

To: Simon Strauss, M24 governors, et.al.  
From: George Peet/Bora Gulari M24 USA 820  
Date: 11/20/2012  
Regarding: Short Stanchions on the M24

This past weekend we raced the Davis Island M24 regatta in Tampa Bay, FL using the shorter stanchions on the port side only. The consensus among the crew regarding comfort and performance was immediate and unanimous.

The stanchions we used were approximately 100mm shorter than stock. Installation was easy, using the original Hutchinson pads, we only had to shorten the front portion of the lifeline. We sailed with the pads relatively tight, ~150-160mm off of the deck, where as the higher stanchions require a strap height of a fist width or ~120mm in order to keep people from falling off the boat.

The hiking style was very similar but much more comfortable with the "shorties". The width of the boat and the tightness of the strap don't allow the buttocks to slide over the sheer line of the boat as much, however the crew can still get as far out because they don't have to lift their torso "up and onto" the pad. The jib trimmer and bow person are also given a nice reprieve from the tall stanchions riding high in the armpit or on one side of the rib cage. It is our feeling that comfort and crew performance were improved without sacrificing any power or righting moment. We (USA 820) would like to see the use of these stanchions as standard in the M24 immediately. We would also like to use these on both sides as more of a test if needed at Key West Race Week 2013.

Respectfully Submitted

George Peet  
Bora Gulari