

A Primer on 29er Sail Numbers
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There are several rules governing the color, size, style, and placement of both sail numbers and country codes on the 29er mainsail. The rules begin with Racing Rule of Sailing (RRS) 77 and work their way thru RRS Appendix G and the 29er Class Rules, section C.10.3.

Within the 29er Class Rules, there is a very important provision for honoring the top 25 teams (skipper and crew) of the most recent 29er World Championships – they carry their finishing position as their sail number. This honor only lasts until the conclusion of the next 29er Worlds, after which the sail number must revert to its original hull number.

Respecting the honor rule is critical for its continued success.

Here is a summary of the rules regarding sail numbers and country codes for the 29er:

- They must be black
- The country code letters must be in front of (i.e. in-line with) the numbers (e.g. USA 1234)
- They must be between the 2nd and 3rd batten pockets (counting down from the top of the sail)
- They must be approximately parallel to the batten pockets
- The letters and numbers on the starboard side of the sail must be higher up the sail than those on the port side
- The letters and numbers on the opposing sides of the sail must not overlap with each other
- They must be at least 230mm tall
- There must be at least 45mm of space between each digit/letter
- There must be at least 45mm of space between the edge of the sail and the number
- The sail number shall be that shown on the ISAF hull plaque (if present, it will be on the transom of the 29er) except that if either of the crew has finished in the top 25 in the preceding 29er world championships that their sail number shall be that place (one digit for 1st to 9th, two digits for 10 thru 25). See table below for 2011 Worlds.

230mm converts to just over 9” so in the USA, we often use 10” numbers and letters

45mm converts to a little under 2” so in the USA, we often use 2” spacing between numbers and letters.

Place	Skipper / Crew
1	BELEN TAVELLA / FRANCO GREGGI
2	BETTINI PEPE / GWOZDZ FERNANDO
3	COSENTINO FRANCISCO / WAGMAISTER TOMAS
4	POLLITZER GONZALO / DIEZ JOSE MARIA
5	JAFFREZIC GAEL / BLOYET JULIEN
6	MARTINEZ NAHUEL / VUGDELIJA AXEL
7	KREVISKY JUAN / LOPEZ SEGURA BILLY
8	BYRON WHITE / ASHLEN ROOKLYN
9	BILLOCH GERMAN / KOCOUREK PEDRO
10	SIELECKI MICAEL / OCAMPO TOMAS
11	LUBECK MADS EMIL / LUBECK CHRISTIAN PETER
12	REALI ETCHART VICTORIA/TERRAB GASTON
13	LLOYD WILLIAMS HENRY / BATTEN SAM
14	FRASER MAXWELL / LIEBENBERG DAVID
15	TRAVASCIO VICTORIA / SEGERS MARIO
16	BAAD IDA / OLSEN MARIE
17	BRANZ SOL / ALVAREZ GALLESIO JUAMPI
18	GOMEZ LEANDRO / VILLAMBROSA FEDERICO
19	LANGE SANTIAGO / LANGE KLAUS
20	BAUDOINO ALEJANDRO / CUBRIA MARTIN
21	PIRAN CLARA / PELLEGRINO MARIANO
22	TYLER MACDONALD / JAMES MOODY
23	TRITTEL FLORIAN / TRITTEL LUCAS
24	AGUS BRANZ / FEDE TRAVASCIO
25	AUTELLI JUAN JOSE / PINI NICOLAS

29er Sail Identification FAQ:

Q: Where can I get a copy of the 29er Class Rules?

A: As an International Class governed by ISAF, there is only one official location for our class rules: the ISAF website. Visit www.sailing.org and browse to the "Classes & Equipment Section" where you can select the 29er Class where there will be more details provided.

Q: Where can I get a copy of the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)?

A: Each country publishes its own version of the RRS and makes them available thru a variety of outlets. In the United States, US SAILING publishes a hardbound copy that they sell on their online store and make available thru various retail outlets. The base set of rules are common across the world and those rules are available for download from the ISAF website (www.sailing.org)

Q: How does the top 25 honor award apply to crew?

A: For practical purposes, when either the skipper or crew from a top 25 world championships team registers/enters into an event as a skipper, they shall register and sail with their honor award unless doing so would create duplicate sail numbers in the same event (e.g. if both were entering an event).

Q: Can I use someone else's sail number?

A: For international races (e.g. Worlds, Continental Championships), sail numbers must either be the skipper's top 25 honor sail number or the number shown on the ISAF hull plaque of the boat being used. ISAF provides an exception for chartered and borrowed boats. See RRS Appendix G3.

Q: Are there restrictions on what type of material can be used for the numbers and letters?

A: No. So long as it meets all the specifics on size, shape, and color. The primary objective is to make a very letters and numbers very legible to the race committee. Downwind finishes, which are very common in 29er racing, makes for very difficult to read letters and numbers.

Q: Can I use a single digit number?

A: Only if you've finished 1st thru 9th in the most recent world championships?

Q: Can I use a two digit number?

A: Only if you've finished 10th thru 25th in the most recent world championships?

Q: Can I use a three digit number?

A: Yes, so long as it matches the ISAF Hull Plaque on your boat.

Q: What are the 29er Class Rules on sail numbers:

A: Refer to 29 Class Rule C.10.3(a) regarding Mainsail Identification. The 2011 edition of this rule is:

IDENTIFICATION

- (i) The national letters and the sail numbers shall be black and shall comply with the RRS except where specified in C.10.3(a)(ii).
- (ii) National letters shall be placed in front of the sail numbers and both shall comply with the specifications in RRS Appendix G1.2 for boats under 3.5 metres.
- (iii) The national letters and the sail numbers shall be wholly between the 2nd and 3rd batten pockets from the head point.
- (iv) The base of the national letters and the sail numbers shall be approximately parallel to the batten pockets.