



**Volvo GJW Direct
International Topper
5.3 and 4.2 National Championships
Plas Heli, Pwllheli
Saturday 5th to Friday 11th August 2017**

**Version 1.1
Published 29 June 2017**

The organising authority is Plas Heli 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 championships for boats using 5.3 sails and 4.2 sails. There will also be a Regatta fleet for less experienced sailors.
- 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 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 by boats sailing in the 5.3 National Championships. 5.3 sails shall not be used by boats sailing in the 4.2 National Championships. Boats sailing in the Regatta fleet may use either a 5.3 sail or a 4.2 sail.
- 3.5 Each boat shall use only one sail during the event, except that the race committee may authorise a boat to use an alternative sail in the case of damage that it is impossible to repair in time for a race. See SIs for details.

4 ENTRY

- 4.1 Pre entry is required using the on-line entry system at www.gbriopper.co.uk.
- 4.2 The entry fee **for the 5.3 and 4.2 National Championships** is:
 - a. £200 for entries received on or before 28th May 2017
 - b. £230 for entries received thereafter, up to and including 2nd July 2017
 - c. £265 for entries received thereafter, up to and including 23rd July 2017, when on-line entry will close.
- 4.3 After on-line entry has closed, entry may be possible by contacting the ITCA (GBR) class secretary by email or telephone (contact details below). Entry in this case will only be possible if, in the opinion of the race committee, adequate safety cover will be available. The entry fee in this case will be £295.

4.3A The entry fee for the Regatta Fleet is:

- a. £125 for entries received on or before 23rd July 2017
- b. £175 for entries received thereafter, up to and including 30th July 2017
- c. £200 for entries received thereafter and subject to the agreement of the race committee.

4.4 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
- b. Cancellation within last 2 weeks prior to the event: No refund.

5 REGISTRATION, EQUIPMENT INSPECTION AND INITIAL COMPETITOR BRIEFING [DP]

5.1 Registration will be from 13:00 to 17:00 on Saturday 5th August at Plas Heli.

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), proof of current membership of a National Topper Class Association, and a completed and signed 2017 Self Certification Measurement Form (see Appendix 1).

5.3 Each competitor shall present the one sail they intend to use for racing for inspection and limitation marking prior to racing.

5.4 Competitors may also be required to present their boats for inspection prior to racing.

5.5 There will be an initial competitor briefing, which all competitors should attend, on the evening of Saturday 5th August.

6 FORMAT

6.1 The 5.3 National Championships will consist of a Qualification Series and a Final Series.

6.2 The 4.2 National Championships will be a single series.

6.3 Any racing by the Regatta Fleet will be a single series.

7 SCHEDULE

7.1 Racing is scheduled to take place on each day from Sunday 6th August to Friday 11th August.

7.2 Races are currently scheduled as follows:

Day	5.3 Championships		4.2 Championships	Regatta Fleet
Sunday 6 th August	3 races	Qualification	4 races	TBA
Monday 7 th August	3 races	Qualification	4 races	TBA
Tuesday 8 th August	1 race	Qualification	2 races	TBA
Wednesday 9 th August	3 races	Final	4 races	TBA
Thursday 10 th August	3 races	Final	4 races	TBA
Friday 11 th August	2 races	Final	3 races	TBA

7.3 The warning signal for the first race on each day is currently scheduled to be at 10:55.

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

7.5 For the 5.3 National Championships, 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.

7.6 For the 4.2 National Championships and Regatta fleets, the intended schedule of racing, and of any breaks ashore, will be announced at the relevant briefing for competitors before sailing each day.

8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

8.1 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.

9 RACING AREAS

9.1 Racing will be on the sea in Tremadoc Bay.

10 THE COURSES

10.1 For the 5.3 and 4.2 National Championships the courses will be inner and outer loop trapezoid courses as specified in the Sailing Instructions.

