

Further to my email of 8 May about the “jib deck sweeper” (attached), the Executive Committee now puts a proposal forward with the purpose of halting the use of the innovative snuffer - going forward we will call it the **deck snuffer** - until World Council has made a final decision, expected before year-end, about whether we want this piece of equipment to be part of the future of F18.

<http://www.f18-international.org/2018/05/desirability-of-jib-deck-sweeper-end-plates-under-review/>

We propose a temporary change of the class rules. The change will have a limited duration of 6 months from 27 June 2018. As a result, the change will be automatically reversed on 27 December 2018, unless the period is prolonged or the change is made permanently. However both would require a new World Council decision.

The proposal reads as follows:

Proposal is to change class rules F.1.1(d), and to add new class rule F.1.1(e), as follows:

Existing

**Section F - Rig**

**F.1 PARTS**

F.1.1 MANDATORY

...

(d) **Bowsprit.**

New

**Section F - Rig**

**F.1 PARTS**

F.1.1 MANDATORY

...

(d) **Bowsprit including snuffer ring**  
(e) **Gennaker snuffer bag.**

Rationale

With this proposal we want to minimize the risk of disputes or the need for rule interpretations during the upcoming regattas, including the 2018 Europeans and Worlds, while the class evaluates the desirability of the deck snuffer and makes an informed decision. The new, temporary rules fit with the commonly used equipment in the class. For those cases where a F18 is not compliant with the new, temporary rules, it should not be expensive to make the boat rule-compliant. The term “bag” determines that this part has be made of soft material; the same terminology is used in the Nacra17 class rules.