

Snettisham Beach
Sailing Club

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

ITCA Eastern Area Topper Championships

(Issued 03/06/2023)

1. RULES

Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021 - 2024 and the prescriptions of the RYA as published on the RYA Website and the individual class measurement rules except that.

1.1. Racing Rule 40. PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES will be changed as follows: Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. This changes the rule in that the rule is always in force during racing and code flag Y need not be displayed to indicate this.

1.2. Racing Rule **44.3 Scoring Penalty** will not apply.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the First Floor of the Clubhouse or the Conservatory.

In addition to we have an even **WhatsApp Group :- ITCA Eastern Area Champs 2023**. QR Code provided at the end of these SI's and in the NOR. The information shared here is Unofficial and for general event communications only.

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 08:00 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 18:00 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

Signals made ashore will be displayed as follows:

Signals ashore will be made from the main flagstaff directly in front of the clubhouse.

When flag AP is displayed ashore for Committee Boat Starts, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 15 minutes' before the race start sequence can commence.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

The schedule of Races will be published in the "Notice of Race" and any modifications to the schedule will be posted on the official notice board.

6. CLASS FLAGS

The Class Flag for the Topper Open Meeting will be Flag T.

7. RACING AREAS

Racing will be carried out on the Sea, approximately to the North West (To the Right hand side, as you look to sea) of the clubhouse

8. COMMITTEE BOAT STARTS

8.1 the Designated Course will be displayed on the Starboard side of the Committee boat. The course will be a Trapezoid Course. A description of the Designated Course can be found in the **Course Diagram – Appendix A.**

All marks of the course will be left to Port, except for leeward Gate Marks 3a or 4a which will be left to Starboard, if rounded and a part of the designated course for the race.

8.2 Races will be started by using rule 26 of the RRS –

Remaining Time to Start	Action + Sound Signal	Flag
5 minutes	Warning Flag hoisted + sound signal	Flag T displayed
4 minutes	Preparatory Flag hoisted + sound signal	Either Flag P,I, U or Black Flag displayed
1 minute	Preparatory Flag dropped + Sound signal	Preparatory flag down
START	Warning Flag dropped + sound signal	Flag T down

8.3 The start line will be between the Mast displaying Orange flag on the Committee boat, positioned at the starboard end of the Start line, and a spherical buoy with an Orange Flag at the Port end of the Start line. The start line will be set as approximately as shown in the Course Diagram.

8.4. THE FINISH

8.4.1. The Finish line will be between the mast on the Committee boat displaying a Blue flag at approximately the windward end of the Finish line, and a spherical buoy displaying a Blue Flag at approximately the Leeward end of the Finish line, as shown in the Course Diagram. If a Shorten Course signal is made, the Finish line will be moved in accordance with instruction **8.5.** of these SI's.

8.4.3. Boats that have finished should clear the finishing line area, do not re-cross the finish line. Competitors are to return to the the area, but clear of the finish line to facilitate a swift start to the next race, taking place soon after the end of the previous race, at the end of Racing for the day.

8.5. TARGET RACE DURATION AND SHORTENING THE COURSE

8.5.1. The target duration for races will be 40 minutes. Boats should sail the designated course, as displayed on the Starboard side of the Committee boat.

If the course is shortened - flag "S" is displayed (together with 2 sound signals) from a Support boat or the Committee Boat, positioned at any Mark of the course.

In this case, the finish line will be between the Support boat or Committee boat displaying Flag S, and the nearest mark of the course. except in the case of Gate marks 3a/b or 4a/b where the finish line will be between a Finishing boat displaying a Shorten Course flag and mark 3b or 4b close to the Finishing boat.

8.5.2. In the event that a shorten course is signalled, Sailors should continue to sail the original Course, passing designated buoys in the correct order and direction, until they cross the new Finish line formed between the mark of the course and the Finishing boat as detailed in instruction **8.5.1.**

8.5.2. At the discretion of the Race Officer, after the first boat sails the course and finishes, any number of following boats may be finished at the position they are in, by receiving a message from a support boat, together with a Flag "W" and sound signal.