10.2 The courses to be sailed by the Regatta fleet will be announced at the briefing for Regatta fleet competitors before sailing each day.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 The Exoneration Penalty and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.
- 11.2 Appendix P (Special Procedures for Rule 42) will apply, as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply, as amended by the Sailing Instructions.
- For the 5.3 National Championships**
- 12.2 At least three races must be completed in the Qualification Series prior to the fleet being split into Final Series fleets (Gold, Silver and Bronze). A single race must be completed by the Gold fleet in the Final Series to constitute the Championship.
- 12.3 A boat's Championship score will be the total of her scores in all races in the Final Series after discards, together with a points score equal to her overall ranking at the end of the Qualification Series (which shall not be discarded). All boats in the Final Series Gold fleet will rank ahead of all boats in the Final Series Silver fleet, who will rank ahead of all boats in the Final Series Bronze fleet.
- 12.4 For each of the Qualification Series and the Final Series:
- When 3 or fewer races have been completed all races will count;
 - When 4 to 7 races have been completed there will be one discard;
 - When 8 races have been completed there will be two discards.
- 12.5 When the Championship is not properly constituted (minimum one race completed by the Gold Fleet in the Final Series) prizes will still be awarded, however the Overall Championship Trophy will not be awarded.

For the 4.2 National Championships and Regatta Fleet

- 12.6 Discards will be as follows:
- When 3 or fewer races have been completed all scores will count
 - When 4 to 9 races are completed there will be one discard
 - When 10 to 14 races are completed there will be two discards
 - When 15 to 19 races are completed there will be three discards
 - Where 20 or more races are completed there will be four discards.

13 PRIZES

- 13.1 Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the event at the discretion of ITCA (GBR), the host club and the event sponsor(s).
- 13.2 Whilst the event is open to sailors of all nationalities, only sailors that are eligible to compete for Great Britain at a World Sailing sanctioned event, as defined in World Sailing Regulation 17, will be eligible to win certain trophies and prizes.

14 SUPPORT BOATS [DP]

- 14.1 Only support boats authorised by the Event Safety Officer will be permitted in the racing area. Please contact the ITCA (GBR) Ribmaster (contact details below) if you intend to bring a support boat to the event.

15 RISK STATEMENT

- 15.1 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.

16 INSPECTIONS

- 16.1 The fact that race officials may conduct inspections of boats does not in any way reduce the responsibilities of each competitor under the rules.

17 INSURANCE [DP]

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

18 MEDIA RIGHTS

- 18.1 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.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 19.1 For further information please contact:

Suzanne Farmer (Secretary)	01874 711795	secretary@itca-gbr.co.uk
Nerys Chandler (Events Manager)	07967 481130	eventsmanager@itca-gbr.co.uk
Sally Dugdale (Chairman)	07786 085518	chairman@itca-gbr.co.uk
Steve Chandler (Ribmaster)	07807 261651	ribmaster@itca-gbr.co.uk

Appendix 1

INTERNATIONAL TOPPER CLASS ASSOCIATION (GBR) 2017 SELF CERTIFICATION MEASUREMENT FORM	CHAMPIONSHIP NUMBER		
	SAIL NUMBER		
	BOAT NUMBER (IF DIFFERENT)		
	HELM		

CLASS RULE	ITEM	CHECKED & CERTIFIED
5.2	Tiller extension Maximum length 975mm	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.3	Kicking Strap Maximum purchase 3:1 Immediately detachable	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.4	Clew Outhaul Maximum purchase 4:1 Immediately detachable	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.5	Tack Downhaul Maximum purchase 6:1 Attached by hook or shackle	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.5	5.3 Sail Reefing Able to reef sail by two complete turns of the mast without adjustment of mast rigging or fittings other than kicking strap and tack downhaul	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.4	Bow Line Min 6mm diameter and at least 1500mm in length. Longer length able to reach rear end of centreboard case. Fixed loop in end of longer length suitable for towing	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3; 5; 6.1 & 6.2	Hull, Foils and Spars No additional fittings. Original manufacturer's equipment, except where permitted under rules 5, 6.1 and 6.2	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1	Mainsheet Boom take off block 595mm to 715mm from mast. Boom end block within 15mm of fitting	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1	Centre Mainsheet Loop Centre of Loop 1225mm to 1275mm from mast and 105mm to 155mm wide	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 & 6.3	Sail Original manufacturer's equipment, sail and championship numbers correct, legible and correct colours. Starboard above port. Minimum height 230mm, spacing 30mm to 45mm.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.8	<p>I accept that it is the helm's responsibility to ensure that this boat complies with the Class Rules, ITCA (GBR) Prescriptions and relevant Racing Rules of Sailing. I confirm that I have checked the above items and that this boat complies with the rules.</p> <p>Signature of Helm</p>	