



Topper Open Meeting ITCA Southern Area Summer Series 17 April 2021

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Changes may be made to the Sailing Instructions at any time. Changes to the Sailing Instructions will be notified using display flag L. No race will start until at least 10 minutes after the change has been notified to competitors.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the WhatsApp on-line Official Notice Board. In the event of WhatsApp being unavailable, the race committee will make alternative arrangements to notify competitors.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the Race Hut to the North-East of the clubhouse.
- 4.2 For Committee Boat starts when flag AP is displayed ashore, 'The warning signal will be made 1 minute' is replaced with 'The warning signal will be made not less than 10 minutes' in the Race Signals AP.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 5.1 The proposed warning times are shown in the following table.

Race	Warning Time	
	Topper	Topper 4.2
1	1025	1030
2	ASAP after race 1	Topper race 2 start
3	ASAP after race 2	Topper race 3 start
4	ASAP after race 3	Topper race 4 start

6 CLASS FLAGS

- 6.1 The Topper Class flag will be a White Flag with a Black Top Hat Motif
- 6.2 If required the Topper 4.2 Class Flag will be display flag T

7 THE COURSES

- 7.1 The course will also be displayed below the Signal Mast in front of the Race Hut or, if used, on the committee boat.
- 7.2 The course for Race 1 will be posted on the WhatsApp on-line Official Notice Board not less than 10 minutes before the first Warning Signal.
- 7.3 The course may be changed after the first race when racing back-to-back races. Any change will be indicated by hoisting display flag L over display flag C.
- 7.4 The course boards indicate the sequence of rounding the marks from left to right and the background colour Red or Green indicates which way to round the mark Red to Port and Green to Starboard.

8 MARKS

8.1 Marks will be either;

- 8.1.1 Fixed marks - spherical buoys with alpha numeric characters as shown on the map of the lake, Figure 1.
- 8.1.2 Laid marks - white Dan buoys with a pole staff to display a Numeric Character, when used as marks of the course.

8.2 All marks of the course are rounding marks unless otherwise stated.

9 OBSTRUCTIONS

9.1 The following areas are designated as obstructions:

- 9.1.1 Islands
- 9.1.2 Jetties & Pontoons

10 THE START

10.1 The starting line will be defined by one of two methods –

- 10.1.1 Committee Boat Starting Line – A line between a flag staff on a Committee Vessel displaying an orange Flag and a white Dan Buoy with a blue flag (ODM)
- 10.1.2 Race Hut Starting Line - A line formed by a transit from the southern column of the race signal gantry through the upper apex of the triangle in front of the signal gantry to a point perpendicular to an outer distance mark (ODM) which will be a white Dan Buoy with a blue flag.

10.2 Either line may use an Inner Distance Mark (IDM) which will be a white Dan Buoy displaying a red flag. When an IDM is laid, boats shall *start* by passing through the defined line, between the IDM and ODM.

10.3 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail or championship number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

10.4 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.

10.5 A boat starting later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start, did not come to the starting area (DNC) by the race committee without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.

11 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

11.1 Marks may be moved at any time without the need for signalling boats before they begin the leg. This changes RRS 33..

12 THE FINISH

12.1 The finishing line will be defined by one of two methods –

- 12.1.1 Committee Boat Finishing Line – A line between a flag staff on a Committee Vessel displaying an orange flag and a white Dan Buoy with a blue flag
- 12.1.2 Race Hut Finishing Line - A line between the southern column of the race signal gantry and a white Dan Buoy with a blue flag

12.2 When an official boat displays display flag W with two sounds, boats will be finished by this official boat. When a boat finishes in accordance with this instruction she shall be given a finishing place after all boats which completed the course and boats that were finished with display flag W ahead of that boat. This changes RRS 28.1, 35, 60.1(b), & A5.

13 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

13.1 The target time for each race will be 40 minutes. The Race Time Limit for each race will be 60 minutes.

- 13.2 Boats failing to finish within 15 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place two more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes rules 35, A4, A5 and A10.

14 HEARING REQUESTS

- 14.1 Intention to protest must be raised with the Committee boat at the end of the relevant race.
- 14.2 Hearing request forms are available in the Race Office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.
- 14.3 The protest time limit will be 30 minutes after the race committee hoists display flag A over display flag H for all races that have finished prior to this, and will be 30 minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day for all other races.
- 14.4 Notices will be posted to the WhatsApp on-line Official Notice Board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held on the decking outside the Race Hut
- 14.5 A list of boats that have been penalized for breaking RRS 42 under Appendix P will be posted.
- 14.6 A request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered no later than 20 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 66.
- 14.7 A request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 20 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

15 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1 At all times when afloat, except briefly when changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment, the crew shall wear a personal flotation device to the minimum standard ISO 12402-5 (Level 50), or USCG Type III, or AS 4758 Level 50, or equivalent. Inflatable buoyancy vests are not permitted. Display flag Y will not be displayed. This changes rule 40 and the preamble to Part 4. It extends Class Rules, the International Topper Class, C4.1.
- 15.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible.
- 15.3 A boat may receive help from an outside source as detailed in RSS 1.1 without incurring a penalty. RRS 41 now states that help can be given to any person in danger. If a Patrol Boat crew decides that competitor(s) may be in 'danger' then the competitor(s) receiving help need not retire. A report will be made to the race committee and if it is deemed that there was no significant advantage gained, no further action will be taken. If the competitor(s) did gain an advantage then the competitor(s) may be protested and penalized; any penalty may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides. The scoring abbreviation for a discretionary penalty imposed under this instruction will be DPI.
- 15.4 If a Patrol Boat is required to provide a level of assistance to an individual boat or competitor(s) and it is deemed by the race committee that this is causing the Patrol Boat to be unable to adequately perform their other duties, said boat will be scored as retired (RET) and asked to stop racing and return to the shore. The committee's decision in the matter is final and is not grounds for redress. Failure to obey this SI will result in a Protest by the race committee for alleged misconduct under RRS 69.

16 TRASH DISPOSAL

- 16.1 [DP] Boats shall not put trash in the water. Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

Figure 1: Fixed marks

