

Notice of Race

INTERNATIONAL TOPPER
CLASS ASSOCIATION (GBR)



Winter Championships (NS2) WPNSA, Portland 7th / 8th March 2026



Version 1
Published 8th January 2026

The organising authority is WPNSA together with ITCA (GBR)

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The prescriptions of ITCA (GBR) and rules of the host club 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 on the RYA website at <https://www.rya.org.uk/racing/rules/racing-charter>. [DP]

2 ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The event is open to all International Topper class dinghies.
- 2.2 There will be separate series for boats using 6.4 sails, 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 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.

3 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1 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]
- 3.2 Each boat shall display the 2025/26 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 2025/26 Championship Number will be allocated one at registration. It is the responsibility of the competitor to obtain and fix the Championship Numbers to their sail and boat in accordance with the class rules, and to obtain and attach an appropriate tag to the handle of their boat's trolley. [DP]
- 3.3 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.
- 3.4 While racing, boats shall not use a sail that is larger or smaller than the size corresponding to the series they are entered in.

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. £90.00 for entries received on or before 6th February 2026
 - b. £120.00 for entries received thereafter, up to and including 20th February 2026
 - c. £150.00 for entries received thereafter, up to and including 28th February 2026
 - d. No entries will be accepted after the closing date of 28th February 2026.
- 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.
- 4.4 If the event is cancelled by the organisers, they reserve the right to retain a proportion of each entry fee to cover any costs incurred that cannot otherwise be recovered. Any remainder will be refunded.

5 REGISTRATION

- 5.1 Registration will be from 09:00 to 10:00 on the first day of the event.
- 5.2 Each competitor shall register before racing (and their boat will not count as an entry in the event until they have done so). 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.
- 6.3 The scheduled time of the launch signal and warning signal for the first race for each class will be detailed in the Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- 6.4 The first warning signal for a race on the second day is not expected to be before 10:25, but this may change – check SIs and Notices.
- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 **For the 6.4 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 6.4 series will start together, either in the same start as one pair of flights in the 5.3 series or separately.
- 6.7 **For the 5.3 series:**
 - a. Up to eight races will be sailed over the two days of the event.
 - b. Depending on the number of entries, boats in the 5.3 series will either race as a single fleet, or will be allocated to one of four flights, with flights racing in pairs, and the pairings changing for each race.
- 6.8 **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.
- 6.9 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.

7 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

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

8 RACING AREAS

- 8.1 Racing will be in Portland Harbour.

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 RRS Appendix T (Arbitration) will apply with the word "will" replaced by "may" in the first sentence of RRS T₂.
- 10.2 Appendix P (Special Procedures for Rule 42) will apply, as amended by the Sailing Instructions.

11 SCORING

- 11.1 The scoring system in RRS 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 between four and seven races have been completed, one race score will be excluded.
- c. When more than seven races have been completed, two race scores will be excluded.

- 11.3 RRS 90.3(e) will apply with '24 hours' changed to '30 minutes'.

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

14 RISK STATEMENT

14.1 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.

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 or any other document governing this event.

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 PRIVACY STATEMENT

17.1 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.

18 FURTHER INFORMATION

18.1 For further information please contact:

Claire Turner (Events Manager) **07534 875996** [**eventsmanager@itca-gbr.co.uk**](mailto:eventsmanager@itca-gbr.co.uk)
Sally Dugdale (Vice-Chair, Racing) **07786 085518** [**racing@itca-gbr.co.uk**](mailto:racing@itca-gbr.co.uk)