RE: IRC definitions of aft rigging types.

REF: Aft Rigging JD (3) 160823

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In recent years it has become increasingly apparent that the generally used definitions for different types of aft rigging (backstays, running backstays, checkstays etc.) do not suit all types of rigging arrangements. Modern materials are allowing spar manufacturers and riggers a far wider range of options than previously.

As such, and following correspondence helping to define this further using the World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing definitions and interpretations, we have concluded that a far simpler approach is available that would help all to establish the correct configuration simply and without unnecessary penalties.

For 2017 IRC will therefore use the following definitions for aft rigging:

Aft rigging:

The total number of **stays** and/or sets of **stays** connected to the mast **spar** above the top of the boom set horizontal providing aft support and/or control.
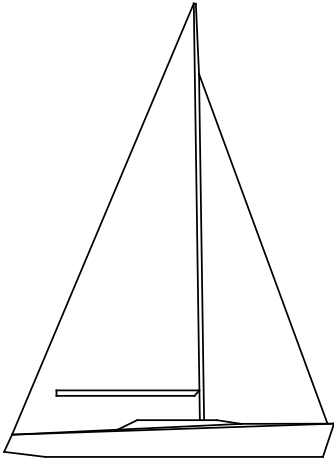
Any pairs of **stays** attached to the mast **spar** at the same position port and starboard on the mast **spar** shall count as one set of **stays**. Eg, whether there be a single standing **backstay** or twin **running backstays** these are counted as one set of **stays**.

Any deflectors or adjusters attached between the top most **stay** and the mast **spar** shall also be counted. Any deflectors or adjusters attached between any other **stay** and the mast **spar** with separation from the attachment point of the primary **stay** of 10% of P or greater shall also be considered as a separate **stay** for these purposes.
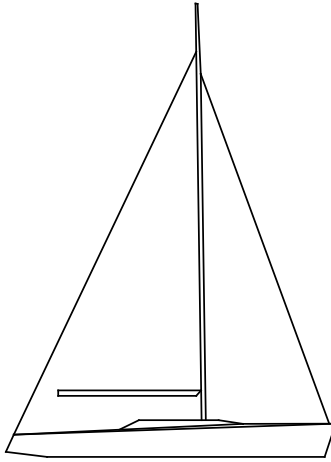
-   The reason for the 10% range is so that IOR style checkstay arrangements where the cable is attached to the spar and the adjustment if from a deflector close to the attachment working as one control are not penalised.

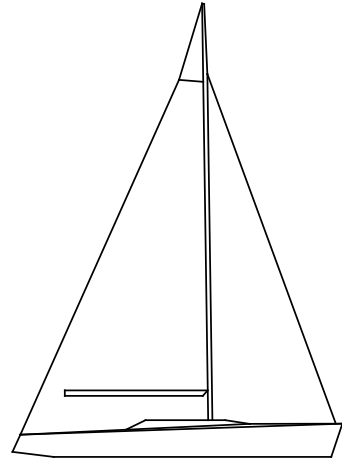Below are some examples of various arrangements and how these would be considered with the new wording:
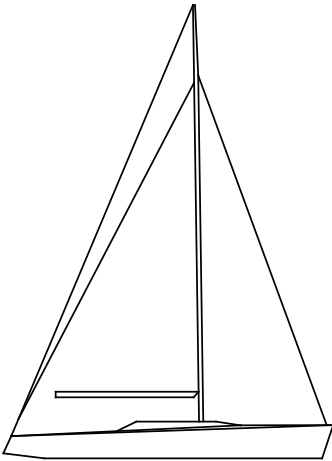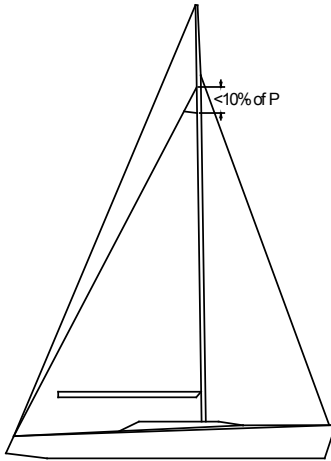
ONE STAY/
SET OF STAYS
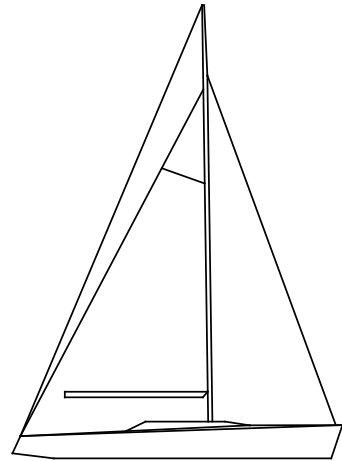
ONE STAY/
SET OF STAYS

TWO STAYS/
SETS OF STAYS

TWO STAYS/
SETS OF STAYS

TWO STAYS/
SETS OF STAYS

<10% of P
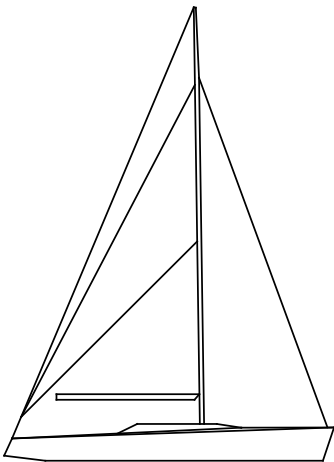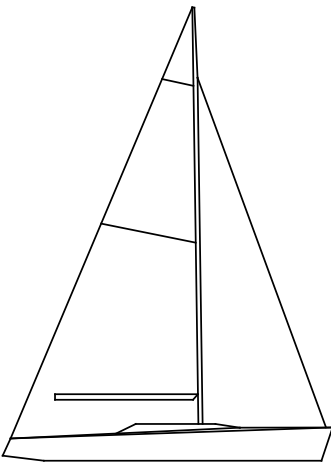
THREE STAYS/
SETS OF STAYS

THREE STAYS/
SETS OF STAYS

THREE STAYS/
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