This changes rule 35 of the RRS.

Once a sailor receives a Flag "W", they are required to either, sail directly to The Start Line, in order to prepare for the next Start, or directly back to SBSC Launch / Recovery area, if it is the end of the days racing, or they are retiring. Sailors receiving a Flag "W" signal will have their position recorded at that point, this position will count towards their final score, This result is discardable according to the Scoring system detailed in part 11. SCORING, in these instructions.

9. PENALTIES TAKEN ON THE WATER

Penalties are to be taken in accordance with **RRS rule 44. Penalties at the time of an incident.**

Rule 44.3 Scoring Penalty shall not apply. Penalties are to be taken at the earliest opportunity after the incident has taken place.

10. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes procedures shall apply. The outcome of an RYA Arbitration can be referred to a protest committee, but an arbitration cannot be reopened or appealed. See the Official Notice Board for details.

11. SCORING

11.1. The Low Point System of Appendix A shall apply.

11.2. At least 1 race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

11.3. Discards

When 4 races or more have been completed, 1 result will be discarded from the final total score, unless the RRS offer further penalty. If a total of 3 races are sailed, all races will count towards the boats final score.

12. SAFETY

RISK STATEMENT :- 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 this 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.

12.1 Tally system and Permission to Launch

A Tally system will be in service. Sailors failing to Tally On or Tally off, when required to do so, will have their race score adjusted by 30% of the number of racers competing.

Competitors are permitted to launch, only when **Flag D** is flown from the Beach side Mast.

12.2 Retirements

A boat that retires from a race shall notify either the Race Committee boat or an Event Support Boat, as soon as possible. A boat that is retiring, Will follow instruction from an Event Support boat if given. If able, a boat will return to the Start area, or shall return to shore directly at the SBSC Launch / Recovery area, informing the Beach Master that they have returned, then Tally off as soon as practicable. Under no circumstances should sailors decide to deviate from this instruction.

12.3 Radio Transmissions

Only members of the event organising Team, the Coastguard, the Emergency Services and associated officials are permitted to make Radio Transmissions in relation to this event. Failure to comply may result

in a Race scoring penalty for the related Sailor, up-to and including disqualification from a race or the series.

13. ELIGABILITY AND REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

13.1. Entry to the series is on the basis of class of boat - Topper, and named helm.

13.2. The named helm shall have entered this event in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing, these Sailing Instruction's and the event "Notice of Race".

