

CHALLENGER OF RECORD & DEFENDER AMERICA'S CUP 36

Interpretation 088 of AC75 Class Rule Version 1.27 issued 15th January 2021

Rule References:

12.11 When viewed from above and orthogonal to **MWP**, neither the crew nor the guest racer shall be covered at any time by any part of the **yacht** except:

- (a) by the **mast** or sails or rigging;
- (b) by hand-held movable devices whose only purpose is to house **passive input devices** and/or **crew indication devices**, and these devices are not designed to provide aerodynamic fairing of the crew;
- (c) by other components, provided that the total area of cover per person, **projected to MWP**, does not exceed 0.025 m² and this covering is not designed to provide aerodynamic fairing of the crew; or
- (d) if this happens accidentally and no more than occasionally.

31.6 **Competitors** shall permit the **Measurement Committee** to:

- (a) interview team members; and
- (b) require team members to complete affidavits

relating to questions from the **Measurement Committee** on design, construction or use of components on the **yacht**.

OED, "Fairing" :

- n.1, 4a : A small gingerbread biscuit; a ginger nut.
- n.2, 1a : The action or process of smoothing the lines of a ship, aircraft, or motor vehicle, typically in order to reduce drag; streamlining.

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Questions:

1. For a covering that does not exceed 0.025 m² to be permitted by Rule 12.11 (c), is the design intent the only criteria to be applied by the **Measurement Committee** in determining compliance? If not, what other Rules restrict coverings that do not exceed 0.025 m²?
2. When determining the design intent for clause (c), should the **Measurement Committee** only consider:

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- a. that part of a component that provides covering of the crew; and
 - b. whether the covering of the crew was designed to reduce aerodynamic drag of the crew?
3. Can the design intent be determined by any method other than by interviewing team members and/or requiring team members to complete affidavits? If so, how?

Interpretation:

The **Rules Committee** deems that the appropriate OED definition of “fairing”, as used in the context of Rule 12.11 is:

n.2 1.a. The action or process of smoothing the lines of a ship, aircraft, or motor vehicle, typically in order to reduce drag; streamlining.

The OED definition makes it clear that the expression “... *this covering is not designed to provide aerodynamic fairing of the crew*” in Rule 12.11(c) refers to all coverings that are designed to provide aerodynamic fairing to the crew, whether or not that is their sole or primary function.

Answers:

1. Yes, the design intent is the only criteria. However, it is not necessary that fairing be the primary design intent. (see discussion above).
2.
 - a. The **Measurement Committee** should consider only the part that is covering the crew at any moment while racing.
 - b. The **Measurement Committee** should consider if at least one of the design purposes has been to provide aerodynamic fairing of the crew (see interpretation above).
3. The design intent can be determined by interviewing team members and/or requiring team members to complete affidavits. But the **Measurement Committee** can also interpret the design intent using their own judgment.

END