



Ely Sailing Club

ITCA (GBR) East Area Traveller

Topper Open Meeting Sunday 8th September 2024

Sailing Instructions

Organising Authority.

Ely Sailing Club, in association with the International Topper Class Association (ITCA)(GBR), East Region.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The series will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing and the prescriptions of ITCA (GBR).
- 1.2 The rules governing each event in the series will be specified in the Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions published for each event (taking precedence over this Notice of Series if there is any conflict).
- 1.3 Competitors should note that ITCA (GBR) implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at: www.rya.org.uk/racing/pages/racingcharter.aspx
- 1.4 Competitors should be familiar with the ITCA Rules available from the Eastern Area Traveler Series 2024 Notice of Race:
<https://www.itca-gbr.co.uk/area-pages/eastern/calendar/>
- 1.5 Ely Sailing Club rules change the Definition of the *zone* as follows:
Zone: The area around a mark within a distance of **two** hull lengths of the boat nearer to it. A boat is in the zone when any part of her hull is in the zone.
- 1.6 Competitors will be required to wear adequate personal buoyancy at all times whilst afloat – except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices.

- 1.7 By participating in this event the competitor automatically grants to the organising authority and their sponsors, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show, from time to time at their discretion, any motion pictures and live, taped or filmed television and other reproductions of the athlete during the period of the competition without compensation.

2 NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Notice to competitors will be posted on the Ely Sailing Club website:
<https://www.elysailingclub.org/>

3 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes may be made to the Sailing Instructions at any time. Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be notified using flag Lima (L). No race will start until at least 10 minutes after the change has been notified to competitors.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on the white Starters Box.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 10 minutes' in the race signal AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The series will consist of up to 4 races.
- 5.2 The proposed starting times are shown in the following table.

Day	Race	Start Time
Sunday 10 th Sept 2023	1	11:00 – warning signal 10:55
	2	ASAP after Race 1
	3	After Lunch. No earlier than 12:30
	4	ASAP after Race 3

6 CLASS FLAGS

The "Topper" Class Flag will be provided by ITCA Racing East and given to the host club on the day of the event. The is defined as:



7 RACING AREA

This may include the whole of the lake. (See diagram below in Appendix 1, or the board available at Ely SC.)

8 THE COURSES

- 8.1 Courses will be displayed on the Course Board in the Starters Box.
- 8.2 The course may be changed after the first race when racing back-to-back races. Any change will be indicated by the Signal Flag Lima (L) over Signal Flag Charlie (C) being displayed. In this case Sailing Instruction 3 applies.
- 8.3 The course boards indicate the sequence of rounding the marks from left to right and the background colour Red or Green indicates which way to round the mark Red to Port and Green to Starboard. The number of laps may be indicated by a black numeral on a white background.
- 8.4 Depending on the course the Race Officer may choose not to use a Committee Boat and instead start a race from the Starters Box. This will be the case if an "A Line" start is chosen, which will be indicated on the Starters Box before the course boards.
- 8.5 The start line will become a gate for each lap thereafter.
- 8.6 A power boat will lead competitors around the course on the first lap of the first race. If the course changes in subsequent races the power boat will again lead competitors around the first lap.

9 MARKS

Marks are numbered 1-8 and are moveable spherical yellow buoys, which will be in the approximate area shown on the map (Appendix 1).

10 AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS

The following areas are designated as obstructions:

- A. Islands

- B. Jetties & Pontoons
- C. Areas marked with stakes and buoys
- D. A safety boat in close attendance to a small craft or competitor in difficulty.

11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 The warning signals will be on 5 minutes, 4 minutes, 1 minute before the starting signal.
- 11.3 The starting line shall be one of the following depending the course chosen on the day:
 - A. A Line start between the Black Pole in front of the starters box and the red and white striped pole on the opposite bank.
 - B. C Line start between the Committee Boat mast and a Yellow Buoy with a blue or pink flag.
- 11.4 An inner distance mark will be used. Any competitor passing between the inner distance mark and the Committee Boat will be disqualified unless they re-round the Committee Boat or an outer distance mark and pass correctly through the line to start.

12 THE FINISH

- 12.1 The finish line will be between a Committee Boat (which may not be the starting Committee Boat) and a spherical yellow buoy with a blue or pink flag.
- 12.2 After approximately 45 minutes (or at the Race Officer's discretion) Flag "S" plus two sound signals will signify that the race is to be finished.
- 12.3 Each boat will be finished as it passes through the "gate" to complete the lap that it is sailing when the race is shortened.
- 12.4 The committee boat will display a blue flag when it is in position as the finishing line.
- 12.5 The number of laps completed and the total elapsed time will be recorded for each boat.
- 12.6 After finishing, boats shall keep clear of the finishing gate and of all boats that are continuing to race.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM

Boats which fail to start or finish correctly or to sail the course as set and thus fail to comply with RRS28 may be disqualified without protest or a hearing, except that boats that fail to pass through the upwind gate (see S.I.8.6) will not be disqualified but will be credited only with the number of laps they have sailed correctly. The Race Committee shall record the finishing time or place as appropriate as well as noting the disqualification. This changes RRS63.1.

14 TIME LIMITS AND TARGETS

14.1 Time limits and target times are as follows:

- Target time for each race will be 40 minutes. Time limit for each race will be 60 minutes.
- Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

14.2 Boats failing to finish within 20 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. This changes rules 35, A4 and A5.

15 PROTEST AND REQUEST FOR REDRESS

15.1 Intention to protest must be raised with the Committee boat at the end of the relevant race.

15.2 Protest forms are available in the Starters Box. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

15.3 The protest time limit for the first two races is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the two and the time limit for the last two races is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day. If all races are back-to-back, the protest time limit for all races is 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day.

15.4 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the Starters Box.

15.5 Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b).

16 SCORING

- 16.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A4 will apply.
- 16.2 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.3 (a) When two or fewer races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- (b) When three or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 17.1 The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone. RRS 4.
- 17.2 All competitors shall wear a personal flotation devices at all times when afloat, except briefly when changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not considered personal flotation devices. This changes rule 40 and the preamble to Part 4.
- 17.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 17.4 The provision of a race management team, RIBs and other officials and volunteers does not relieve the boat of their own responsibilities.
- 17.5 The provision of RIB cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can practically be provided in the circumstances.
- 17.6 It is a condition of racing that a Competitor shall comply with the instructions of RIB crews. Any action by these crews solely intended to ensure the safety of a competitor, such as recovering crew or separated components of the boat, is not "outside help" as defined in RRS 41 and is not subject to protest from another competitor. The competitor may continue to race.
- 17.7 Where the RIB crew renders assistance greater than that necessary solely for safety considerations, such as righting or re-orientating the boat, providing spares or effecting repairs, the crew may so advise the competitor who shall retire immediately.
- 17.8 No action by a RIB when performing activities deemed necessary for safety reasons will constitute grounds for redress.

18 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

- 18.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the race committee.
- 18.2 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the race committee. Requests for substitution shall be made to the committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

19 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat can be instructed by a race committee equipment inspector or measurer to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

20 TRASH DISPOSAL

Boats shall not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

21 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Race Committee.

22 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY AND INSURANCE RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that:

- a. They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves, their crew and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
- b. They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their crew, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
- c. They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omissions;

- d. Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
- e. The provision of a race management team, patrol boats, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f. The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances
- g. It is their responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to this venue or this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event
- h. Their boat is adequately insured, with cover of at least £3,000,000 against third party claims

Appendix 1

Roswell Pits showing the location of the Ely SC Club House, starters box, slipway and the approximate location of each mark buoy.



