

CHALLENGER OF RECORD & DEFENDER AMERICA'S CUP 36

Interpretation 090 of AC75 Class Rule Version 1.27 issued 15th January 2021

Rule References:

Drawing 031 750 101_Rig and Sailplan notes;

“The **supplied rigging** shall be connected to the one design **mast** fittings with continuous strops in basket configuration. No additional mechanisms, hardware or fairings are permitted except as allowed in rule 20.8. A fairing is allowed at the connection of the forestay and lower strop to allow sail hanks to pass over the jaw fitting.”

Interpretation 082

This interpretation states “A strop can therefore either be a loop of rope or a rope with a loop at both ends.”

Context:

The photograph below shows a rope with a loop at each end. The loop at each end is formed by the rope tied with a bowline knot.



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Question:

- I. Does a rope with tied bowlines to form a loop at each end of the rope satisfy the requirements to qualify as a strop as defined in Interpretation 082?

If not, could the **Rules Committee** please advise which rules are infringed?

Interpretation:

OED for "strop":

2. a. *A ring or band of hide or of rope with its ends spliced together, used upon a mast, yard, rope, etc., as a fastening or as a purchase for tackle; esp. a band of rope, iron, or chain fastened round a pulley or block. Chiefly Nautical. (Cf. STRAP n. 2.)*

b. *Strop (Rope-making), a rope with an eye at each end, used in twisting strands.*

The reading of OED 2 (a and b) for "strop" indicates that the strop must be spliced, and may be either a ring or a rope with an eye at each end. An eye at the end of a rope can only be achieved with an eyesplice.

The end of a rope extends beyond a bowline knot.

Answer:

- I. No. It is a rope with knots in it. The ends of the rope, beyond the shown bowline knots, do not have eyes.

END