

## **Notice to all Competitors at the Australian International One Meter Championships at Kawana Waters, 19-23 August 2026.**

### **Sail Number Marking.**

In response to questions raised by many IOM owners at recent events, competitors at the upcoming Australian IOM Championships are being asked to focus on ensuring their compliance with the rules concerning sail numbers.

### **Sail Numbers**

RRS (E8 G1.3) describes what constitutes a compliant sail number for radio sailing competition. The IOM Class Rules (C.8.4) require that sail identification complies with this rule.

Sail Numbers shall be:

- The last two digits of the hull registration number or the last two digits of the personal number.
- If the number is a single digit (i.e. 0 to 9), a zero prefix is added.
- "If there is a conflict between sail numbers, or if a sail number may be misread, the race committee shall require that the sail numbers of one of more boats be changed to numeric alternatives"

Only in the event of a conflict of sail numbers at an event, will an additional digit ("1") be applied.

To summarize; RRS Appendix E sets the rules for sail numbers/identification. They are very clear and a three-digit sail number is not permitted except **in a very specific circumstance** as directed by the race committee. If you are asked by the race committee to prefix your sail number to avoid a conflict, then please do so. Otherwise, competitors will be expected to have only a two-digit sail number.

### **Sail Number Legibility**

At the same time as being cognizant of the allowed sail numbers, competitors should also be aware that the recent IOM World Championships were plagued by instances of illegible (at distance) sail numbers. Competitors are reminded that RRS Appendix E is also very clear on the allowed sizes/fonts of sail numbers:

1. National letters and sail number shall be in capital letters and Arabic numerals, clearly legible and of the same colour. The colour shall contrast with the body of the sail. Commercially available fonts giving the same or better legibility that Helvetica are acceptable. [...]
2. The height and spacing of letters and numbers shall be as follows:

Dimension	Minimum	Maximum
Height of sail numbers	100mm	110mm
Spacing between sail numbers	20mm	30mm
Height of national letters	60mm	70mm
Spacing of adjacent national letters	13mm	23mm

If you have any doubts about the legibility of your sail numbers, please consider using one of the following fonts at the maximum height (i.e. 110mm):

1. Caracteres
2. Highway Gothic (FHWA Series fonts).

### **Possible Consequences**

Competitors should note that RRS E7 means that, if they use a non-compliant sail number, they could be liable to a protest:

- RRS E7:
  - However, if a boat has broken a rule in Appendix G [Identification on Sails] or rule E8 [Changes to Appendix G], the protest committee shall act in accordance with rule G4.
- RRS G4 is very clear:
  - When a protest committee finds that a boat has broken a rule of this appendix, it shall either warn her and give her time to comply or penalize her.