

Offshore Double Handed World Championships

Question for Officials

Date: 2026-07-08

Question No: 03

Question For: Organizing Authority

Question:

Notice of Race – Item 3.5 – Help from Outside Source:

Copy of provisions from the Notice of Race:

NOR 3.5.1. A boat shall not receive help from any outside source, except help in the form of information which is freely available to all boats, which shall include navigational, weather, tide or current information from any source which is available to all whether or not by payment of a fee or subscription, but shall not include information gathered or the subject of interpretation by, or any advice received from, any source not on board the boat and which is specific to the boat and her situation.

NOR 3.5.2. By way of an example and interpretation, downloading charts, weather and/or tidal GRIB files from subscription services, or having such information passed to the boat in its pure form, is permitted but receiving messages or information which is the result of interpretation from outside of the boat is not permitted.

We wanted clarification about NOR item 3.5 regarding help from an outside source. We have used Predict Wind and their routing service for many years and are comfortable using it. It is our impression that the routing service is “information” and not an “interpretation”, however, we wanted clarification to ensure the organizing authority had the same interpretation of this NOR provision. Our rationale is: The Notice of Race provides an example that GRIB file can be downloaded, then processed using software on a boat that will generate several routes (i.e. using Squid Marine Navigation) which can then be interpreted by the sailors on the boat to make a decision about the route to take. Predict wind offers the same process, however, the weather routes are generated remotely on Predict Wind servers and are provided as information to the boat. Users of the Predict Wind route service would have to interpret the route options and make a decision for the race. I.E. it is our position that the Predict Wind routing service is “information” and not an “interpretation”.

Answer:

Weather data requests on Squid / Predictwind / Avalon / Sailgrib / Dorado/ Zygrib, with remote routing, and weather data requests on Expedition / Adrena / Maxsea or any other navigation software permitted.

It is prohibited to receive or access any analysis, interpretation, processed information, or data carried out outside the boat and, in a general way, any provision of tactical and/or technical information necessary for decision making to improve the performance of a boat or its skipper.
