

Decisions of the German Ballad Club shall modernize the regulations concerning sailcloth and furling jib/genua in the Ballad One Design Rule (BODR)

The present situation:

1. The latest modification of the BODR took place in 2000. On initiative of the Scandinavian Ballad-friends the BODA amended the rules regarding **the use of furling jibs/genuas:**

When using a furling genua, only this genua is allowed all over the race.

(Notice: Till now this rule did not become part of the English-language-version of the BODR on the Scandinavian and German websites!)

2. Concerning the sailcloth, the following rule applies:

Only sails made of Dacron, woven polyester sailcloth or laminated material containing polyester film (Mylar) and polyester are allowed. Sailcloth material containing any high modulus fibres like Kevlar (Aramid), Spectra, Vectra or carbon is not allowed. Ply weight is optional.

Development, trends and arguments:

1. In fact, most of our Ballads have **furling genuas**. We would like to have these Ballads in our races, too, and see no reason to handicap them by allowing one genua during the races only. Most likely they will have smaller genuas because of shorter luffs.

2. Furthermore a lot of progress has been made in developing **new sailcloth and sails:**

- New materials allow much more effective and durable sails;
- they are no longer as expensive as they have been in the beginning of this development.
- When sailing in handicap-races, we can see a lot of boats with these effective sails. The yardstick rule for example does not make any difference, whether there are old-fashioned sails on a boat, or high-tech sailcloth. A Ballad (when racing) definitely is forced by our BODR to sail without these effective materials and consequently is handicapped.
- Other One Design Classes (J / 24 and Express for example) respected the development in the sailcloth material and changed their rules accordingly.

Decisions of the German Ballad Club:

These facts lead to the following decisions made on a General Meeting of the German Ballad Club on March 26th 2011 in Hamburg:

1. In One Design Ballad Races in Germany it is allowed to sail with different Genuas, when using a furling jib/genua.
2. In One Design Ballad Races in Germany restrictions concerning the sailcloth material are no longer valid.
3. The Executive Committee of the German Ballad Club and its` Technical and BODA-Commissioner have to inform the Ballad One Design Association members about these decisions. They shall campaign for appropriate alterations of the Ballad One Design Rule.

Ballad Klub e. V. – Deutsche Klassenvereinigung Hamburg November 2011