

2024 Bayview Mackinac Race

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Sail Issues

Headsails

Q1. How many headsails can I carry on board during the 2023 Bayview Mackinac Race?

A. No boat may carry more headsails than the number listed on its ORC certificate, and if a boat is racing in a Cruising Class the number and type of headsails are further limited, as discussed below.

Q2. Does a storm jib count against the headsail limit shown on the boat's ORC certificate?

A. No. A storm jib or heavy weather jib as defined by the World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations (OSRs) does not count against the ORC headsail limit, but if a headsail does not meet the size, material or color requirements for a storm or heavy weather jib under the World Sailing OSRs it will be counted against the limit.

Q3. What are the World Sailing OSR requirements for a storm or heavy weather jib?

A. They vary depending on when built. See Section 4.27 of the World OSRs, which can be viewed at:

<https://www.sailing.org/inside-world-sailing/rules-regulations/offshore-special-regulations>

Q4. Does a staysail or blooper count against the headsail limit?

A. Yes. Any sail that is tacked forward of the mast (or foremost mast on a boat with more than one mast) and has a midgirth width that is less than 75% of its foot length is considered a headsail. Headsails that are not attached to the forestay are called "headsails set flying". Both headsails attached to the forestay and headsails set flying count against the ORC headsail limit.

Q5. Is there a limit on the size of a staysail?

A. Yes. The LP of a staysail tacked between the forestay and the mast may not exceed 110% of J. The ORC Rules can be downloaded at <https://orc.org/organization/rules-regulations>

Q6. Is there any restriction on how bloopers are to be rigged?

A. Yes. Bloopers must be tacked forward of the forestay and near the boat's centerline.

Q7. For which headsails do I need to supply measurement data when applying for an ORC certificate?

A. All boats need to provide the measurement data for the boat's largest headsail attached to the forestay. In addition, if you use one or more "headsails set flying" that then you must also provide measurement data for each of those sails. You also will need to provide information regarding the tack point used for that sail, (similar to the TPS reported for a spinnaker tacked on a sprit pole). Finally, for a headsail set flying the hoist point must also be reported in connection with obtaining an ORC rating certificate, on boats with higher spinnaker halyards this is often, but not always, ISP.

Q8. If I am rated with a credit for a roller furling headsail under ORC, how many headsails can I carry?

A. If the boat is rated under ORC with a credit for a rolling furling headsail then there can only be one headsail on board. In addition, the area of that headsail cannot be less than 95% of the largest headsail set on the forestay recorded on the boat's ORC certificate. See ORC Rule 206.1.

Q9. What are the additional sail restrictions on which sails boats racing in a Cruising Class may carry?

A. If a Cruising Class boat is not subject to the one headsail limit due to the roller furling credit as discussed above, it may carry no more than 2 headsails with an LP greater than 110%. In addition, any smaller headsails must be made of heavy material designed for use in strong winds. For further information see Cruising Class Rules at <https://bycmack.com/cruising-rules/>

Spinnakers

Q10. How many spinnakers can I carry on board during the 2023 Bayview Mackinac Race?

A. Except for boats competing in a Cruising Class, you may carry one more spinnaker than the total number of spinnakers shown on your ORC certificate. Boats competing in a Cruising Class may carry no more than two asymmetrical spinnakers and may not carry any symmetrical spinnakers.

Q11. If I am rated for both symmetrical and asymmetrical spinnakers can I take one more of each type of spinnaker than the number shown on my ORC certificate for that type?

A. No. You may only carry a total of one additional spinnaker. If you are rated for both symmetrical and asymmetrical spinnakers, the additional spinnaker can be of either type. If you are only rated for one type of spinnaker, the additional spinnaker must be of the type you are rated for.

Q12. For symmetrical spinnakers, what information do I need to provide to US Sailing when obtaining my ORC certificate?

A. You must supply measurement data for the largest symmetrical spinnaker you carry on board. If you also carry smaller symmetrical spinnakers, you do not need to provide the measurement data for those sails, but each counts for purposes of the number of such sails that may be carried on board

Q13. For asymmetrical spinnakers, what information do I need to provide to US Sailing when obtaining my ORC certificate?

A. It depends. If you only carry asymmetrical spinnakers with a half-width to foot ratio higher than 85%, then you only need to provide sail measurement data for the largest one of those sails. If you carry any asymmetrical spinnakers with a half-width to foot ration of 85% or lower, then you must declare and provide measurement data for each of those sails. Typically these are Code Os and some A-1s and A-3s. (Sails with a half-width to foot ratio under 75% are classified as headsails, not spinnakers, but as discussed above any headsail set flying tacked forward of the headstay must be declared and measurement data provided).

Q14. Can I fly a "headsail set flying" tacked forward of the forestay and an asymmetrical spinnaker at the same time?

A. Yes. ORC now allow sails to be flown in that configuration.

Q15. Can I fly an asymmetrical spinnaker "wing on wing", meaning opposite the side the boom is on?

A. No, unless you are racing in a Cruising Class. ORC does not allow it, but the Mackinac Cruising Class Rules modify that rule to allow boats in the Cruising Classes to fly an asymmetrical spinnaker opposite the side the boom is on.

Mainsail

Q16. Can I carry more than one mainsail on my boat during the race?

A. While two mainsails may be on board the boat, the ORC rules says: "Only one mainsail shall be used while racing." See ORC Rule 206.1. A storm trysail may also be carried provided it meets the size limitations and other requirements set forth in the Bayview Safety and Equipment Regulations.

Q17. Must a boat carry a storm trysail?

A. A boat must carry a storm trysail unless it has a reefing mainsail with the ability to reduce the luff length by at least 10%.

Q16. What are the requirements for a storm trysail?

A. A storm trysail must have numbers on both sides of the sail, must be set independent of the boom, must be no greater than 17% of E x P, and if made after 1/1/2014 be made of highly visible material. See BYC Mackinac SER 3.25, which can be viewed at <https://bycmack.com/ser/>

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