

World Sailing Racing Rules Question and Answer Service

Q&A 2025.006

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Abandoning or Postponing before the starting signal

Situation

A race committee decides to stop the starting procedure for a race after its preparatory signal but before its starting signal. A further attempt will be made to start the race.

Question 1

Can the race committee use flag N to do so?

Answer 1

Yes, rule 27.3 allows the race committee to abandon a race before the starting signal.

Question 2

If the answer to Question 1 is Yes, so that either AP or N can be used, how should the race committee decide which to display?

Answer 2

While rule 27.3 allows either flag, to avoid confusion when other fleets are racing in the same race area, the recommended practice is using the AP.