

SOLVING THE GREAT MYSTERY OF SABOT MEASUREMENT

Written by Bill Kelly July 2009

You've just acquired a Naples Sabot and need to make sure it's ready for INSA racing. You probably already belong to a fleet, have paid your Association dues and are already racing. The question then is: what about this measurement thing?

There are two varieties of measurement: MEASUREMENT FOR CERTIFICATION and REGATTA MEASUREMENT.

MEASUREMENT FOR CERTIFICATION

This is done only once for each Sabot hull to verify that the yacht is actually a Naples Sabot which conforms to all of the class specifications. This is normally done by a fleet measurer who forwards the completed measurement form to the INSA Secretary who enters it in the class register and issues a MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATE to the owner.

Certification measurement starts with an official hull number assigned by the INSA Secretary. This number must be made a permanent part of the inside of the hull before the boat is presented for measurement. This official number is also displayed on the sail.

Both new and older boats may require measurement if they have not previously been certified. A boat presented for this process should be completed in all respects and must have all its equipment present. Hull templates are fitted to the hull to verify hull shape. Rudder and leeboard are fitted into official templates and other specific measurements made to verify placement and dimensions of major components. Structural soundness, buoyancy and allowable materials are also examined.

The Association permits the measurer to assess a fee for the procedure of up to \$25.00. (Some measurers encourage conversion of this fee into a contribution to the owner's club's junior program.)

REGATTA MEASUREMENT

Participants in INSA sanctioned races are expected to complete in certified Sabots in all cases. While particular scrutiny is rarely done in local or regional regattas, it could be done. Specific measurements could also be a part of a protest filed with the Race Committee. The Nationals Championship Regatta will normally include a measurement of specific items as part of the regatta registration. Attention is given to those components that may have changed over a season or more (sail, mast, rudder, leeboard). Certified Measurement is required for entry to the Nationals Championship Regattas. A deadline for certification is applied to the National Championship Regatta and such measurement should not be put off to the month of July.

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