Equipment Rules of Sailing

G.1.4(g) Double Luff Sails

A submission from IRC

Purpose or Objective

To amend the current definition of double luff sails to correct an unintended error.

Proposal

Amend: ERS G.1.4 (g):

(g) DOUBLE LUFF SAIL

A sail with more than one luff, or a sail passing round a stay or spar and attached back on itself.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

The ERS definition of stay is: ‘Rigging providing longitudinal support for a mast spar or hull spar and or supporting a sail’. The wire in a ‘stuff luff’ headsail (eg a 420 or 470 headsail) is therefore a stay because it supports the mast. Because the wire is contained in a pocket at the luff of the sail, the sail passes round the wire and the headsail then becomes a double luff headsail.

Additionally, the definition of sail includes attachments which include hanks. A headsail hank passes round the stay on which the sail is hoisted making that sail a double luff headsail.

This unintended problem is simply resolved without consequential effects by deleting 'stay or' from the definition of DOUBLE LUFF SAIL.