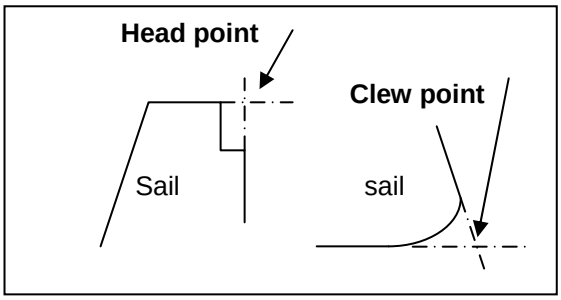
Mainsail Measurement

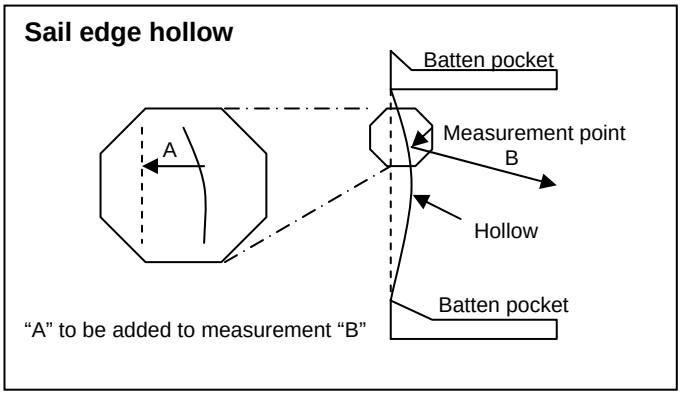
What is being measured? **Half width (MHW)**, **three quarter width (MTW)** and **upper width (MUW)**.

What are these? The distances from the **half**, **three quarter**, and **upper leech points** to the **luff**.

In practice:



1. Lay the sail out flat on a suitable floor.
2. Establish h**ead point** and **clew point** as shown by the diagram.
3. Fold the **head point** to the c**lew point.** Mark the fold in the **leech.** That is **half leech point** (for **MHW)**
4. Fold the **head point** to the **half leech point**. Mark the fold. That is **three quarter leech point** (for **MTW)**
5. Fold the **head point** to the **three quarter leech point**. Mark the fold. That is **upper leech point** (for **MUW).**
6. Measure from each **leech point** to the nearest point on the **luff**. These distances are the **mainsail widths**. **(MHW, MTW, MUW)**
7. Check for **sail edge hollows**



8. Add any **hollow** (A) to each measured **Width** (B) to get the final **widths**. **(MHW, MTW, MUW)**

References:

Equipment Rules of Sailing. http://www.sailing.org/documents/isaf-equipment-rules.php.

G.4.1 and G.4.2 define **clew point** and **head point**.

G.5.2 and G.5.3 define **Half Leech Point** and **three quarter leech ooint**.

IRC definitions define **upper width** of the **mainsail** as:

MUW The **upper width** of the **mainsail**, the **upper leech point** being the point on the **leech** equidistant from the **three-quarter leech point** and the **head point**.

G.7.5, G.7.6, and G.7.7 define h**alf width**, **three quarter width** and **upper width**.

G.2.4 and H.5.2 address **Sail edge hollows**.