Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule 49.2

A submission from the Deutscher Segler-Verband (GER)

Purpose or Objective

Amend RRS 49.2

Proposal

49.2 When lifelines are required by the class rules or the sailing instructions they shall be taut, and competitors shall not position any part of their torsos outside them, except briefly to perform a necessary task. On boats equipped with upper and lower lifelines of wire, a competitor sitting on the deck facing outboard with his waist inside the lower lifeline may have the upper part of his body outside the upper lifeline.

Current Position

As above.

Reasons

In its present form, the ISAF Offshore Special Regulations allow the lifelines of offshore yachts to be of Dyneema. But the RRS Rule 49.2 still says:

“On boats equipped with upper and lower lifelines of wire, a competitor sitting on the deck facing outboard with his waist inside the lower lifeline may have the upper part of his body outside the upper lifeline”

This prohibits the proper crew position in a boat equipped with Dyneema lifelines, as the above crew positioning is only allowed when fitted with wire lifelines.