



“What is headsail HLUmax?”

We sometimes encounter some confusion about what HLUmax is, and when it needs to be declared. One of the common misconceptions is that HLUmax is the length of the longest possible headsail luff that would fit on the forestay; this is NOT the case!

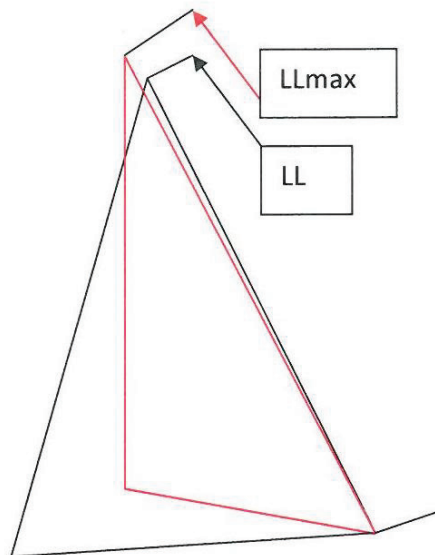
IRC defines HLUmax as “*The longest **luff length** of any headsail on board and which may be used while racing*”.

Much of the time, HLUmax will be the same as HLU, which is defined as “*The **luff length** of the largest area headsail on board and which may be used while racing*”.

However, HLUmax may be longer if you have, for instance, a No.3 headsail with a longer luff than your No.1 genoa. When declaring sail data, it is important that we know whether HLUmax=HLU, or whether it is different, so that the certificate reflects your sail wardrobe correctly.

This drawing shows what we mean (*nb. Sails drawn so as to separate the two luffs, for clarity*)

(Nb. drawing shows previous abbreviation LL)



If you have any further questions, please contact your Rule Authority.