



To all owners of yachts rated for Asymmetrical Spinnakers tacked on centerline for the 2018 Newport Bermuda Race:

This notice applies to any yacht in the 2018 Newport Bermuda race whose ORR certificate shows a spinnaker type of "Asym on Centerline." This includes all yachts in the *Finisterre* Division, and some yachts in other divisions.

The ORR permits the use of a whisker pole (which may be a spinnaker pole) for projecting the clew of a measured headsail when sailing downwind on yachts rated with a centerline asymmetrical spinnaker, but **ONLY** if the intention to use a whisker pole has been declared on a yacht's ORR application or on her ORR certificate revalidation form.

The requirement to declare the use of a whisker pole may not have been perfectly clear in the wording of the NOR, particularly for yachts revalidating an existing ORR certificate.

The declared whisker pole shall be no longer than the J measurement (base of the foretriangle) listed on the yacht's ORR certificate. This whisker pole shall only be used to project the clew of a headsail, and cannot be used to set, sheet, or trim a spinnaker in any way.

Declaring the use of a whisker pole may impact on a yacht's predicted downwind speed, and could show the yacht to be slightly faster off the wind in some conditions compared to the same yacht rated without a whisker pole.

Nothing on a yacht's ORR certificate tells you whether your yacht is rated with or without a whisker pole. If your yacht is not rated with a whisker pole, you cannot use one for any purpose. You may carry it aboard provided it is clearly marked "not for racing."

The Notice of Race permits all yachts in the *Finisterre* Division to use a single polyester or nylon asymmetrical spinnaker, which shall be tacked on the yacht's centerline at a point no further forward of the forward face of the mast than the SPL/TPS value listed on the yacht's ORR certificate.

If your yacht is not rated to use a whisker pole, but you wish to use one, you must notify the Newport Bermuda Race Organizing Authority (BROC) and the Offshore Office at US Sailing no later than 1200 hours EDT on Monday, June 11, 2018, so that your ORR certificate can be updated. This must be done by email to the addresses below to verify application deadline compliance. The declaration must state

the owner's name, the yacht's name, sail number, and certification number (if a certificate has already been issued), and declare the intention to use a whisker pole as permitted by the ORR.

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