Spinnaker Measurement

What is being measured? Luff length (SLU), leech length (SLE), foot length (SF) and half width (SHW).

What are these? The lengths of the luff, leech and foot and the distance from the half luff point to the half leech point.

In practice:

1. Lay the sail out flat on a suitable floor.
2. Establish head point, tack point and clew point as shown by the diagram.
   Note that for a symmetric spinnaker, luff/leech and tack point/clew point are interchangeable.
3. Straighten the luff and measure the luff length between the head point and the tack point. (SLU)
4. Straighten the leech and measure the leech length between the head point and the clew point. (SLE)
5. Straighten the foot and measure the foot length between the tack point and the clew point. (SF)
6. Fold the head point to the tack point. Mark the fold. That is half luff point.
7. Fold the head point to the clew point. Mark the fold. That is half leech point.
8. Measure from the half luff point to the half leech point. This will give you half width. (SHW)

References:


G.4.1, G.4.2 and G.4.3 define clew point, head point, and tack point.

G.5.2 defines half leech point.

G.5.7 defines half luff point.

G.7.1, G.7.2 and G.7.3 define foot length, leech length and luff length.

G.7.5 (b) defines half width.