



Classic Yacht Association Boat Owners Meeting Tuesday 7 July 2020

Proposed Amendment to Classic Yacht Policy – Attachment ‘A’

Background

The last two years has seen some significant restorations and alterations of classic yachts. For clarity, ‘yachts’ means both sailing yachts and launches. Two issues have been raised to the CYA committee for consideration:

1. To encourage yacht owners to retain, as much as possible, the original design intent of the designer; and
2. With respect to racing yachts, how to improve fairness of handicapping and divisions, for racing events generally, but specifically for the Classic Yacht Regatta

Discussion

The CYA committee recognizes that restorations and alterations of all yachts are inevitable, often relating to repairs required, extending the life-span of timber hulls and decks, or changing the functionality of vessels (i.e. to focus more on racing or cruising).

However the committee also recognizes that it is important to preserve, where possible, the original intent of the yacht designer. For racing yachts, a worst-case scenario would be a situation where owners feel that alterations are necessary in order to match those of other vessels. With respect to handicapping, the committee considers that changes made to vessels should be declared at the time they are made so that they can be taken into account by the handicapper.

The classic yacht policy already contains a section on modifications but this is relevant to yachts applying for membership of the CYA, rather than reflecting changes to active vessels. The committee has therefore decided that an amendment is required, as proposed below.

The proposal will be discussed at the Boat Owner’s Meeting in July 2020, and a final decision made at the next available committee meeting.

Proposed Amendment to Classic Yacht Policy

Add new paragraph to section 8 – Modifications

For active vessels, the Committee shall give consideration to any vessel that has been modified extensively from the original design. For significant modifications, the CYA committee reserves the right to move a vessel from its existing division to another division. This particularly applies to major underwater profile changes to pre-1950 vessels that provides a significant change in a yacht's performance or handling. It is recommended that any proposed changes are discussed with the Committee prior to them being made.

Additionally, with respect to racing vessels, it is intended that changes will be made to the CYA Notice of Race for both the season series and the Classic Yacht Regatta, requiring a declaration at the time of entry:

Declaration

A declaration to be made by entrants at the time of entry. The declaration is to include the details of any alterations made to the vessel over the period since the previous Classic Yacht Regatta that may impact on the sailing performance of the vessel, and the date those changes were made. Alterations may include but are not limited to:

- *Changes to sail plan and/or addition of new sails.*
- *Changes to spars.*
- *Changes to ballast.*
- *Changes to underwater profile, appendages, propeller.*