

19 March 2021

**RS600 VOTE PROPOSAL TO PERMIT USE OF BLOCKS AS FIRST GUIDE FOR CONTROL LINE TAKE UPS ALONG THE WING BAR**

The RS600 Class Association Committee proposes that the membership vote on whether to change the RS600 rules at 1.3.16 to permit the use of blocks as the first guide for control line take ups along the wing bar.

Background: The original rule kept overall costs down because rings are cheaper than blocks.

Advantage to use of blocks: Potential to reduce friction in control line system thus saving wear on the lines. Benefit to sailor of choice to retrofit. Use of blocks will give minimal overall performance gain.

Disadvantage to use of blocks: Blocks will be subject to wear and tear so likely future maintenance cost.

The RS600 Class Association Rules are here:

[https://www.rs600.org/documents/RS600%20Rulesv2%207\\_3%2011.pdf](https://www.rs600.org/documents/RS600%20Rulesv2%207_3%2011.pdf)

The current rule 1.3.16 is:

“Control line and trapeze takeaway systems (after exiting the cleats in the case of control lines) may be altered or improved in any way provided that all lines and shockcord remain external to the wing bars and, where not led forward across the foredeck, are routed alongside and close to any wing bar tube. **Blocks may be used in lieu of rings apart from the first guide(s) after the cleats which shall be rings.** No additional fastenings are to be made to the hull and any extra fastenings are only to be made to the wing bar tubes as follows”

The proposed rule change is:

“Control line and trapeze takeaway systems (after exiting the cleats in the case of control lines) may be altered or improved in any way provided that all lines and shockcord remain external to the wing bars and, where not led forward across the foredeck, are routed alongside and close to any wing bar tube. **Blocks may be used in lieu of rings at any point in the system and should be fastened appropriately to the wing bar.** No additional fastenings are to be made to the hull and any extra fastenings are only to be made to the wing bar tubes as follows”

**So please vote:**

**YES to rule change to permit use of blocks as first guide for control line take ups along the wing bar**

**Or NO to rule change**

Please email your answer to [membership@rs-association.com](mailto:membership@rs-association.com)

Vote deadline as per RS Class Association rules is four weeks from now which is 0900hrs Fri 16 April 21. See RS Class Association Rules on rule amendment at para 8 here:

<https://www.rs800.org/documents/p1evuq5kf77942iu19lg1ti2sle3.pdf>

Remember you need to be a full member of the RS600 Class Association to vote. Join here:

<https://www.rs600.org/index.asp?Fleet=RS600&selection=Membership>

We look forward to receiving your vote!

George Smith RS600 Class Chair

Clare Sargent RS Class Association Secretary [clare@rs-association.com](mailto:clare@rs-association.com)