

RACING AHEAD

Windward  
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To: The Mosquito Association of Australia

Dear Sir/Madam

It is my understanding that the Mosquito is under review for a major alteration to its rig size and concept. While my knowledge of "cat rigs" and the factors affecting performance is limited, I would like to stress that it is my sincere opinion that any change to the rig component, will in the short term satisfy the small number of sail plan developers but in the long term will prove to be nothing short of disasterous as far as the class's future is concerned. I should point out at this stage that I have nothing to gain by this statement other than the satisfaction that I may have prevented the demise of a good design and concept, a situation I have witnessed many times during my 15 years as a builder of small racing craft. Obviously then I have firm ideas as to what produces longevity in construction, design, rig development and constitution. The Mosquito's concept is not without its flaws by modern design standards but to alter its rig in the manner of size and mast type WILL prove to be an irreversable "nail in the coffin", a decision I would not wish to be held accountable for. In summary it is obvious that strong classes have a strong link with the builder, as they both have the same objectives, i.e. that they both want the number of boats to increase over a long period of time, a fact that most associations lose sight of.

Yours faithfully

