



## Notification re Leeward Whisker Poles & Outriggers

Date: March 17, 2020

To: All ORR Event Organizers

From: Jim Teeters, ORA Technical Director

Leeward whisker poles and outriggers are spars deployed to leeward to hold out the clew of headsails for the purpose of getting better sheeting angles and higher performance while reaching.

They currently are NOT allowed in the ORR but for the last several years have been in other offshore handicap systems without a rating adjustment.

The ORA is developing the ability to properly handicap leeward whisker poles and outriggers for boats. The initial use of ORR handicapping boats with these spars will be the 2020 Transpac race to Tahiti. Please note these will be *experimental* ORR certificates.

The ORA intends to review, at season's end, the results of using these experimental certificates to consider whether to make them "legal" for ORR in 2021.

On a technical note, for these experimental certificates, the ORA will permit boats to attach the outriggers wherever they want on the hull, deck or mast. The point of attachment will NOT be confined to the mast as are spinnaker and whisker poles.

Again, the purpose of this note is to convey to you new features that we at the ORA are exploring and to give you advance notice in case any of your competitors come to you with questions.

---

*The Offshore Racing Association (ORA) is a membership organization that develops, manages, and operates the Offshore Racing Rule (ORR), and the ORR-Ez Racing Rule.*

For more information"

Jim Teeters, *Technical Director*, ORA - [jim@tytech.org](mailto:jim@tytech.org)

Dan Nowlan, *Rules Committee*, ORA - [dtnowlan506@gmail.com](mailto:dtnowlan506@gmail.com)

John Horton, *Executive Director*, ORA – [jghorton2@gmail.com](mailto:jghorton2@gmail.com)

---

[offshoreracingrule.org](http://offshoreracingrule.org)