

Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule E8

A submission from the Chairman of the Racing Rules Committee

Purpose or Objective

To provide a clear guideline for the size and positioning of identification on sails, especially for sails that are too small for regulation size numbers and letters.

Proposal

Delete existing rule E8 and replace with:

E8 CHANGES TO APPENDIX G, IDENTIFICATION ON SAILS

Delete rule G1, except the table of National Sail Letters, and replace with

G1 ISAF and IRSA CLASS BOATS

G1.1 Sail Identification

Except where specified otherwise in the class rules a boat of an IRSA Class shall display:

- on her mainsail her class insignia and national letters as in (a) and
 - on all sails a sail number as in (b)
- in accordance with G1.1(c), G1.2 and G1.3.

Note: An up-to-date version of the national letters table is available on the ISAF website.

(a) National Letters

At all international events, a boat shall display national letters in accordance with the national letters table denoting:

- (i) when entered under 75.1(a), the MNA of the nationality, place of residence, or affiliation of the owner or the member.
- (ii) when entered under 75.1(b), the organisation which entered her.

For the purposes of this rule, international events are world and continental championships and events described as international events in their notices of race and sailing instructions.

- (b) Sail number
- (i) The sail number shall be the last two digits of the boat registration number or the competitor's or owner's personal number, allotted by the relevant issuing authority.
 - (ii) When there is conflict between sail numbers, or when a sail number may be misread, the race committee shall require that the sail numbers of one or more boats be changed to numeric alternatives.
- (c) At IRSA and IRSA approved events sails shall comply with these rules, at other events they shall comply with these rules or the rules applicable at the time of their initial certification.

G1.2 Specifications

- (a) National letters and sail numbers shall be in capital letters and Arabic numerals, clearly legible and of the same colour. Commercially available typefaces giving the same or better legibility than Helvetica are acceptable.
- (b) The height and spacing of letters and numbers shall be as follows:

Dimension	Minimum	Maximum
Height of sail numbers	100 mm	110 mm
Spacing of adjacent sail numbers	20 mm	30 mm
Height of national letters	60 mm	70 mm
Spacing of adjacent national letters	13 mm	23 mm

G1.3 Positioning

- (a) Symmetrical or reversed class insignia may be positioned back to back. Otherwise the vertical spacing shall be no less than 20 mm.
- (b) Except as in (a) class insignia, sail numbers and national letters shall be positioned:
- on both sides of the sail;
 - with those on the starboard side uppermost;
 - approximately horizontally;
 - with no less than 40 mm vertical spacing between marks on opposite sides of the sail.
- (c) On a mainsail sail numbers shall be positioned:
- below class insignia;
 - above the line perpendicular to the luff through the quarter leech point;
 - above national letters;
 - with sufficient space in front of the sail number for a prefix '1'.
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G1.4 Exceptions

- (a) Where the size of the sail prevents compliance with G1.1(a) then exceptions to G1.1(a), G1.2, and G1.3 shall be made in the following order of precedence. National letters shall:
- (i) be spaced vertically below sail numbers by less than 30 mm, but no less than 20 mm,
 - (ii) be spaced on opposite sides of the sail by less than 30 mm, but no less than 20 mm,
 - (iii) be reduced in height to less than 45 mm, but no less than 40 mm.
 - (iv) be omitted.
- (b) Where the size of the sail prevents compliance with G1.1(b) then exceptions to G1.2 and G1.3 shall be made in the following order of precedence. Sail numbers shall:
- (i) extend below the specified line,
 - (ii) be spaced on opposite sides of the sail by less than 30 mm, but no less than 20 mm apart,
 - (iii) be reduced in height to less than 90 mm, but no less than 80 mm,
 - (iv) be omitted on all except the largest sail,
 - (v) be reduced in height until they do fit on the largest sail.

Current Position

Existing rule E8.

Reason

The current rules have been interpreted in differing ways. Sail-makers and competitors have been unclear as to how numbers and letters should be positioned, particularly on smaller sails. This is a cause of great inconvenience, especially as it is difficult, sometimes impossible, to remove letters and numbers once they are attached to the relatively fragile sailcloth used for radio sailing.

This submission is supported by the International Radio Sailing Association.
