Reporting Committee – Equipment
Other Committee – Constitution, ISAF Classes

Class Rules Changes and Interpretations

Amendment to Regulation 26

A submission from the Chairman of the Equipment Committee

Proposal

26. ISAF INTERNATIONAL AND RECOGNIZED CLASSES

Class Rule Changes

26.11 Unless otherwise provided in any agreement between ISAF and the Association, International and Recognized Class Associations shall not change their Rules except with the approval of ISAF which shall be obtained in accordance with the following procedures: International and Recognized Class Associations shall change their Class Rules in accordance with the following procedures unless otherwise approved by the Equipment Committee and provided for in the agreement defined in Regulation 26.3.

26.11.9 Changes to manufacturing/building specification shall be handled as per Class Rule changes except that for equipment with a confidential building specification the change shall be handled by the ISAF Secretariat instead of the Class Rules Sub-committee.

Class Rule Interpretations

26.12 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 International and Recognized Class Associations rule interpretations shall be made in accordance with the following procedures unless otherwise provided for in the agreement defined in Regulation 26.3. Any alternative procedure shall be approved by the Equipment Committee. Such interpretative changes shall not be used to change an existing rule. The class shall immediately advise ISAF of any interpretations issued.

26.12.1 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 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 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 a panel formed by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Class Rules Sub-committee, the technical representative of the Class/Owners Association and a nominated member of the ISAF Technical Staff;
(e) interpretations of the Class rules made by the Sub-committee shall be distributed by ISAF as provided in Regulation 26.11.6; and

(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.

**Current Position**

As above.

**Reason**

As a general policy it has been accepted that no class should be granted the right to change class rules without ISAF approval as there are significant benefits in having an independent body approving changes in the event of dispute. Similarly the reasoning above should apply to class rule interpretations.

Construction manuals are often highly confidential to some manufacturers and are usually only willing to be provided on the basis of ISAF Secretariat confidentiality with limited distribution.