

*Minutes*  
*Shields Nationals Technical Committee Meetings*

July 27, 2020

Attendees: Kenneth Deyett, John Gronberg, Garth Hobson, Richard Robbins, Mike Schwartz, Jerry Stratton

Agenda:

1. Interval of inspections
2. Carbon fiber spinnaker pole
3. Full-length top batten in the mainsail
4. Loose-footed mainsail
5. Rudder restoration/remanufacture

1. *Interval of Inspection.* No update on the intervals of inspection. Local measurers will be contacted at the end of summer to see how the mast step measurements are progressing in their respective fleets.
2. *Carbon fiber spinnaker pole.* Jerry Stratton found the price of a carbon fiber tube (no fittings) locally in California to be around \$577. John Gronberg will obtain a price from a local supplier. Ken Deyett hopes to try out the carbon fiber spinnaker pole of The Grinch #248.
3. *Full-length top batten in the mainsail.* Garth Hobson presented new findings on the full-length top batten;
  - Etchells class has them in their mainsails now as well as a sail plan very similar to the Shields.
  - Etchells have a horizontal top full batten and the rest are perpendicular to the leech
  - Ullman sails was consulted about whether a full batten could be made perpendicular to the leech. The recommendation was to split the difference if so desired, however the recommendation was for a horizontal full top batten.
  - Reiterated that all the sailmakers previously contacted, North, Quantum, Ullman, were in favor of the full top batten as an option.
  - Proposal is to ammend the rule as follows;

### **5.6 Battens**

There shall be 3 lower battens each 42 inches long, and a top batten **36 inches long or a full batten**. These are maximum lengths. The maximum width of any batten is 2 inches. Battens shall be spaced at equal intervals along the leech. (See Specification - Sails 4.8

- Richard Robbins said he would generate a sail plan to correspond tot he above (attachement 1.)
- Richard Robins suggest we also consider the J80 fleet sailplan as a good example
- Tabled till next meeting

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4. *Loose-footed mainsail*. Garth Hobson presented a proposed change to rule

**5.1 Foot Attachments**

The foot shall be attached to the boom by **either** a boltrope which may terminate 6 inches from the clew **or may be loose footed**. **The foot of the sail may be rounded in a convex shape. No part of the "round" may extend more than 4 inches below a straight line taken between tack and clew.** A clew slide may be added. Roach reefs, zippers and similar foot control devices are prohibited.

The rationale being that for the luff of the sail the current rule states, "The luff may be attached to the mast either by sliders, tape or a bolt rope."

The sentences on the rounding of the foot were added during discussion.

Mike Schwartz made a motion to accept this rule change, seconded by John Gronsberg. Voting was unanimous in favor of the rule as written.

This change will be presented to the National Committee at a future date.

5. *Rudder restoration/remanufacture*. John Gronsberg has been given permission by the committee to refurbish the rudder on Barbara #186. He will scan the existing rudder as well as one other to generate a digital record of the rudder profile. The two rudders will be weighed to document the variance.

6. Next meeting will be August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

7. Meeting adjourned at 21:00 EST