World Sailing Racing Rules Question and Answer Service



L 007 Q&A 2015.013

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In reference to Q&A 2015.003 L006 published 5 March 2015.

Situation

The picture from Q&A2015.003 L006 shows a sailing dinghy with national letters and sail numbers applied in accordance with the spacing, dimensional and positioning requirements of the RRS.

Question 1

Do the sail numbers comply with the requirements of rule G1.2 (a)'s last sentence?



Answer 1

Rule G1.2(a)'s last sentence does not state any requirement at all. Rule G1.2(a) requires the numbers to be clearly legible and of the same colour, but it does not require a commercially available type face to be used. The last sentence just advices what kind of commercially available typefaces are acceptable.

Question 2

Given that Helvetica clearly identifies a difference between the digits 2 and 5, and does not cause confusion in reversing the sail number (show through from one side of the sail to the other); does the typeface used in the picture from Q&A 2015.003 L006 provide equal or better legibility than Helvetica and therefore is this an acceptable typeface for use as per rule G1.2 (a)?

Answer 2

When considered one by one, the digital numbers are clearly legible. However, when applied to both sides of a sail, they may create confusion. If they do so, as in this picture, they are not clearly legible and therefore they do not comply with the rules.

Note that the rules of a World Sailing class may change rule G1.2 (see rule G5).