAF in accordance with the following procedure:
 - 26.10.1 All rule changes submitted to the ISAF shall first have been approved by the International or Recognized Class/Owners Association in accordance with its constitution and class rules and shall include a statement setting out the date when they are to take effect
 - 26.10.2 All applications for class rule changes, other than changes that modify the Advertising Code, shall be considered by the Class Rules Sub-Committee as and when the same are received by ISAF. The sub-committee shall consider each application as soon as practicable either at its annual meeting or by electronic communication and may either approve them, reject them or return them to the Class Association for revision
 - 26.10.3 Class rules shall not modify the Advertising Code, except as permitted by Regulation 20.4.4/ The Executive Committee shall approve any such changes.
 - 26.10.4 Once a change has been approved, the ISAF shall advise the Class/Owners Association, International Measurers, licensed builders and Member National Authorities. The Class Association shall inform its members. A summary report of changes made will be presented to the next meeting of the Equipment Committee.

Note. In practice class rule changes will be managed by the ISAF Secretariat and Class Associations are strongly recommended to discuss any changes desired at a very early stage and certainly before submitting them to the Class Association for approval.

Current Position:

Class Rule Changes

- 26.10 Unless otherwise stated in the agreement between the ISAF and the International or Recognized Class/Owners Association ("the Agreement"), the ISAF shall approve all class rule changes, including those effecting RRS 42, in accordance with the following procedures:
- 26.10.1 All rule changes submitted shall have been approved by the International or Recognized Class/Owners Association in accordance with its Constitution and Class Rules.
- 26.10.2 A request to change the Class Rules shall be made in accordance with Regulation 1, Notices and Submissions. An International or Recognized Class/Owners Association making a rule change submission is entitled to two, and should have at least one, representative at the Annual ISAF Meeting at which a rule change concerning its class is discussed. [The Class/Owners Association representative should be prepared to answer questions and give additional information concerning the rule change.]
- 26.10.3 With the exception of class rule changes that deal with the ISAF Advertising Code, when a change to the class rules is required between the Annual ISAF Conference, approval for the rule change shall be decided by a sub-committee consisting of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the appropriate ISAF Technical Committee, the technical representative of the class/owners association and the ISAF technical staff. If, in the opinion of the sub-committee, the ruling involves a matter of principle or, on the request of the class/owners association, it shall consult all members of the appropriate ISAF committee, except those having personal involvement, before giving the ruling.
- 26.10.4 When a change to the class rules effecting Rule 42 is proposed, it shall be considered by the ISAF Racing Rules Committee, who shall make a recommendation to Council.
- 26.10.5 Once a change has been approved, the ISAF shall advise the Class/Owners Association, International Measurers, licensed builders and the Member National Authorities. A Class shall inform its membership of the approved changes.
- 26.10.6 Class Rules may not modify the Advertising Code, except as permitted under Advertising Code Regulation 20.4.4. The ISAF Executive Committee shall approve any changes.
- 26.10.7 All amendments to class rules shall be effective from 1 March following the decision unless otherwise stated in the class constitution or in the submission.

Class Rule Interpretations

- 26.11 When sanctioned in the Agreement, the class may issue written Rule interpretations [or Rule changes] following a procedure specified in the class rules and/or constitution to clarify class rules but such interpretative changes shall not be used to change an existing rule. The class shall immediately advise the ISAF of any interpretations issued.

26.11.1 Where an ISAF sanctioned procedure for the interpretation of a class rule does not exist, ISAF may only make interpretations in accordance with the following procedures;

- (a) requests for an interpretation may be made to the ISAF from the following sources only: Member National Authorities, International and Recognized Class/Owners Associations, Copyright Owners, Trade name and Trademark Owners, Manufacturers of International or Recognized Classes and International Measurers;
- (b) an interpretation shall only clarify an existing class rule and shall not change the class rules;
- (c) a request received by the ISAF from one of those sources shall be acknowledged and immediately sent to the Class/Owners Association;
- (d) the validity of the interpretation or any alternative interpretation shall be decided by the Sub-committee formed and operated pursuant to Regulation 26.10.3;
- (e) interpretations of the Class rules made by the Sub-committee shall be distributed by the ISAF as provided in Regulation 26.10.5;
- (f) rule interpretations shall have the status of a class rule and, unless otherwise sanctioned in the Agreement, shall remain valid for a maximum period of 2 years or until superseded by a Class Rule change or modification carried out following the procedures of this Regulation.

Reason:

Suggested changes to ISAF Regulation 26 to accommodate new class rule change system:

(Note: the exact wording is being finalised with the assistance of the constitution committee but the intent is as stated above)