

Submission: USA 7

Reporting committee: **ITC
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

AGE ALLOWANCE REFORMULATION

PROPOSAL

This proposal is aimed at requesting the ORC consider revising the current Age Allowance Formula in ORC rule 103.1 for ORCi and ORC Club Certificates. The present ORC Age Allowance Formula maxes out after 15 years at 0.4875%.

One option studied, Option 1, would be to extend the application of the present formula for more years of age. If extended to 60 years the Age Allowance would max out at 1.95% and if extended to 100 years the Age Allowance would max out at 3.25%.

Another more recommended option studied, Option 2, is to replace the linear Age Allowance with a polynomial Age Allowance formula. This formula would yield less age allowance in the early years of a yacht and then increase at a faster rate in the later years based on the assumption that the difference in performance potential between younger boats is less than between older boats. For example, the performance difference between a 5-10 year old boat is less than that between a 25-30 year old boat.

Supporting documents will be presented in discussion that illustrate the effects of adopting Options 1 and 2. It is suggested that the ORC either extends the present Age Allowance from 15 years to 60 or even 90 years or adopt the proposed Option 2 Age Allowance formula.

RATIONALE

This submission is based on the trend for boats that are much older than 15 years in the USA and other areas that are actively raced both in the USA and in the great racing events around the World. In many cases much older boats are restored and repeating the same races they sailed when new or owned by next-generation owners.

In the past several weeks the Owners of several prominent older racing yachts have asked "Why is the Age Allowance of their Classic/Vintage boat the same as a 15-year old modern IMS or IRC design?" These examples are summarized in supporting documents.

Each of these Owner's appreciates older boats, and like many other owners, want to keep racing their boats for many more than 15 years and it seems logical that these boats should receive more ORC Age Allowance than the much younger boats they race against.

Moreover, this change would help extend the competitive life span of older yachts that a significant portion of the racing community enjoys and motivate them to race using ORC rules and scoring.