



Date: Middelfart, DENMARK, May 23, 2016
To: Hobie Cat sailors, IHCA Council members and IHCA Regional Associations
From: IHCA Rules Committee
Subject: **General Class Rule 12.4 / Tiger / Wild Cat Rule C.1.1 (*national letters*)**

Dear all,

The requirements for display of national letters as laid down in RRS App. G have been questioned in light of Hobie Cat Company supplies sails with worldwide unique sail numbers. After more consultations with ISAF, the Rules Committee is now ready with proposals modifying the requirements.

We hereby distribute the proposals for comments according to the provisions of General Class Rule 24 and the policy of IHCA. Changes to the current rules are in *red italic*.

General Rule 12.4

PROPOSAL

12.4 A sail number assigned by Hobie Cat Company and registered with the IHCA shall be displayed on each side of the mainsail in accordance with the RRS Appendix G changed as follows:

- a) RRS Appendix G1.1 (b): National letters are not required when the unique Hobie Cat number is raced with.*
- b) RRS Appendix G1.1 (c): The sail number shall be no more than 6 digits.
- c) RRS Appendix G1.2 (b): Minimum height of characters shall be 254 mm.
- d) RRS Appendix G1.3 (d): Shall not apply.

REASON

All class legal sails are supplied by Hobie Cat Company, who gives a unique sail number to each main sail. This fact eliminates the need for national letters in order to establish a unique ID when racing.



Tiger / Wild Cat Rule C.1.1

PROPOSAL

C.1.1 Rules

- (a) RRS 50.4 shall not apply.
- (b) RRS Appendix G1.3 (d) shall not apply.
- (c) RRS 42.2 is deleted.

RRS 42.3 is deleted and replaced with:

42.3 Exceptions

- (a) To initiate or maintain surfing or planing, the crew may use sudden forward body movement, stopping abruptly (ooching).
 - (b) To initiate or maintain surfing or planing, the crew may fan any sail by pulling in and releasing the sheet or boom or by vertical or athwartship body movement (pumping).
 - (c) After a tack or gybe when the battens are not parallel with the sail, the crew may pull in and release the mainsheet or boom to invert the battens.
 - (d) The crew may roll the boat by use of body movement, repeated adjustment of the sails, or steering (rocking).
 - (e) The crew may make repeated forceful rudder movements to turn the boat (sculling).
 - (f) A boat may reduce speed by repeatedly moving her helm.
 - (g) Any means of propulsion may be used to help a person or another vessel in danger.
 - (h) To get clear after grounding or colliding with another boat or object, a boat may use force applied by the crew of either boat and any equipment.
- (d) The ERS Part I – Use of Equipment shall apply.
 - (e) RRS 49.1 is changed to say: Competitors shall use no device designed to position their bodies outboard, other than a trapeze system, hiking straps and stiffeners worn under the thighs.
 - (f) *RRS Appendix G 1.1 (b) is changed so national letters are not required if a boat races with her unique Hobie Co. supplied sail number.*

REASON

All class legal sails are supplied by Hobie Cat Company, who gives a unique sail number to each main sail. This fact eliminates the need for national letters in order to establish a unique ID when racing. However, owners of Hobie Cat Tigers and Wild Cats, who have changed their unique Hobie Cat sail number, to an F18 assigned sail number, must carry national letters in accordance with RRS App. G 1.1. (b).



Comments to be sent to rules@hobieclass.com with copy to david.brookes@hobieclass.com. Please state your full name and the Hobie Association/Fleet you are a paid up member of when making your comment. **Deadline: June 18, 2016.**

The proposed changes are supposed to go into effect as of July 11, 2016 if accepted.

Erik Olsen
IHCA Rules Committee Chair