

## FISH CLASS SLOOP - CLASS RULES & REGULATIONS 8 FEBRUARY 2001

### **Object of Class Rules**

The Fish Class Sloop is a One-Design class. All boats shall comply with the official plans except where modified by these rules. The term OFFICIAL PLANS refers to "The Fish Class Yacht Revised Plans dated 1949 and revised in 1952". These rules are intended to ensure that the boats are as identical as practical with regards to shape and weight of hull, rudder, spars, and sails, and that the equipment is simple, functional, dependable and economical.

It is impossible to foresee every innovation that may be thought of in the future. Therefore, when considering any innovation in connection with the yacht, its sails, or equipment that is not clearly covered by the plans, specifications, and/or rules, it must be assumed illegal unless prior approval has been obtained from the Fish Class Association.

- I. **Hull Materials** - The hull, deck, and keel shall be made of wood, fiberglass, or a combination of the two, provided they comply with the plans. The ballast part of the keel shall conform to the Plans.
  
- II. **Spars** - Wood or aluminum only, or a combination of the two may be used. If hollow, the spar must be sealed. Minimum weight of the mast is to be 45 pounds, with all attached hardware. The balance point of the mast must be a minimum of 9 feet from the heel. The pivot point of the mast at the mast step shall not be adjustable while sailing. Recommended minimum diameter at top is 2.5 inches, at the bottom 4 inches.
  
- III. **Minimum weight of hull** - shall be 1500 pounds. Underweight boats will have penalty weights attached to and adjacent to the rudder post, in the amount needed to make the boat weigh 1500 pounds.
  
- IV. **Hull weighing Procedure** -
  1. The bilge shall be as dry as practical.
  2. The following items only shall be on board: Mast, boom, gaff and mainsail, main sheet, jib halyard, main halyards.

**V. Prohibitions and Restrictions -**

1. Materials for running rigging are optional.
2. Standing rigging shall be 3/16 inch wire.
3. Halyards shall be a minimum of 3/8 inch diameter.
4. Internal halyards are not allowed.
5. The following are allowed: Preventers may be attached to chain plates only; Jib cloth adjustments; Barber haulers; Mainsail cloth adjustments; hiking lines.
6. The following are NOT allowed: Hiking straps, Boom vang; Jiffy reefs.
7. Head stay and shrouds may NOT be adjusted while racing.
- 8.\* Any hanging on a shroud from a standing position is prohibited. (Adopted at 2003 Annual Meeting)

**VI. Sails** - Sails shall be constructed to comply with the official plan except that the following items are optional: cloth weight; panel widths; batten material; reef points; grommet spacing; jib luff wire; main luff wire; panel layout; method of attaching mainsail to spars (except loose-footed mainsails are prohibited). All sails shall be made of Dacron, polyester, cotton, or similar woven materials.

**VII. Safety equipment** - the following shall be carried on board while racing: All boats shall comply with US Coast Guard and Alabama Marine Police Regulations; One Paddle; One Bucket or bailing device; One Danforth anchor weighing a minimum of 15 pounds with at least 50 feet of nylon line.

**VIII. Grandfather Clause** - Any boat which competed in the Fish Class Worlds in 1994, 1995, or 1996, is considered legal as sailed in one of those championship regattas, subject to meeting the minimum weight.

**IX.\* Compasses** - Electronic compasses that give heading only and may have a timing device are allowed. Example: Tack Tick Micro Compass is allowed. (Adopted at Sept. 23, 2003 regular meeting)

These Rules were agreed upon by majority vote of the Membership of the Fish Class Association, at the meeting of 8 February 2001, and (\*) newly adopted as noted in Rule.

Respectfully Submitted

William K. Douglas  
Chairman, Technical Committee