Notice of Race

INTERNATIONAL TOPPER CLASS ASSOCIATION (GBR)

NS6
RN&SYC, Lowestoft
15th/16th July 2017

Version 1
Published 13 January 2017

The organising authority is RN&SYC together with ITCA (GBR)

1 RULES

1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2 The prescriptions of ITCA (GBR) and rules of the host club will also apply. [DP]

1.3 Competitors and their supporters should note that ITCA (GBR) implements the RYA Racing Charter and that by entering this event they undertake to compete in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book *Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020* and on the RYA website *www.rya.org.uk*. [DP]

1.4 The notation [DP] in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

2 ELIGIBILITY

2.1 The event is open to all International Topper class dinghies.

2.2 There will be separate racing fleets for boats using 5.3 sails and 4.2 sails.

2.3 Every competitor must be a current member of a National Topper Class Association. Competitors that are not already a member of a National Topper Class Association may join ITCA (GBR) at registration, or pay £20 (or £5 if a member of the host club) to become a temporary member of ITCA (GBR) for the duration of the event.

2.4 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed. Only the person listed as the competitor on the entry form for a boat shall compete in that boat in the event.

3 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 All boats shall comply with the International Topper class rules, in particular only sails and spars supplied by the licensee Topper International shall be used, and sails shall have been officially stamped *Race Approved Sail*. [DP]

3.2 Each boat shall display the 2017 Championship Number of the competitor sailing the boat (unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Race Committee) in accordance with ITCA (GBR) prescriptions. Each boat trolley shall have a tag attached to the handle clearly displaying the Championship Number of the boat to which it belongs. Competitors that have not already been allocated a 2017 Championship Number will be allocated one at registration. It is the responsibility of the competitor to obtain and fix the Championship Numbers to the sail and boat in accordance with the prescriptions of ITCA (GBR), and to obtain and attach a suitable tag to the handle of the boat's trolley. [DP]

3.3 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.

3.4 4.2 sails shall not be used in the 5.3 fleet, and 5.3 sails shall not be used in the 4.2 fleet.

4 ENTRY

4.1 Pre entry is required using the on-line entry system at www.gbrtopper.co.uk.

4.2 The entry fee is:

a. £50 for entries received on or before 2nd July 2017
b. £65 for entries received thereafter, up to and including 11th July 2017
c. £70 for entries received thereafter. Entries in this case are subject to confirmation by the secretary, and will only be accepted if, in the opinion of the Race Committee, there is adequate safety cover available.

4.3 If an entry is cancelled by the competitor their entry fee will be refunded as follows:

a. Cancellation up to 2 weeks prior to the event: Entry fee less £5 admin charge, or transfer of entry to another event
b. Cancellation within last 2 weeks prior to the event: No refund or transfer of entry to another event.

5 REGISTRATION

5.1 Registration will be from 09:00 to 10:30 on the first day of the event.

5.2 Each competitor shall register before racing. To register, each competitor shall provide a completed entry form (signed by their parent or legal guardian in the case of a competitor under 18 years of age) and proof of current membership of a National Topper Class Association. [DP]

6 SCHEDULE

6.1 Racing is scheduled to take place on both days of the event.

6.2 There will be a competitor briefing, which all competitors should attend, starting at 10:30 on the first day of the event. The launch signal for the first race is expected to be made shortly after the end of this briefing. The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions.

6.3 The warning signal for the first race on the second day is not expected to be before 10:25, but this may change – check SIs and Notices.

6.4 On the last day of the event no starting signal will be made after 15:30.

6.5 **For the 5.3 fleet:**

a. It is likely that the entry will be divided into flights.
b. Each flight will sail in up to ten races over the two days of the event.
c. Races on each day will normally be back-to-back, with no opportunity to return to shore between races. The intention is that competitors are afloat for no longer than 6 hours on each day without a break ashore.

6.6 **For the 4.2 fleet:**

a. Up to ten races will be sailed over the two days of the event.
b. The intended schedule of racing and of any breaks ashore will be announced at the briefing for 4.2 fleet competitors before racing each day.

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

7.1 Sailing Instructions will be published on the ITCA (GBR) website prior to the event, and will be displayed on the Official Notice Board at the event.

8 RACING AREAS

8.1 Racing will be on the North Sea off Lowestoft Beach.

9 THE COURSES

9.1 The courses to be sailed will be inner and outer loop trapezoid courses as specified in the Sailing Instructions.

10 PENALTY SYSTEM

10.1 The Exoneration Penalty and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

10.2 Appendix P (Special Procedures for Rule 42) will apply, as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

11 SCORING

11.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply, as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

11.2 Race scores will be excluded as follows:

a. When three or fewer races have been completed, no race score will be excluded.
b. When four to eight races have been completed, one race score will be excluded.
c. When nine or more races have been completed, two race scores will be excluded.

12 PRIZES

12.1 Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the event at the discretion of ITCA (GBR), the host club and the event sponsor(s).

13 SUPPORT BOATS

13.1 Only support boats authorised by the Event Safety Officer will be permitted in the racing area. [DP]

14 RISK STATEMENT

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

Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event each competitor (and their parent(s) or guardian(s) in the case of a competitor under 18 years of age) 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 omission;
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 and other officials and volunteers by the event organisers 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 competitor briefing held for this event.

15 INSPECTIONS

15.1 The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race.

16 INSURANCE

16.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £ 3,000,000 per incident or equivalent. [DP]

17 MEDIA RIGHTS

17.1 By entering the event competitors and their supporters accept that they may be photographed and/or videoed participating in the event and/or using the event facilities and they consent to the taking and use of such images in any media, in conjunction with their name or not, without compensation and without the approval of the competitor or supporter of such images or any use thereof.

18 FURTHER INFORMATION

18.1 For further information please contact:

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Sally Dugdale (Chairman)	**07786 085518**	**chairman@gbrtopper.co.uk**