

ADJUSTABLE FORESTAY

PROPOSAL

Change the table of penalty values in IMS 103.3 to make an adjustable forestay a neutral factor and default on all certificates and to have clear guidelines when a forestay is not considered adjustable.

RATIONALE

With the introduction of the table of “Cake” values in IMS 103.3 a new variable was introduced - “adjustable forestay” - with a negative rating effect which we had clearly stated should be neutral.

The effect of this now means that fleets are no longer rated properly nor are racing fairly because many owners have no idea or do not respond to requests of the MNA to confirm their compliance with this rule.

Moreover, in practice this is difficult to enforce compliance because with the introduction of this change a principle was adopted that if you can change headstay tension with a turnbuckle this therefore meets the definition of being “adjustable” whether or not you actually could or would do so.

An example of this is that almost every boat has a headstay turnbuckle of some sort, and a significant number of boats also have a furler drum. For many it is not easy to adjust the turnbuckle, while for others there are systems where with the removal of 2 bolts you can slide the system up and easily adjust the turnbuckle.

Therefore we propose to make the presence of a turnbuckle the default configuration with no penalty and to only give a small rating credit to boats who really cannot adjust their headstay.

If this submission is accepted it will be upon the owner to show proof of the system onboard in order to apply for the credit.

Consideration should also be given for boats declaring one furling headsail and if they also need extra credit or not.