

UK Footy Big Rig Template 2014

After the 2009 Footy Class Rule change removed sail area control, UK Footy sailors soon demonstrated that enormous rigs, up to a metre high, would dominate competition in the very light air conditions. As this was nearly twice as high as the commonly accepted 'biggest rig' at that time, forward thinking UK sailors saw that 'rig wars' was not healthy for Footy Class progress. Not everybody wanted to join the 'rig war', which was considered unnecessary and damaging to Footy class progress.

Every other competitive class has a sail area limit.

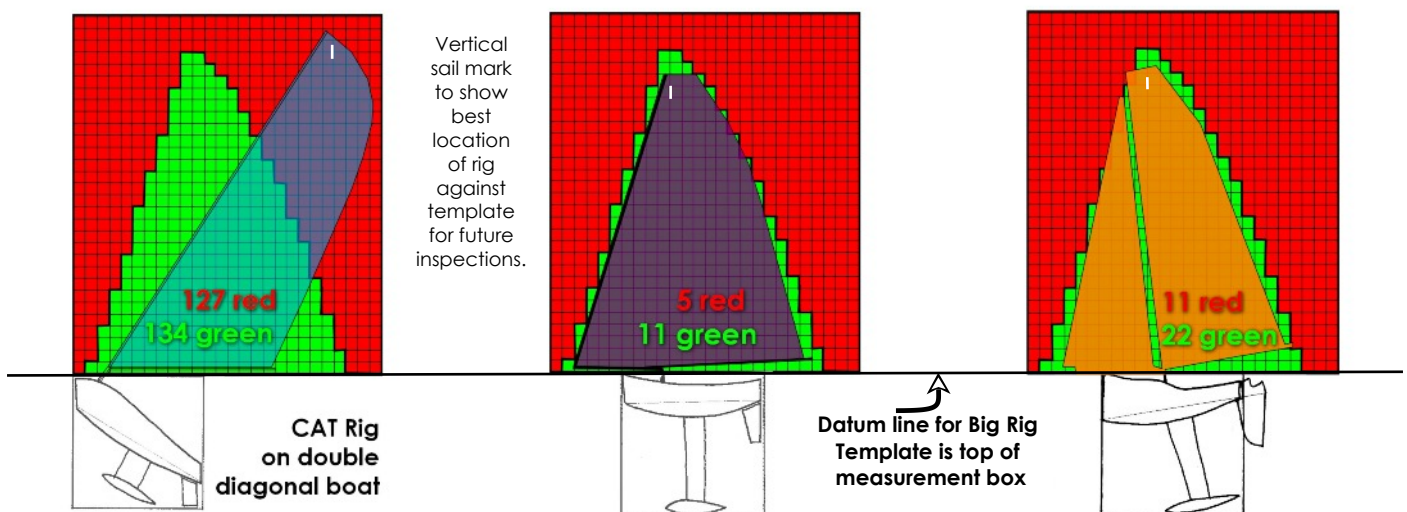
A method of limiting sail area, but not restricting shape, height or width was devised continuing the 'beautiful' Footy principle of not requiring a tape measure, complex calculations or certificates in the measuring process.

As an experiment, UK Footys introduced the Big Rig Template of a sufficient size (220000 sq mm or 341 sq in) to encompass all pre-2009 rigs. After 2 years of use at every event, it has proved 100% successful! Rigs have proved to be plenty big enough for the lightest of winds and have been welcomed by all Footy sailors. The template is not difficult or time-consuming to use and provides a 'level playing field' for the lightest of conditions, without restricting anyone's freedom to experiment.

The Big Rig Template details are described on the next page. How to use the template is described below as a potential addition to the Footy **Class Rules**.

