Submission: FIN 2

Reporting committee: ITC

HEADSAIL SET FLYING

PROPOSAL

Review headsail set flying treatment in the VPP.

RATIONALE

While there where some changes made last year, the HFS sails are still not rated correctly, the shape or purpose of the sail is not taken into full account.

For example, on a Landmark 43 a Jib Zero, which can be used only in very light winds (4-8 kts) at upwind angles or for moderate winds (8-12 kts) at reaching angles, has a rating impact of ~20 s/NM. In 6 – 8 kts of wind the impact is 16 sec/mile at upwind angles but does not impact the reaching angles in moderate winds.

Almost a similar impact is reached with a 30% smaller Jib Top if it is an HSF. In this case the sail is purely a reaching sail for 14 - 20+ kt winds and should have zero impact to upwind speeds.

Given the increased amount of coastal races and the scoring weight of offshore races, the VPP should be improved on how to assess this effect. Given that the purpose and benefit of flying Headsails is predominantly for offshore and coastal races, a simple correction could be restricting the use of these sails to only Coastal and Offshore races and thus impacting only the Offshore / Coastal ratings, but this only improves the situation and does not fix the problem fully.