

Submission: **SR02-21**

Offshore Special Regulations

OSR 3.01 Forestay requirements

A submission from James Dadd (GBR), Special Regulations Sub-Committee

Purpose or Objective

Ensure that the rig is properly supported at all times, independent of sail construction.

Proposal

Add OSR 3.01.3:

3.01 Strength of Build and Rig

3.01.1 Properly rigged, fully seaworthy and shall meet the OSR

3.01.2 Equipped with shrouds and at least one forestay that shall remain connected to the mast and the boat while racing

3.01.3 The forestay referenced above shall be sized and connected in a way that ensures it is capable of withstanding the full sailing loads independent of any headsail luff load capacity

Current Position

As above

Reasons

As sail construction and materials develop, it has become more achievable for the headsail and mainsail luff to absorb the full rigging loads that would normally be expected to be transferred through the rigging and spars. As such, there is a drive to reduce weight aloft by removing the forestay's function in supporting the mast as envisaged by 3.01.2. It is therefore considered necessary to specifically state the requirements of the forestay to ensure that in the event of a halyard lock failure, sail failure or user error, the rig remains supported by an effective forestay at all times.