Equipment Rules of Sailing

G.1.3(b) Headsails and Spinnakers

A submission from IRC

Purpose or Objective
To replace the current RRS 50.4 with ERS definitions of Headsails and Spinnakers appropriate to current usage and terminology.

Proposal
Delete: ERS G.1.3 (b) and replace:

(b) **HEADSAIL**
A sail set forward of the mast spar, or of the foremost mast spar if more than one mast.

(b) **HEADSAIL**
Unless otherwise specified by class rules, any sail tacked down forward of the foremost mast which does not meet the definition of a spinnaker.

Insert: New ERS G.1.3 (c):

(c) **SPINNAKER**
Unless otherwise specified by class rules, a sail set forward of the foremost mast with half width (measured in accordance with G.7.5 (b)) equal to or greater than 75% of foot length and without battens.

Current Position
As above.

Reasons
As acknowledged by ISAF Racing Rules Committee RRS 50.4 is a definition more suited to be a part of ERS. It is also widely modified by class rules. The current ERS G.1.3 (b) does not differentiate between headsails and spinnakers. While this is commonly addressed by class rules, ERS standard definitions would nevertheless be useful.

The proposed definitions provide a minimum basis for the definitions of headsails and spinnakers. A class wishing to invoke greater control, including eg intermediate girths/widths, has the right to do so.

The ERS Working Party should try again to get agreement from ISAF Racing Rules Committee to remove RRS 50.4 from RRS and replace it within ERS.