

INTERNATIONAL
BENETEAU FIRST 27 **SE** -
Seascape edition & SEASCAPE27
CLASS RULES



Version 1.0 – August 2021

INTRODUCTION

This introduction provides a quick and informal background to the International BENETEAU First 27 SE - Seascope Edition & Seascope27 Class Rules which begin in the next chapter.

BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27 has been created as a trailerable offshore One Design class where the true test when racing is between crews and not boats and equipment. These class rules' fundamental objective is to ensure that this concept is maintained even if the boat's branding has changed. Despite the brand transition, all Seascope27 and BENETEAU First 27 SE hulls, hull appendages and rigs are manufacturer controlled and build under the same Building Specifications.



Original Seascope27 was in September 2018 rebranded to Beneteau BENETEAU First 27 and in January 2021 to Beneteau BENETEAU First 27 SE (Seascope Edition), from herein BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27.

This is a quick summary of the main guidelines defined by the rules:

- *Crew size is defined by the Notice of Race, and crew weight is not limited by the class rules.*
- *The boat shall have a petrol or electric outboard engine installed in a dedicated engine compartment or an inboard engine. The minimal rated power of the engine shall be 6 HP / 4.4 kW. The boat should carry at least 10 litres of gasoline at the start of the regatta.*
- *Sails are addressed in section C11. The boat can use a maximum of six sails in total (excluding storm sails) on the event, and no carbon material is allowed.*
- *The mainsail is limited with maximum dimensions and minimal two reefs.*
- *Headsail (jib) is defined by the maximum dimensions, hanks or furling are equally allowed, and out-sheeting is permitted.*
- *Among gennakers, just masthead gennaker maximum dimensions are defined, and masthead tight-luff sails are not allowed.*

PLEASE REMEMBER: THESE RULES ARE CLOSED CLASS RULES WHERE IF IT DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY SAY THAT YOU MAY – THEN YOU CANNOT!

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PART I – ADMINISTRATION

Section A – General

A.1 LANGUAGE

- A.1.1 The official language of the class is English, and in case of dispute over translation, the English text shall prevail.
- A.1.2 The word “shall” is mandatory, and the word “may” is permissive.
- A.1.3 Except where used in headings, when a term is printed in “**bold**” the definition in the ERS applies and when a term is printed in “*italics*” the definition in the RRS applies.

A.2 ABBREVIATIONS

- A.2.1 World Sailing International Sailing Federation
MNA World Sailing Member National Authority
IF27SECA International BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27 Class Association
NCA National Class Association
ERS Equipment Rules of Sailing
RRS Racing Rules of Sailing
OSR Offshore Special Regulations

A.3 ADMINISTRATION OF THE CLASS

- A.3.1 Administrative functions of the class are conducted by the license holder Seascope d.o.o. which may delegate part or all of its functions, as stated in these class rules, to national or international class associations.

A.4 CLASS RULES INTERPRETATION

- A.4.1 Interpretation of **class rules** shall be made in accordance with the World Sailing Equipment Rules of Sailing.

A.5 SAIL NUMBERS

- A.5.1 One Design Class sail numbers are automatically defined by the hull number, as specified in point B.3.1.
- A.5.2 A boat may compete with a sail number issued by the national sailing federation if it's not the same as any One Design Class sail number defined by A.5.1.

Section B – Boat Eligibility

For a **boat** to be eligible for *racing*, it shall comply with the rules in this section.

B.1 CLASS RULES AND CERTIFICATION

- B.1.1 All the boats build under product names Seascope27 (used in the period from the beginning of the series in 2012 to the end of August 2018), BENETEAU First 27 (used in the period from September 2018 to March 2021), and BENETEAU First 27 SE – Seascope Edition (used from March 2021 on) are equally eligible to compete in One Design Class. Hereinafter, BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27.
- B.1.2 The BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27 hulls, hull appendages and rigs shall only be manufactured by Seascope d.o.o. – in the class rules referred to as Copyright holder.
- B.1.3 The boat shall be in compliance with the **class rules** and International BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27 Building Specifications.
- B.1.4 BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27 hulls, hull appendages, rigs and sails may only be altered to the extent permitted in Section C of the class rules. Owners and crews should be aware that compliance with rules in Section C is NOT checked as part of the certification process.
- B.1.5 Any deviation to the existing Building Specification must be confirmed by the International BENETEAU First 27 SE and Seascope 27 Class Association in written form prior to its implementation.
- B.1.6 In the event of a dispute alleging non-compliance with class rules where specific measurements are not stated, the following procedure shall be adopted:
- (a) A sample measurement of the disputed item shall be obtained by taking the identical measurement from 3 boats or items of equipment, which are not the subject of the dispute.
 - (b) The measurement of the disputed boat or items of its equipment, taken using the same technique as above, shall be compared to the sample.
 - (c) If any of the measurements obtained from the disputed boat or item of equipment lie outside the corresponding range of measurements found in the sample, the matter, together with the details of the measurement methods and any other relevant information, shall be referred to the Race Committee.

