

J/24 Class Rules Change Procedure

This procedure focuses on permanent class rules changes.

The intention of class rules changes is to:

- Strengthen and preserve the one-design nature of the class
- Introduce new technologies where there is a demonstrable benefit to the class
- Close gaps in class rules to eliminate deviations from the design intent of the boat
- Adapt the boat to reflect evolving usage patterns and practices

Proposals that reflect these intentions typically receive broader support. An important factor in considering any rules change is assessing the impact the change would have on the class, both procedurally and cost to compete. A change that would require all boats to be remeasured or significantly extend the length of the measurement process would not be well received. A change that would require large expenditures to remain competitive would not be well received.

Section 13 of the International J/24 Class Constitution covers the procedure for changes to class rules. Since the J/24 is an international class, all rules changes must be approved by WS (World Sailing) as well as the J/24 World Council members.

Proposals for rule changes may originate from any class member, any NCA (National Class Association) or the ITC (International Technical Committee). Proposals should be submitted to the Chairman of the ITC or the Executive Directors off ice of the IJCA to be directed to the ITC Chairman. Contact information can be found on the IJCA website, www/j24class.org.

The format for a rules changes proposal should include the name of the proposer, the rule number and current rule, the proposed new rule exactly as it should appear if accepted and the reason for the change. If this information is presented, the ITC Chair will put it into the proper format for presentation to the World Council and World Sailing. The ITC Chair may also offer adjustments to the proposal that might be more in keeping with preferred sailing rules wording or ERS (Equipment Rules of Sailing) definitions.

The proposal should then be posted on the IJCA website for review and comment.

The finalized proposals are then distributed to the World Council at least 6 weeks prior to the annual WCM (World Council Meeting). This meeting is usually held in September, October or November. The World council will discuss, possibly modify (usually wording improvements and/or clarification) and then vote on the proposals at the annual WCM. There is also an option for the World Council to vote on proposals by written electronic communication. WCM approval is preferred to allow discussion to take place before the voting.

Any proposals that are accepted by the IJCA at the WCM will then be prepared for presentation to World Sailing. WS will consider the proposals and usually rule on them in time for a March or April Effective date.

There is also a procedure for emergency rules changes if circumstances create an emergency.

If the effect of a rules change on sailing and racing the J/24 is in question, the Executive Committee of the IJCA can approve a trial of the proposed change in a country or region.

(Rules changes for events are covered in A.5 of the class rules and Section J of the class rules and RRS 87)