Submission: SWE 4

Reporting committee: **RACE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

QUALITY PARAMETERS FOR DIFFERENT RACE TYPES

PROPOSAL

Set general guidelines to improve overall quality of the races and help Racing Officers and participants to decide and expect more fair racing. Examples include:

1. When setting courses for coastal and offshore races these should carry all wind angles in similar amounts. Starts should be upwind starts.
2. When setting courses for coastal and offshore races these should be held in open water allowing for an open playing field.
3. Coastal and offshore as well as W/L races should be sailed in mean winds above 6 kts to uphold the fairness and the equal chance to win.
4. Course lengths for W/L races should be that all classes have an elapsed time of 1.0-1.5 hrs for the slowest boat in the class. This will mean course lengths of between 5-8 miles.

RATIONALE

Coastal and offshore courses set with all wind angles of similar amounts calculates more correctly under the APH single or triple numbers should the constructed course not be feasible to set. In addition they will also complement the W/L races which are mainly VMG sailing.

If a coastal or offshore race is sailed in a confined and narrow course area the significance of being a larger versus a smaller boat is exaggerated in terms of free wind and ability to make a good race despite the size of the boat.

When scoring a fleet where no boat reaches the lower wind limit of the ORC PCS matrix the advantage in terms of relative corrected times lies increasingly at lower wind speeds with the faster boats. Thus races where no boat reaches the 6 knots polar wind speed should be avoided.

Courses that are too short in distance and time emphasize the starting advantage that often lies with the larger boats in a fleet. The course lengths should allow for fair and uncrowded roundings and a balance in time between the starting session, manoeuvring and straight-line sailing.