B.2 BOATS IDENTIFICATION

- B.2.1 Each BENETEAU First 27 SE or Seascope27 shall have a builder's hull identification mark on the right side of the transom.
- (a) The format of the mark for Seascopes27 (until and including hull number 092) is SI-SSC27XXXAB-CD, where XXX represents hull number, A month of build, B year of build, C month of the introduction of the model, D year of introduction of the model.
 - (b) The format of the mark for Firsts 27 (from and including hull number 093 to 122 and hull numbers 124 and 128) is FR-SPBGAXXXABCD and BEYGAXXXABCD, where XXX represents hull number, A month of build, B year of build, C and D model year.
 - (c) The format of the mark for BENETEAU Firsts 27 SE – Seascope Edition (hull numbers 125, 127, and from and including hull number 129 on) is SI-SSCGAXXXABCD and BEYGAXXXABCD, where XXX represents hull number, A month of build, B year of build, C and D model year.

PART II – REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

The **crew** and the **boat** shall comply with the rules in Part II when *racing*. In case of conflict, Section C shall prevail.

The rules in Part II are **closed class rules**. **Certification control** and **equipment inspection** shall be carried out in accordance with the ERS except where varied in this part.

Section C – Conditions for Racing

C.1 GENERAL

C.1.1 RULES

- (a) The Equipment Rules of Sailing ERS shall apply.

C.1.2 LIMITATIONS

- (a) The BENETEAU First 27 SE & Seascope27 shall only be raced with the hull, hull appendages and rig as supplied by the Copyright holder and conforming to these rules;
- (b) Where specified in these class rules, parts or equipment may be replaced, providing that the replacement is of similar weight, size and type and performs the same function. The replacement parts or equipment may be obtained from any supplier.

C.2 ADVERTISING

C.2.1 LIMITATIONS

- (a) Advertising shall only be displayed in accordance with the World Sailing Advertising Code. (See World Sailing Regulation 20).

C.3 CREW

C.3.1 LIMITATIONS

- (a) The crew size should be defined in Notice of Race.

C.3.2 WEIGHT

- (b) Crew weight is not limited by the class rules.

C.3.3 POSITIONING

- (a) Crews shall follow RRS 49, which, among other things, specifies the following: 'When lifelines are required by the class rules or any other rule, competitors shall not position any part of their torsos outside them, except briefly to perform a necessary task.';

- (b) No device, technique or rope may be used for hiking or for holding a crew member outside of the boat.

C.4 PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

C.4.1 MANDATORY

- (a) The boat shall be equipped in accordance with the Notice of Race.

C.5 PORTABLE EQUIPMENT

C.5.1 MANDATORY

- (a) The boat shall be equipped in accordance with the Notice of Race.

C.5.2 CLASS MANDATORY

If not otherwise defined by the Notice of Race, the boat shall be minimally equipped with:

- (a) One bucket of minimum volume 9 litres on a rope with a minimum 2 m in length and 4 mm in diameter;
- (b) Hand water bailer;
- (c) Sponge;
- (d) Aluminium anchor of a minimum weight of 4,5kg with either 10m of lead-insert rope or 5m of 8mm chain, and 30m of rope, altogether of the minimum total weight of 7,8 kg;
- (e) Four fenders with a minimum circumference of 30 cm or comparable;
- (f) Four mooring lines of 10 m with a minimum diameter of 12 mm;
- (g) Compass.

C.5.2 OPTIONAL

- (a) Interior cushions, magnetic doors, foldable table and beanbags;
- (b) All electronic and GPS equipment is allowed;
- (c) Wind indicators;
- (d) Any system of tape, rope, clips or covers intended only to prevent equipment from loosening and to prevent sails tearing;
- (e) The carrying of loose ropes, fenders, spares, internal buoyancy and safety equipment is unrestricted provided their fixing does not change the structural properties of the boat and gives no performance advantage;
- (f) Rope, bags, tape or fittings to secure safety or other equipment;
- (g) Weed sticks of optional design may be carried on board for the removal of weeds from the rudder;
- (h) Mobile phone for services publicly available to all competitors.

