

Notice of Race

INTERNATIONAL TOPPER
CLASS ASSOCIATION (GBR)



GJWDirect **Coastal Championships (NS4)** **Whitstable** **20th/21st May 2023**

GJWDirect
All-inclusive Dinghy Insurance



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The organizing authority is Whitstable YC and Tankerton Bay SC together with ITCA (GBR)

1 SPECIAL PROVISIONS IN LIGHT OF COVID-19

- 1.1 All competitors and their supporters shall comply with all COVID-19 regulations and rules in force at the time of the event (including local rules and regulations), including not attending the event if required to quarantine, self-isolate or stay at home. Competitors that are unable to attend the event because of COVID-19 will have their entry fee refunded provided that they notify the class secretary of their situation as soon as possible.
- 1.2 All competitors and supporters that do attend the event shall comply with the host clubs' COVID-19 procedures throughout the event.
- 1.3 The organising authority reserves the right to cancel the event, or reject or cancel entries in its absolute discretion, subject to RRS 76. In these cases, refunds will be issued less any costs incurred.
- 1.4 By taking part in the event covered by this notice of race, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that they are responsible for complying with any regulations in force from time to time in respect of COVID-19 and for complying with the host clubs' COVID-19 procedures. Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be misconduct. Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID-19 guidance, protocols or legislation, even if they later prove to have been unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions.

2 RULES

- 2.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 2.2 The prescriptions of ITCA (GBR) and rules of the host clubs also apply. [DP]
- 2.3 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 2021-2024* and on the RYA website www.rya.org.uk. [DP]

3 ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 The event is open to all International Topper class dinghies. The event is also open to boats using a roto-moulded 'Topper' hull supplied by Topper International, notwithstanding that such a hull may not comply with the International Topper Class Rules in force at the time of the event, provided that in all other material respects the boat complies with the International Topper Class Rules. Each boat racing in the event will be classed according to the size of the sail used, not on the construction of the hull.
- 3.2 There will be separate series for boats using 6.4 sails, 5.3 sails and 4.2 sails.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 Substitution of competitors is not allowed. Only the person listed as the competitor on the entry form for a boat shall compete in that boat in the event.

4 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 All boats shall comply with the International Topper class rules, in particular only sails, spars and foils supplied by the licensee Topper International shall be used. [DP]
- 4.2 If a boat has a kicking strap arrangement with a mechanical advantage of 6:1 (as permitted by the class rules), the 2:1 cascade block and line must have been supplied by an approved licensee and must not have been altered or had any part replaced. [DP]
- 4.3 Each boat shall display the 2022/23 Championship Number of the competitor sailing the boat (unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Race Committee) in accordance with the class rules for Event Numbers. 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 2022/23 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 class rules, and to obtain and attach an appropriate tag to the handle of the boat's trolley. [DP]

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

4.5 While racing, boats shall not use a sail that is larger or smaller than the size corresponding to the series they are entered in.

5 ENTRY

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

5.2 The entry fee is:

- a. £67.50 for entries received on or before 7th May 2023
- b. £85.00 for entries received thereafter, up to and including 14th May 2023
- c. £95.00 for entries received thereafter. Entries in this case are subject to confirmation by the class secretary, and will only be accepted if, in the opinion of the organising authority, there is adequate safety cover available.

5.3 If an entry is cancelled by the competitor for reasons unrelated to COVID-19 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.

6 REGISTRATION

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

6.2 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]

7 SCHEDULE

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

7.2 There will be a competitor briefing, which all competitors should attend, starting at **10:30** on the first day of the event. This may be followed by an additional briefing for 4.2 competitors. There may also be a briefing for 4.2 competitors on the Sunday morning.

7.3 The scheduled time of the launch signal and warning signal for the first race will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions (SIs).

7.4 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.

7.5 On the last day of the event no starting signal will be made after 14:30, unless fewer than four races have been completed by a class by that time in which case this time limit may be extended to 15:30 for that class.

7.6 **For the 6.4 series:**

- a. Up to six races will be sailed over the two days of the event.
- b. Subject to the number of entries, all boats in the 6.4 series will start together, in the same start as one pair of flights in the 5.3 series.

7.7 **For the 5.3 series:**

- a. Subject to the number of entries, each boat will be allocated to one of four flights, with flights racing in pairs, and the pairings changing for each race.
- b. Each flight will sail in up to six races over the two days of the event.

7.8 **For the 4.2 series:**

- a. Up to eight races will be sailed over the two days of the event.
- b. Subject to the number of entries, all boats in the 4.2 series will start together and separately from any 5.3 series start.

7.9 For each class, races on each day will normally be sailed back-to-back, with no opportunity to return to shore between races. The race committee will try to limit the time that any competitor is afloat, without a break ashore, to no more than 6 hours, but depending upon conditions this time may be exceeded to allow a race to be completed.

8 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 8.1 Sailing Instructions will be published on the ITCA (GBR) website prior to the event.

9 RACING AREAS

- 9.1 Racing will be in the Thames Estuary off Whitstable.

10 THE COURSES

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

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 The Post-Race 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 scoring system in RRS Appendix A will apply, as amended by the Sailing Instructions.
12.2 Race scores will be excluded as follows:
a. When three or fewer races have been completed, no race score will be excluded.
b. When more than three races have been completed, one race score will be excluded.
12.3 There shall be no changes to race or series scores (including correction of errors) resulting from any action initiated more than 30 minutes after the protest time limit for the last race in the series, or being informed of a protest committee decision after the last race of the series, or publication of the results, with the exception of changes resulting from decisions under RRS 6, 69 or 70.

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).

14 SUPPORT BOATS

- 14.1 Only support boats that are part of the official safety fleet and authorised by the Event Safety Officer will be permitted in the racing area. [DP]

15 RISK STATEMENT

- 15.1 Rule 3 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 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 a boat does not reduce the responsibilities of each competitor set out in this Notice of Race or any other document governing this event.

17 INSURANCE

- 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. [DP]

18 PRIVACY STATEMENT

- 18.1 The personal information you provide to the organizing authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information is contract. If you are not bound by the rules, the legal basis for processing that personal information is legitimate interest. Your personal information will be stored and used in accordance with the organizing authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA, your national authority and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.

19 FURTHER INFORMATION

- 19.1 For further information please contact:

Tracey Francis (Events Manager)	07734 176602	eventsmanager@itca-gbr.co.uk
Sally Dugdale (Chair Racing)	07786 085518	racing@itca-gbr.co.uk