



4 March 2010

— Question 49:

#### REQUEST FOR INTERPRETATION

Question: The TP52 rule calls for “all yachts constructed after 1/1/09 shall have their lifelines made of 1x19 stainless wire”. ISAF cat 3 special regulation allows from 2010 the use of Dyneema SK75 or SK78 lifelines. Does this mean that TP52 yachts constructed before 1/1/09 are allowed to use dyneema lifelines in class events?

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#### CONSIDERATIONS

In december 2009 I send out the following mail (only the part on lifelines is shown here):

Date: Fri, 18 Dec 2009 17:33:25 +0100  
2010 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Dear Members, Team Contacts,

Attached the new safety requirements for 2010, just released by ISAF.

3) OSR 3.14.6 now allows lifelines to be of dyneema. This comes from singlehanded sailing, the racing multihulls and some small boat classes. Personally I think it is a bad move for boats where the full crew hikes, like a TP52. The risk of damage to the lifelines by chafe at the stanchions is realistic. Anyway, 2009/2010 TP52 Rule 3.12 requires that lifelines shall be made of 1x19 stainless wire. So, nothing changes here!!

Unfortunately rule 3.12 somehow slipped my attention when writing the 2010 and 2011 Rules, so is not part of the 2010/2011 TP52 Rule. I am sure you agree we can not have new boats sailing with dyneema lifelines and all others with stainless steel ones, so I propose to repair this.

As this is an unforeseen change by ISAF and it is in the interest of the class to have all boats on a level playing field, leaving aside the debate whether dyneema is a suitable material for lifelines, I am convinced there is a majority supporting this.

So please regard 2009/2010 TP52 Rule 3.12 to be part of the 2010/2011 TP52 Rule. It will become Rule H.4.2.e and read: All yachts constructed after 1/1/09 shall have their lifelines made of 1x19 stainless wire. All yachts shall accept that a TP52 Measurer during any event with a start for TP52's tensions and seals their lifelines.

We can discuss future use of dyneema for lifelines during 2010 of course.

If you feel we need a formal (member approved) rule change to add this to the 2010/2011 TP52 Rule, I have no other option than to call a member meeting before the first MedCup event. Your opinion on this is appreciated.

I am sure dyneema lifelines require adaptations to the stanchions or new ones, a thing to keep in mind. It is not just change the one for the other. Also I foresee it will be an extra burden to our measurers to get all lifelines on similar tension. An updated version of the 2010/2011 TP52 Rule with regard to this matter will be forwarded to you in the new year.

Merry Xmas and Best Wishes for 2010.

Kind regards, ROB WEILAND



- In fact I then overlooked that Rule 3.12 only covered all boats to have stainless steel lifelines (whether stranded or specifically 1x19 wire as for the boats build after 1/1/09) in conjunction with the OSR of 2009 and earlier. So in fact we can read after the introduction of the 2010 OSR that boats build prior to 1/1/09 can still fit dyneema lifelines.

**The intention of the december email is clear, all boats shall race the 2010 season with stainless steel lifelines. And pre 1/1/09 boats do not have to replace their stranded lifelines if not of the 1x19 type, like it was ruled in 2009.**

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INTERPRETATION

2009-2010 TP52 Rule 3.12 has been based on the OSR 2009 requirement for lifelines to be made out of stranded stainless steel wire.

The unforeseen modification by ISAF of that requirement has created a situation that for lifeline material and construction there is an unwanted difference in the TP52 Rule between requirements for pre and after 1/1/09 boats.

To correct this the 2009-2010 TP52 Rule 3.12 should be read to say:

*All yachts shall have their lifelines made of stranded stainless wire. Yachts constructed after 1/1/09 shall be fitted with lifelines made of 1x19 stainless wire. All yachts shall accept that a TP52 Measurer during any event with a start for TP52's tensions and seals their lifelines.*

2010-2011 TP52 Rule H.4.2.e, as announced in the december email, shall have the reference to 1/1/09 deleted as this rule is only for boats constructed in 2010 and read:

*Yachts shall have their lifelines made of 1x19 stainless wire. All yachts shall accept that a TP52 Measurer during any event with a start for TP52's tensions and seals their lifelines.*

For the 2011 TP52 Rule a proposal on lifeline specifications will be brought up for a member decision at the 2010 AGM.

NOTE:

All other requirements, like on diameter (5mm), preferred type of stainless (316) and lashing specifications, shall of course be according the OSR requirements (3.14.6).