

## INTERPRETATION OF J/88 CLASS RULES 01/01/2021

The J/88 Executive and Technical Committees have provided the following interpretations of the Class Rules. Please remember that the J/88 Class Rules are closed Class Rules where if it does not specifically say that you “may,” then you “shall not.”

### INTERPRETATION OF J/88 CLASS RULE 5 in regard to jibs

The Class Rule reads:

***5.2 All sail measurements shall be made by certified measurers and in accordance with the World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing (“ERS”). In this section, terms in BOLD are used as defined and used in the ERS.***

***5.3 Sails carried on board and used for J/88 Class or Fleet sanctioned events for inshore buoy racing shall be limited to no more than five sails: one Class mainsail, one Class #1 jib, one Class #2 jib, one Class #1 spinnaker and one Class #2 spinnaker. When in use, jibs are required to be attached to the furling system and capable of being furled. Each Class sail shall comply without exception with the provisions of these Rules.***

**Question #1** Can I drop my jib to the deck on the downwind leg while racing?

**Answer #1** No. As it states in 5.3, jibs are required to be attached to the furling system and capable of being furled. The only exception would be a headsail change or repair which should be done in a seaman-like manor.

**Question #2** Can I use horizontal batten pockets in my jib?

**Answer #2** Yes, but you must use furling battens so the jib can be furled properly.

**Question #3** Can I add an additional batten to stiffen the jib?

**Answer #3** No. You must use the same type of single batten supplied when the sail was measured under the ERS. The ERS definition of “Batten Pocket” is “Ply to form a pocket for a batten,” meaning the word “a” batten, as in a single batten.

### INTERPRETATION OF J/88 CLASS RULE 6.3

The Class Rule reads:

***6.3 The bowsprit shall be fully retracted at all times except when the spinnaker is being set, is set or is being retrieved, and shall be retracted at the first reasonable opportunity after the spinnaker is fully retrieved. An extended bowsprit shall not be considered part of the boat for the purposes of establishing an overlap or obtaining other rights under the Racing Rules of Sailing unless the spinnaker is set.***

**Question #1** In Class Rule C 6.3 what is the definition of “Is being set, is being retrieved” as it relates to the gennaker halyard and the tackline? Is it just movement of the halyard up or down that defines

whether the gennaker is being set or retrieved or is the tack line considered part of the hoisting and dropping process?

**Answer #1** The term “being set” means that the gennaker is steadily being deployed from a bag or belowdecks by way of pulling the tack line and hoisting the halyard, which can proceed in either order or at the same time. Conversely, “being retrieved” means that the sail is being restowed below by releasing the halyard and the tack line, which can proceed in either order or together.

**Question #2**

A boat retrieves her spinnaker fully before arriving at a leeward mark. She rounds the mark and trims her sails for the windward leg before retracting her bowsprit. Has she retracted her bowsprit at the first reasonable opportunity?

**Answer #2**

No. The first reasonable opportunity to retract a bowsprit begins at the moment that the spinnaker is no longer exerting sufficient tension on the bowsprit to prevent it being retracted.