

iQFOiL Class Association – Technical Committee Guidance to Competitors

Notice #1

Written by: iQFOiL Technical Committee

Approved by: iQFOiL Executive Committee

The following document is not an interpretation of the class rules, but instead aims to give guidance and clarification to iQFOiL sailors and members. The information contained within is publicly available but looks to put all of this information into a single document to help increase understanding.

Reference Documents

iQFOiL Class Rules (Effective date 1/4/2022)

World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing 2021-2024

What are the actions that are permitted to be carried out on the foils in terms of maintenance?

Maintenance of the foils may include the following actions only;

Sanding (ERS reference C.7.1(7)) - Removal of the outermost surface through use of an abrasive material with or without a lubricating agent, which does not alter the shape but may remove localised irregularities or textures in the surface. It may include polishing through the use of a cutting compound. **This action is PERMITTED.**

Lubricating (ERS reference C.7.1(i)) - The application of non-permanent friction reducing compound. **This action is PERMITTED.**

Cleaning (ERS reference C.7.1(g)) - The application and subsequent removal of detergents or similar agents, the purpose of which is to remove residue on the surface. **This action is PERMITTED.**

Coating (ERS reference C.7.1(e)) – Application of an additional permanent layer or layers of a substance to a surface. This may require prior preparation of the surface which may involve sanding, etching, blasting, but not fairing. **This action is NOT PERMITTED.**

In all cases of the above, nothing shall be permanent or alter the shape of the foil as supplied by the manufacturer. In all cases, Class Rule B.2.2 shall apply

Any layer which is not easily removable by hand is considered to be permanent and is considered to be a coating.

Any polishing of a layer, without any materials being added, is permitted provided that Equipment Inspectors are able to challenge the polishing for its ability to be removed. Sailors should be prepared for this to be challenged as part of the equipment inspection process.

What are the actions that are permitted to be carried out in the foils in terms of modifications?

The rule below is the Class Rule for modifications permitted to the foils;

C.8.1 MODIFICATIONS

(a) The forward and aft side of the fin top and foil mast top, along the depth that fits into the hull box may be sanded.

(b) The foil system fittings (bolts and washers) may be replaced by any fittings of the same size with the following exception: i) The angle spacers screws may be replaced by other screws of different length.

(c) When using a foil system, the crew may replace the fuselage for the remaining registered fuselage. The Notice of Race or Sailing instructions may change this rule to define how the changes shall be managed.

(d) When using a foil system, the crew may replace the angle spacers for any of the original angle spacers listed in E.1.1.1.

(e) The plastic cap covering the foil mast that goes in the fuselage may be trimmed flush with the fuselage and sanded in its bottom side for the purpose of aligning lateral foil mast and fuselage holes.

If a foil is modified beyond the permitted actions, then it shall be rejected or protested.

What are the actions that are permitted to repair the foils?

The rule below is the Class Rule for repairs permitted to the foils;

C.8.3 REPAIRS

(a) Repairs to the appendages require approval as described in C.6.1, except filling and blending of small voids (chips and gouges) smaller than 10mm x 10mm which may be carried out without approval.

A repair may include coating, sanding, fairing and bonding. However any repair that extends beyond 10mm x 10mm in either direction, not as sq CM, shall require the prior approval of the iQFOIL Technical Committee. If approval is not sought then the foil or component shall be rejected or protested.

What do I do if I haven't asked for approval of a repair of a foil I wish to use a major championship?

If you haven't asked for approval for a repair as per C.8.3(a) and C.6.1 then the foil is not permitted to be used in a major championship.

What is a "bright coloured region" as referenced in Class Rule C.3.2(a)(i)?

The definition of a "bright" as taken from the Oxford English dictionary is, "Noun – bold and vivid colours". Therefore dark and pastel colours are not considered to be bright. White is considered to be a bright colour.

What are the technical requirements of a harness?

A harness is Personal Equipment. Class Rule C.3.1 states that a harness does not need to be produced by a licenced manufacturer, therefore the manufacturer, design and construction of the harness is not controlled.

RRS 50.1(b) states that the maximum weight of a trapeze harness is 2.0kg unless amended by class rules where a higher maximum weight of 4.0kg can be stipulated. A harness shall float.

Class Rule C.3.3(i) requires that a harness weigh no more than 4.0kg.

Determining whether a harness floats shall be carried out by the test method as described in RRS Appendix H.

As there are no requirements for the design or manufacture of the harness, a competitor may adjust their harness to suit themselves at any time provided it meets the 4.0kg weight limit and retains positive buoyancy.

Can my personal floatation device be an impact vest?

No, Class Rule C.3.2(iii) states that an impact vest may be considered as a personal floatation device if it meets the requirements of Class Rule C.1.1(a). It does not permit a personal floatation device to be considered as an impact vest.

Therefore the requirement is for an impact vest first which MAY be considered as a personal floatation device.

An impact vest is a piece of personal equipment worn by the competitor that is designed to protect the body from impacts. A personal floatation device is a piece of personal equipment worn by the competitor that is designed to support the competitor in the water with a minimum level of buoyancy. A personal floatation device is not necessarily designed to protect the body from impact.

If an impact vest, ie a device specifically designed to protect the body from impacts, has buoyancy such that it meets, and is certified to, the standards in C.1.1(a), then it would meet the requirements of C.3.2(iii).

For repair approvals or technical questions please send an email to technical@iqfoilclass.org.