

CHALLENGER OF RECORD & DEFENDER

AMERICA'S CUP 36

Interpretation 050

of

AC75 Class Rule Version 1.10 issued 21st May 2020

Rule References:

19.13 Except during (or immediately before or after) a change of the outermost set **headsail**, the outermost set **headsail** sheet may only be controlled by:

(a) the rotary motion of a winch, controlling the length of the sheet, where:

...

Context:

The governing sentence of rule 19.13 bans any control of a **headsail** sheet except as authorised in 19.13 (a) and (b). Rule 19.13 (a) allows the control of the length of the sheet. Reading rule 19.13 (a) literally the (total) length of a sheet – stretch under load apart – does not change while racing and thus cannot be controlled by a winch. We see two possibilities to interpret this rule 19.13 (a):

1. "... controlling the length of the sheet" refers to the control of the length of the loaded part of the sheet, that is the length between the exit point of the loaded part of the sheet from the winch and the clew of the headsail.
2. "... controlling the length of the sheet" relates to stretch of the sheet under load and refers to the control of the change of the length of the loaded part of the sheet as a consequence of the control of the sheet load.

Questions:

1. Is interpretation 1 above correct?
2. Is interpretation 2 above correct?
3. Could the **RC** clarify how rule 19.13 shall be interpreted?

Interpretation:

"The length of the sheet" in rule 19.13 refers to the length of the loaded portion of the sheet which may include a tackle arrangement, for example a 2:1.

Answers:

1. Yes.
2. No.
3. Refer to the Interpretation above.

END