

Reporting committee: **ITC**  
**MEASUREMENT COMMITTEE**

## LIFERAFT IN MEASUREMENT TRIM

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### **PROPOSAL**

Amend the ORC rules to allow liferafts permanently mounted in a fixed position to be:

- Weighed during measurement (Rule 301 – Measurement Trim).
- Added to the official measurement inventory (Rule 103).
- Marked with an inspection sticker by the measurer (similar to sails).

Proposed Rule Change:

“Liferafts permanently mounted in a fixed position shall be included in the yacht’s measurement inventory (Rule 103). Such liferafts must be weighed as part of measurement trim (Rule 301), recorded by the measurer, and marked with an official inspection sticker.”

### **RATIONALE**

Under current ORC rules, liferafts must be removed during the inclining test (Rule 301) and are not part of the measurement inventory (Rule 103). This creates two problems:

**Safety:** Crews are incentivized to leave liferafts ashore if not required by the Notice of Race, reducing safety margins.

**Fairness:** fixed position liferafts add weight, particularly penalizing lighter yachts, without consistent rating treatment.

Including liferafts in the measured inventory ensures consistent treatment across yachts, improves fairness, and aligns with the handling of other safety-critical equipment. It also encourages safer sailing practices by making it practical for crews to always carry liferafts.