

# ILCA

## Proposed By-Laws Amendment – July 27, 2018

*For several years, the class has allowed an exception to the restrictions on electronic devices for VHF radios. The primary reason for this proposed change is safety. Radio use has also proven to be beneficial to both competitors and regatta organizers, and the majority of the class finds their use a positive change. Previously, use of radios required callouts in regatta documentation (such as NORs and Sailing instructions) and this has made it more difficult to include Lightnings in multi-class regattas where other classes may have different requirements.*

*This proposed amendment makes use of VHF radios (and the current restrictions concerning them) a normal part of Lightning operations, meaning they may be employed in accordance with our rules in any Lightning event without specific callouts in the NORs or SIs.*

*Note that this change applies only to the use of VHF radios, and does not change any of the use restrictions for other electronic devices.*

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### **Recommended Change (In Red)**

#### **ILCA By-Laws**

#### **Article VIII – Racing Restrictions**

##### 5. Portable Equipment

###### b) Optional

i) Electronic Equipment – the following electronic devices are allowed aboard a Lightning:

1) Battery-powered wrist watches

2) An electronic digital compass with chronograph (timer and/or clock).

The compass must be entirely self-contained with either an internal battery and/or solar power. The compass shall have no external connection and shall neither provide wind or boat speed nor compute correlations between time and distance.

3) Other hand-held navigational devices. Use while racing is not permitted except for emergencies.

4) Hand-held communication devices (cell phones, pagers, radios, etc.) with the following restrictions. **Their use is not permitted except for emergencies and as follows:**

(new replacement language)

**For all Lightning regattas, VHF Radios are allowed onboard with the following restrictions. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.**

**The race committee may choose to make VHF radio communications to the fleet on a channel to be announced in the sailing instructions. It is strongly encouraged that each boat have a VHF radio on board capable of receiving these communications. It is recommended boats use the radio to report retirement from racing and may use the radio to request or provide assistance in an emergency. This section does not change RRS 2 and 41, and requesting assistant may require retirement.**

- 5) Personal medical devices, attached to an individual, required for a person's well-being are allowed if they are medically necessary.
- 6) In all cases where the use of electronic devices is not permitted, a competitor's use shall require withdrawal from the race unless the Race Committee deems use was for emergency reasons.

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## **Current ILCA By-Laws**

### **Article VIII – Racing Restrictions**

#### 5. Portable Equipment

##### b) Optional

##### i) Electronic Equipment – the following electronic devices are allowed aboard a Lightning:

- 1) Battery-powered wrist watches
- 2) An electronic digital compass with chronograph (timer and/or clock).  
The compass must be entirely self-contained with either an internal battery and/or solar power. The compass shall have no external connection and shall neither provide wind or boat speed nor compute correlations between time and distance.
- 3) Other hand-held navigational devices. Use while racing is not permitted except for emergencies.
- 4) Hand-held communication devices (cell phones, pagers, radios, etc.) with the following restrictions:
  - A) For all sanctioned regattas, use is not permitted on the water except for emergencies. This restriction may be modified to allow communication from the Race Committee to competitors on a predetermined channel if approved by the ILCA Executive Committee and so stated in both the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.
  - B) For non-sanctioned regattas use is not permitted while racing except for emergencies. This restriction may be modified to allow communication from the Race Committee to competitors on a predetermined channel if so stated in both the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.
- 5) Personal medical devices, attached to an individual, required for a person's well-being are allowed if they are medically necessary.
- 6) In all cases where the use of electronic devices is not permitted, a competitor's use shall require withdrawal from the race unless the Race Committee deems use was for emergency reasons.