

Shields Class Additional Manufacturers

Proposed Blue Book amendments for review

Purpose. Allow additional qualified manufacturers to supply Shields boats and class equipment while keeping the existing one-design specifications, measurements and Official Plans in force. This is a simple source-approval proposal: the Governing Board Technical Committee may approve another builder or manufacturer, and a product must still meet the same class requirements.

Sections that need changes

- **Section II, By-Laws 2.1 and 2.2 — boats and hulls.** A yacht is currently eligible for registration only if built by a builder designated in the listed builder table. Amend the eligibility sentence and add a short cross-reference so an approved additional builder can build a registrable yacht.
- **Section III, Basic Rules 8.0 — approval authority.** Add a short paragraph authorizing the Governing Board Technical Committee to approve additional builders and manufacturers for specified class products. Require conformity with existing Specifications and Official Plans; approval does not waive or change them.
- **Section IV, Mast 5.2; Spreaders 5.6; Mast Step 5.11 — named sources.** Keep the named sources and add “or another manufacturer approved by the Governing Board Technical Committee” to the source-limited clauses.
- **No source-rule change needed for booms, tillers or rudders.** Section IV 6.1 already allows any manufacturer to fabricate the boom section. The tiller interpretation says anyone may construct it if it is wood and retains the original size and shape. Rudder rules prescribe shape, thickness and permitted fairing-strip materials without naming a maker. Those requirements remain controlling.

Proposed redline

Red underlined text is proposed new wording. Existing Blue Book text is shown in black. No technical dimensions or design standards are changed.

Section II — By-Laws 2.1 Registered Yachts

Current Blue Book: A Registered Yacht is a Shields Class yacht which has been constructed by an authorized builder designated in Section 2.2.

Proposed: A Registered Yacht is a Shields Class yacht which has been constructed by an authorized builder designated in Section 2.2 or approved under Section III, 8.0.

Section II — By-Laws 2.2 Authorized Builders

Current Blue Book: The authorized builders designated by the Association are as follows: [existing builder and yacht-number table]

Proposed: The authorized builders designated by the Association are as follows: [retain existing table unchanged]. Additional builders may be approved under Section III, 8.0 and shall be authorized builders for purposes of Section 2.1.

Section III — Basic Rules 8.0 Admonition to Authorized Builder(s)

Current Blue Book: The authorized builder(s) shall not change the design of the hull, deck, spars, rigging or equipment supplied on the new boats or placed on the existing boats without first requesting approval from the Governing Board. The Technical Committee shall review such requests and make a recommendation to the Board. Any changes that are approved shall be relayed to the authorized builder(s) in writing.

Proposed: Retain current paragraph unchanged.

The Technical Committee Governing Board may approve additional builders of Shields Class yachts and hulls and additional manufacturers for equipment, components and fittings for class-compliant products covered by this Blue Book. Any builder or manufacturer approved under this paragraph shall supply products that conform to these Specifications and the Official Plans. Approval does not authorize a design change or waiver.

Section IV — Mast 5.2 Fabrication of the Mast

Current Blue Book: Existing masts shall have been built only by Cape Cod Shipbuilding (Zephyr Products), Chris Craft Corporation or Henry Hinckley and Co. Only Zephyr Products shall build new masts.

Proposed: Existing masts shall have been built only by Cape Cod Shipbuilding (Zephyr Products), Chris Craft Corporation or Henry Hinckley and Co. Only Zephyr Products or another manufacturer approved by the Governing Board Technical Committee shall build new masts.

Section IV — Mast 5.6 Spreaders

Current Blue Book: Existing aluminum spreaders shall have been made only by Cape Cod Shipbuilding (Zephyr Products), Chris Craft or Henry Hinckley. Only Zephyr Products shall build new aluminum spreaders. Wooden spreaders are permitted.

Proposed: Existing aluminum spreaders shall have been made only by Cape Cod Shipbuilding (Zephyr Products), Chris Craft or Henry Hinckley. Only Zephyr Products or another manufacturer approved by the Governing Board Technical Committee shall build new aluminum spreaders. Wooden spreaders are permitted.

Section IV — Mast 5.11 Mast Step

Current Blue Book: The mast step shall be located on the centerline of the boat and shall consist of an aluminum casting (as supplied by Cape Cod Ship Building) that is fastened to a fixed plate parallel to the deck by four machine screws through the central portion of the casting.

Proposed: The mast step shall be located on the centerline of the boat and shall consist of an aluminum casting (as supplied by Cape Cod Ship Building or another manufacturer approved by the Governing Board Technical Committee) that is fastened to a fixed plate parallel to the deck by four machine screws through the central portion of the casting.

Rules that remain unchanged

Section IV 6.1 Fabrication of the Boom: the existing rule already permits any manufacturer to fabricate the boom section, subject to the listed cross-sections, Specifications and Official Plans. The proposed general approval rule does not narrow that permission.

Tiller: anyone may construct a tiller, provided it is wood (solid or laminated) and keeps the size and shape as originally manufactured. Rudder: the existing shape, thickness and material rules continue to apply regardless of supplier. No maker-specific clause needs to be added for either item.

Adoption and effective date

The By-Laws and Specifications have separate amendment routes under Constitution Article IX. The Association should confirm the proper route for each insertion before adoption. This draft sets no effective date; it should be specified in the adopting action. The Blue Book's current technical limits and measurement requirements remain in effect until adoption and the stated effective date.

Official Blue Book references

- Section I Constitution — Article IX amendments — <https://www.shieldsclass.com/bluebook/section1.php>
- Section II By-Laws — Registered Yachts — <https://www.shieldsclass.com/bluebook/section2.php>
- Section III Basic Rules — builder/manufacturer provisions — <https://www.shieldsclass.com/bluebook/section3.php>
- Section IV Hull Specifications and Equipment Requirements — <https://www.shieldsclass.com/bluebook/section4.php>