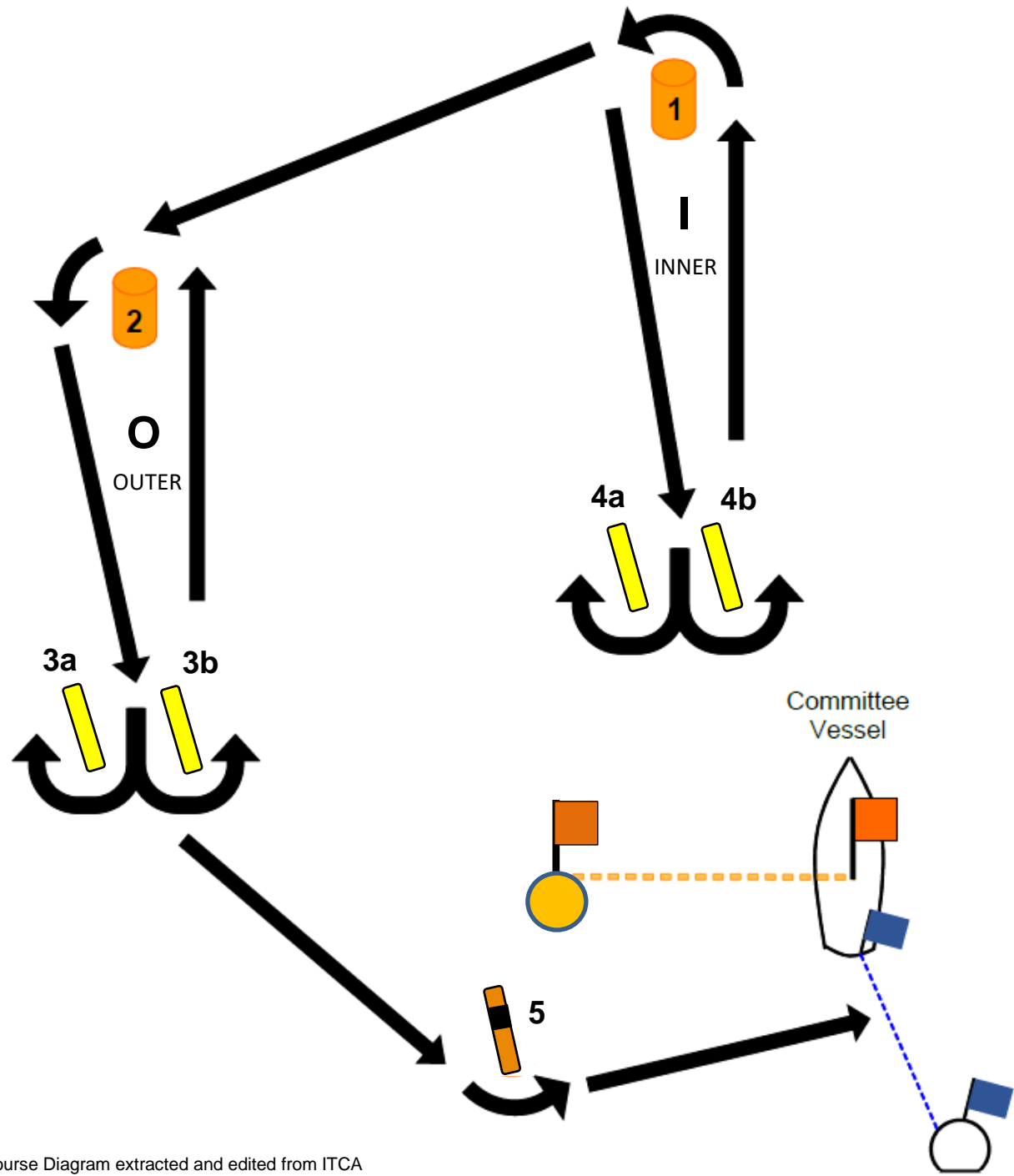
13.3. There is no age limit for entrants to this event. The Organizers reserve the right to refuse entry on any grounds deemed reasonable by the Event Race Committee.

13.4. A sailor may choose to sail either with a 4.2 or a 5.3 Sail. Sailors will not be permitted to change sail size, during the course of the event. Toppers will race on an equal footing, regardless of sail size. No time corrections will be applied according to the Portsmouth Yardstick or any other Handicap system. However, Prizes will be allocated to both 4.2 and 5.3 fleets, as described in the Notice of Race.

APPENDIX A – COURSE DIAGRAM

Course signal	1	2	3	4
Number of beats	1 beat	2 beats	3 beats	4 beats
O (outer)	1, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish	1, 2, 3a/b, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish	1, 2, 3a/b, 2, 3a/b, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish	1, 2, 3a/b, 2, 3a/b, 2, 3a/b, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish
I (Inner)	1, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish	1, 4a/b, 1, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish	1, 4a/b, 1, 4a/b, 1, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish	1, 4a/b, 1, 4a/b, 1, 4a/b, 1, 2, 3a/b, 5, Finish

All individual marks are to be left to port. Marks 3a/3b and 4a/4b are gates.



Course Diagram extracted and edited from ITCA
Topper Course Card "A."

ITCA Eastern Area Champs 2023

WhatsApp group



