

Clarification of Rule B.7.3 – Mainsheet and Downhaul Systems Issued July 2026

Last year, during the review of Edition 9 of the IBRA Rules, the committee became aware of several highly modified mainsheet and downhaul arrangements being used at events. In particular, configurations involving a significant level of interaction between the mainsheet and downhaul systems.



Figure 1: Example of an interactive mainsheet and downhaul setup

IBRA recognises that innovation and personal setup preferences are an important part of the sport. However, the committee concluded that these increasingly complex arrangements were moving beyond the intent of the one-design philosophy that underpins blokart racing. It was also considered likely that such systems would be widely adopted if left unrestricted.

To preserve the one-design nature of the class and provide a clear and easily enforceable rule, IBRA amended Rule B.7.3 in Edition 10 to state:

For the Performance Class only, “mainsheet systems may be modified but must remain **physically independent** from the downhaul system. The mainsheet purchase ratio must not be altered.”

For the Production Class, mainsheet arrangements remain governed by Rule B.7.1, which requires the standard mainsheet system supplied by Blokart International.

Following this revised wording, IBRA clarifies that while the active mechanical operations of the two systems must remain independent, static anchoring arrangements that cross over are acceptable.

Specifically, this means the common arrangement where the mainsheet pulley block is tied back to the mast passing through the downhaul attachments at the sail tack is still fully permitted.

The mainsheet pulley block may be secured using these downhaul fittings, provided this connection serves only as a pass through point and does not actively alter or interfere with the mechanical purchase or function of the downhaul system itself. Additionally, the attachment to the mast must remain free to move and must not create any additional tension on the downhaul system.

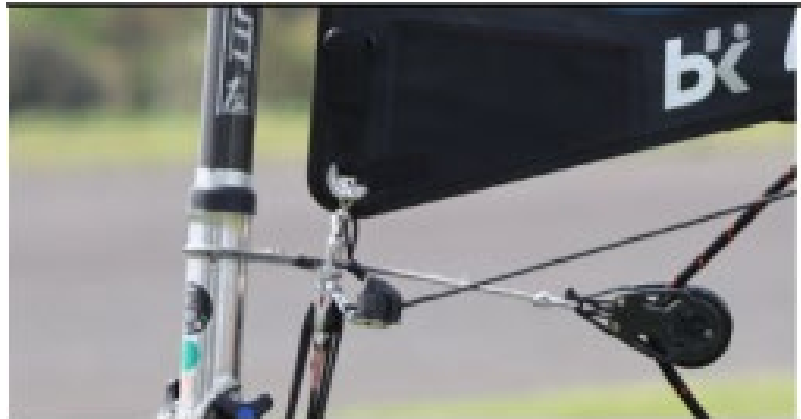


Figure 2: Example of mainsheet pulley routing permitted under Edition 10 Rules

For further questions or clarifications please contact your local association IBRA representative.

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