Finn Gold Cup

Notice to Competitors

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Notice:
Q&A 01

Question from the Finn Class Association - Robert Deaves

The current situation is:

• Class Rule C.10.3(c) covering use of national flags has not been invoked in the Notice of Race.

• Many sailors are expected to be using sails that have their own national flag.

• Some sailors are expected to have flags other than their national flag as many sails are changing hands in the post-Olympic era.

• The Class is currently reviewing this rule and a decision will be made at the AGM during the Finn Gold Cup.There is a good chance that the AGM will delete this rule, but there could still be sails with flags on for many years to come as removing them after a year or more risks damaging the sail.

Answer

The International Jury have dealt with this as a request for advice under RRS N2.1. This is advice and not a decision under N2.2.

The situation is governed by World Sailing Regulation [WSR] 20 [Advertising Code] and the Finn Class Rules.

National flags are advertising as defined in WRS 20.1.1 and referred to specifically in WSR 20.5.5.

When Finn class rule C10.3(c) is invoked in the NoR, national flags of the competitor become mandatory advertising as permitted by WSR 20.5.5

When Finn class rule C10.3(c) is not invoked in the NoR, advertising is governed by Regulation 20, specifically;

All advertising is governed by the general provision in WRS 20.2.4 which prohibits some forms of advertising.

Advertising on sails that is at the discretion of the competitors is limited by WSR 20.2.6 regarding its location.

No event advertising on sails has been agreed with World Sailing as would required by WSR 20.4.1.5.

It follows from WSR 20.3.2 that competitors may display any advertising they choose, provided it complies with the provisions of Regulation 20.

Conclusion

National Flags of any nation may be displayed on the mainsail.