



RULE MANAGEMENT GROUP

THE VOLVO OPEN 70 RULE

PUBLIC INTERPRETATION NO.16

This public interpretation is given in accordance with rule 1.3 of the Volvo Open 70 Rule Version 2

Question:

Rule 4.3.1 states "All tanks shall be rigid in construction and shall not extend more than 1.000m outboard of the centre line of the yacht."

Rule 4.3.3 states "All fuel tanks shall have CE approval. Fuel tanks shall not be used for liquids other than fuel, and shall not be filled, emptied or transferred for the purpose of altering trim or stability. The following fuel tanks shall be fitted:

- (a) A fuel tank or tanks having a total capacity of not less than 230litres, installed symmetrically about the centreplane.
- (b) A day tank with a minimum capacity of 10litres, positioned close to and such that a gravity feed of fuel to the auxiliary engine is achieved. The day tank shall be constructed of stainless steel.
- (c) A separate fuel tank for emergency use only, installed symmetrically about the centreplane. This tank shall be capable of isolation from the main fuel system and have a capacity of not less than 120litres. All inlets and outlets shall be capable of being sealed, using a cable-tie type seal. The tank shall have an upper inspection opening allowing dip stick access.
- (d) No fuel tank shall form a structural part of the yacht."

Volvo Ocean Race 2008-2009 Notice of Race 2.1(d) states "Leg 7: China (port 2) to Brasil, an approximate distance of 12,000nm...."

1. Are we correct in assuming that there is no maximum total capacity of the fuel tanks?
2. If the answer to question 1 is yes, is it permitted to install additional tanks prior to the start of an individual leg and remove them upon completion of that leg?
3. If the answer to question 1 is yes, is it permitted to remove and replace minimum capacity tanks with larger ones prior to the start of an individual leg and reinstall minimum capacity tanks upon completion of that leg?
4. Is it permitted to carry additional fuel in soft tanks or Jerry cans? If so can these be moveable or would they be required to be sealed in place?

Interpretation:

1. Yes.
2. Yes, provided the additional tanks comply with rules 4.3.1 and 4.3.3 as well as NOR 5.4, and are fully connected to, and form part of the main fuel system. Additional measurement will be required and a new certificate may be necessary.
3. Yes, provided the replacement tanks comply with rules 4.3.1 and 4.3.3 as well as NOR 5.4, and are fully connected to, and form part of the main fuel system. Additional measurement will be required and a new certificate may be necessary.
4. No.

END

Signed on behalf of the Volvo Open 70 Rule Management Group

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