# **National Flags on Sails**

RRS Appendix G1.2(c)

A submission from the International Lightning Class

### Purpose or Objective

Clarify the Proper Image of Country Flags on Sails

#### Proposal

Appendix G1.2 (c) is added to read:

For all sails manufactured after January 1, 2017, National Flags, if placed on a sail, shall be the correct image of the flag as normally shown regardless of which side of the sail it is displayed. The hoist shall be on the left of the image. They shall be like the Numbers and Letters on a sail visible as a normal flag image when viewed by an observer from either side of the boat.

## **Current Position**

Currently there are different standards and some flags are reversed on one side of the sail and sometimes not.

#### Reason

- To avoid a sailor having his or her National Flag Image reversed on one side of the sail and causing confusion when viewed or photographed.
- At the Pan American Games a number of competitors objected to having their country flag shown in reverse on one side of the sail. This was the opposite of how Numbers and Letters are shown. This submission clarifies that when a sail is seen by an observer that the flag image shall be oriented the same as numbers and letters correctly for the viewer. Some sailors said that sailing with a reverse image of a flag would cause them embarrassment in their home country
- This will reduce costs for sailors and organizers who need spare Flag images as they will
  only need one kind of image vs the two currently required for some country flags that are
  not symmetrical or which have writing on them.