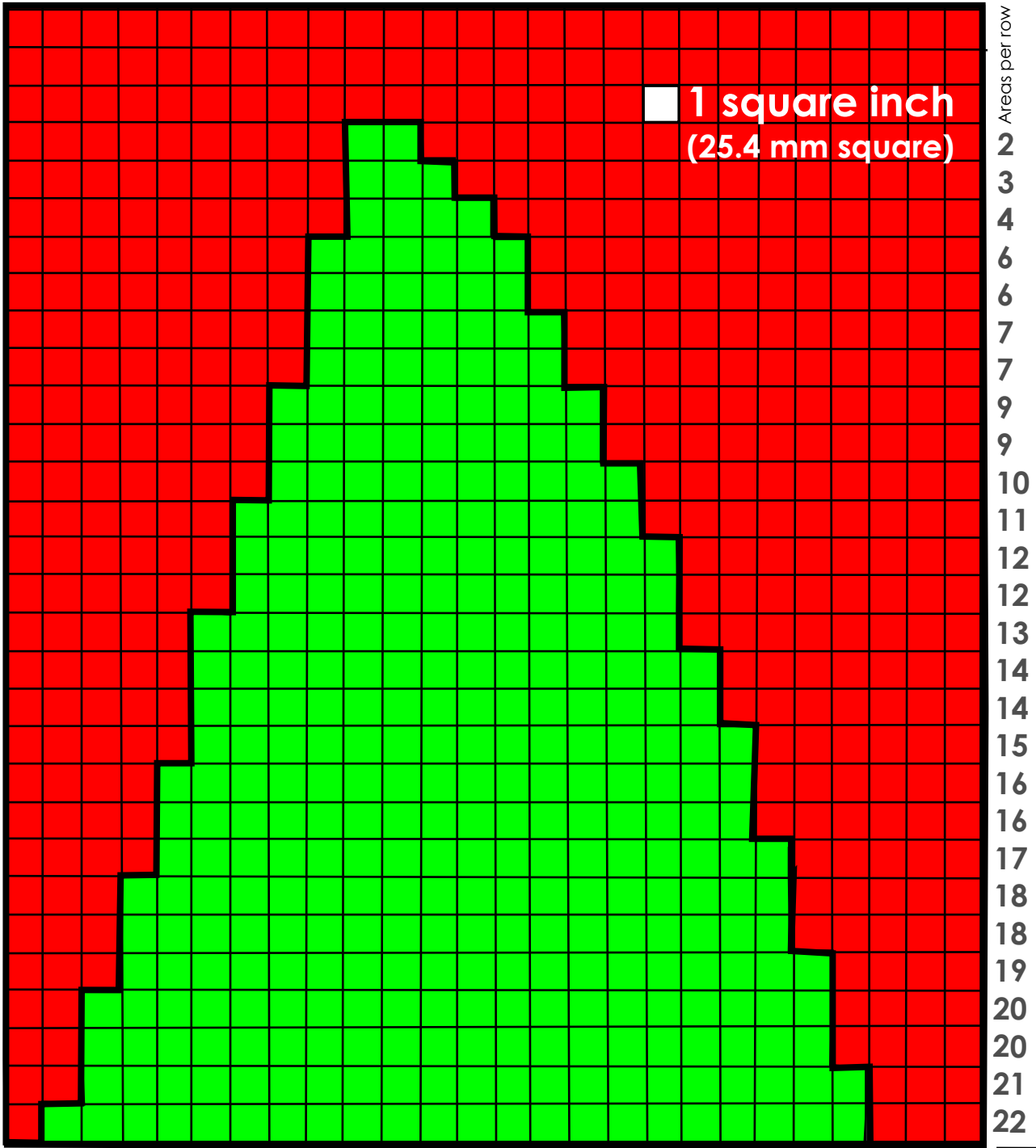
C. CONDITIONS FOR RACING.

"C.4 The area of the **rig** and **sail(s)** combination (the rig) shall not exceed the green area of the Big Rig Template. The **boat** shall be placed in the measurement box as B.1. The **rig** and **sail(s)** shall be held approximately on the **boat's** centreline and be compared with the Big Rig Template placed on the top of the measurement box and shall comply where:
(a) all the rig area is within the green squares or,
(b) part of a red square is covered by **sail(s)** and/or **spars** there shall be a complete green square that is not covered. **Bowsprit, bumpkin, rigging, rig** fittings and wind indicator are not included in this comparison."



Examples of CAT, McCormac and SWING Rigs compared with the Footy Big Rig Template

The figures show the comparison of 'covered red' and 'complete uncovered green' squares. The number of green squares must be equal or greater than red squares to comply. Masts and/or booms etc are included in the area for comparison.



1 square inch
(25.4 mm square)

Areas per row

2
3
4
6
6
7
7
9
9
10
11
12
12
13
14
14
15
16
16
17
18
18
19
20
20
21
22

The template is best drawn on drawing film or sail film. Fix to a batten at top & bottom. Spread with a bendy tube or thin batten. This can then be rolled for transport.

The template may be moved anywhere along the top of the measurement box to give the best location for compliance

341 sq in
220000 sq mm

UK Footy Big Rig Template