C.6 ENGINE

- (a) The boat shall have a petrol or electric outboard engine installed in a dedicated engine compartment or an inboard engine. The minimal rated power of the engine shall be 6 HP / 4.4 kW.
- (b) If not otherwise defined by the Notice of Race, the boat shall carry at least 10 litres of gasoline at the start of the regatta.

C.7 BOAT

C.7.1 ALTERNATIONS

No performance advantage shall be obtained from any replacement, addition or repair permitted by these class rules.

- (a) Replacement for any boat equipment, including but not limited to hull appendages, rig, bowsprit, boom, hatches, and custom fittings and hardware shall be only done by those produced by a Copyright holder.
- (b) Repairs and maintenance including but not limited to painting and sanding may be carried out provided repairs are made in such a way that the essential shape, characteristics or function of the original are maintained.
- (c) Maintenance may include the replacement of fastenings with alternatives from any supplier, provided that the equipment is replaced in the original position.

C.8 HULL

C.8.1 MODIFICATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- (a) Gelcoat finish from 70 mm above the waterline to include the bottom of the hull may be lightly abraded to apply epoxy barrier coat and antifouling paint.
- (c) Repairs are permitted; however, an official measurer may verify that the external shape is the same as before the repair and that no substantial stiffness, or shape variation, or other advantage has been gained because of the repair.
- (d) Any work intended or with the effect of lightening the hull or improving shape or performance beyond the original is not permitted.

C.8.2 FITTINGS

- (a) Inspection hatch covers and drainage plugs shall be kept in place at all times.

C.8.3 LIMITATIONS

- (a) Fittings shall remain in factory-installed locations except that:
 - (1) Additional cleats may be installed,

- (2) Additional attachment points may be installed,
- (3) Different Winch sizes may be used.
- (b) Replacement of the following items is permitted. Parts may be obtained from any supplier.
 - (1) All deck gear – diameter of blocks may be changed, and normal blocks can be changed to ratchet blocks,
 - (2) Inspection hatches,
 - (3) Sails and sail battens,
 - (4) Shackles, pins, bolts.

C.8.4. ADDITIONS & ALTERATIONS TO HULL

The following additions and alterations are permitted:

- (a) Non-skid material of any kind may be added to the cockpit floor and deck.
- (b) Cleat risers and fairleads may be added, removed or changed on all cleats.
- (c) Trim marks.

C.9 HULL APPENDAGES

C.9.1. MODIFICATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- (a) Repairs are permitted; however, an official measurer may verify that the external shape is the same as before the repair and that no substantial stiffness or other advantage has been gained because of the repair.
- (b) Any work intended or with the effect of lightening the hull appendages or modifying their shape is forbidden.

C.9.2. KEEL

- (a) The keel shall be lowered down to its racing position and may only be raised for the purposes of re-floating when aground, after which it shall be lowered to the racing position at the earliest opportunity.
- (b) The racing position is an entirely lowered keel, operated with a hydraulic system when the keel's further lowering is no longer possible. The keel angle shall not change throughout the race.
- (c) The plastic wedges on the keel's head may be modified or changed to fix the keel and prevent any keel play but shall not alter the keel position.
- (d) The keel may be aligned to the centerline of the hull.
- (e) The keel may be protected with epoxy primer and antifouling.
- (f) Chamfering of the trailing edge is allowed if reductive, not additive, and if the modification doesn't change the keel's projected area.

C.9.3 RUDDERS

- (a) The rudder blades may be protected with epoxy primer and antifouling.
- (b) Chamfering of the trailing edge is allowed if reductive, not additive, and if the modification doesn't change the rudder blade's projected area.
- (c) Only rudder fittings, designed and manufactured by a Copyright holder, shall be used. Additional reinforcement may be added inside the rudder post.
- (d) Wooden or carbon tillers are allowed.
- (e) Tiller extensions may be replaced with equipment from any manufacturer.

