Racing Rules of Sailing

Rule G1.3(d)

A submission from the Deutscher Segler-Verband

Purpose or Objective

Rule G1.3(d) in its present form allows the use of one sail number only also on an asymmetric spinnaker, which causes misinterpretations, questions and proves problematic as it opens the door for unnecessary protests if the asymmetric spinnaker is set “inside out” and/or shifted.

Proposal

Amend rule G1.3(d) as follows:

The national letters and sail number shall be displayed on the leeward side of a spinnaker, but may be placed on both sides. **On an asymmetric spinnaker they shall be displayed on both sides at different heights.** They shall be displayed wholly below an arc whose centre is the head point and whose radius is 40% of the foot median and, when possible, wholly above an arc whose radius is 60% of the foot median.

Current Position

As above.

The national letters and sail number shall be displayed on the front side of a spinnaker but may be placed on both sides. They shall be displayed wholly below an arc whose centre is the head point and whose radius is 40% of the foot median and, when possible, wholly above an arc whose radius is 60% of the foot median.

Reasons

1. The leeward side of a sail is clearly defined. (symmetric spinnakers)

2. Asymmetric spinnakers are “turned” round while sailing (shifting, hoisting “wring” side forward) and thus provide difficulty for race officers and competitors to positively identify boats, when the sail number is displayed mirrored.