C.10 RIG

C.10.1. MODIFICATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- (a) The rig shall not be modified in a way to alter the bend characteristics of the mast.
- (b) The rig shall not be altered in a way to reduce the weight aloft.
- (c) Replacement of the cleats and sheaves is permissible by any supplier, provided their size remains the same.
- (d) Sanding and furnishing with UV protective layers are permitted to protect the mast from UV deterioration if it doesn't change mast bend characteristic or reduces mast weight.
- (e) Masts with laminated carbon groove or aluminium sliding are equally allowed.
- (f) Installation of the carbon groove reinforcements on the mainsail head's positions for all three reefs is allowed.
- (g) Installation of reinforcing cuff on the mast foot is allowed.
- (h) Installation of reinforcements for boomkicker attachment is allowed.

C.10.2. FITTINGS

- (a) A protective pad may be added to the mast and the boom to protect them from the clew of the jib or other wear.
- (b) A wind direction indicator may be fitted to the top of the mast.

C.10.4 BOWSPRIT

- (a) The tip of the bowsprit, including the bowsprit cap (but not stainless steel tack attachment), shall not extend more than 157 cm over the forestay chainplate in its fully extended position.

C.10.5 STANDING RIGGING

- (a) Vertical V3 and diagonal D1 shrouds shall be 6 mm 1x19 stainless steel wires, and diagonal D2 shall be 5 mm 1x19 stainless steel wires.
- (b) The length of standing rigging can be changed. Shrouds and turnbuckles are permissible by any supplier.
- (c) Dyform, rod or composite rigging is forbidden.
- (d) Structural or aluminium profile furlers for the jib are allowed.

C.10.6 RUNNING RIGGING

- (a) All rope diameter and materials are optional. Tapered sheets are allowed.
- (b) Purchase systems can be changed to any ratio.

C.11 SAILS

- (a) Sails may be manufactured by any sailmaker.

C.11.1 MODIFICATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

- (a) Sails shall not be altered in any way except as permitted by these class rules.
- (b) Routine maintenance, such as repair tears, is permitted without re-measurement and re-certification.

C.11.2 LIMITATIONS

- (a) Not more than six sails in total (excluding storm sails) shall be used on the regatta.
- (b) None of the sails should exceed the maximum sails measurements defined by these class rules.
- (c) Masthead tight-luff sails are not allowed.
- (d) No carbon material for sails or their components is permitted.

C.11.3 MAINSAIL

- (a) DIMENSIONS

- (1) Maximum mainsail dimensions measured according to World Sailing ERS Section G.7:

Mast Head	MHB	1,53 m
Seven-Eights Width	MUW	1,56 m
Three-quarter Width	MTW	2,24 m
Half-Width	MHW	2,80 m
Quarter Width	MQW	3,22 m

- (2) The head square-top shouldn't exceed the 90° angle on the luff of the sail.
- (3) The mainsail should have at least 2 reefs.

(b) IDENTIFICATION

- (1) Identification shall be applied in accordance with RRS Appendix G.
- (2) RRS Appendix G1.3 (a) (2) will not apply. National code shall be positioned instead in one row with the sail number.
- (3) RRS Appendix G1.3 (b) (1) will not apply RRS. The national code and hull number shall be positioned between the 2nd and 3rd batten, counting from the top of the mainsail.
- (3) The class insignia shall be the First SE 27 logo as depicted in Appendix A and shall be displayed on each side of the mainsail between 1st and 2nd batten counting from the top, placed back to back.

C.11.4 HEADSAILS

(a) DIMENSIONS

- (1) Maximum headsail dimensions measured according to World Sailing ERS Section G.7:

Luff length	HLU	10,02 m
Head Width	HHB	0,1 m
7/8 Width	HUW	0,6 m
Three-Quarter Width	HTW	1,13 m
Half-Width	HHW	2,02 m
Quarter Width	HQW	2,90 m
Luff Perpendicular	HLP	3,78 m

(b) USE

- (1) All headsails may be on hanks or roller furling.
- (2) The sail may be set in a way to inhaul or outhaul the clew or change the sheeting angle.

C.10.5 GENNAKERS

(a) DIMENSIONS

- (1) Maximum masthead gennaker dimensions measured according to World Sailing ERS Section G.7:

Leech length	SLU	13.00
Luff length	SLE	10,70
Half-width	SHW	8,20
Foot length	SFL	7,60

(b) IDENTIFICATION

- (1) RRS Appendix G1.3 (c) (1) will not apply. The sail number may also be displayed on the gennakers.

(c) USE

- (1) Double tackline and gennaker sheets are allowed.
- (2) Gennaker may have an optional number and position of retrieving points.

PART III – APPENDICES

The rules in Part III are **closed class rules**. Measurement shall be carried out in accordance with the ERS except where varied in this part.

Appendix A

Class insignia:

