

## Topper Winter Regatta 2015

### Topper 5.3 National Series 2

### Topper 4.2 National Series 2

### 7/8 February 2015, WPNSA

**These Sailing Instructions should be read in conjunction with the ITCA Rules**

#### **1 Rules**

- 1.1 Racing will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing and the ITCA (GBR) prescriptions. In case of conflict with the Notice of Race these Sailing Instructions shall prevail. This changes rule 63.7.
- 1.2 All competitors and supporters must also comply with the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy Local Sailing Instructions, see Appendix 1.

#### **2 Notices to Competitors**

- 2.1 Notices to competitors (Official Notices, Social Notices and Protest Notices) will be posted on the event notice board. The event notice board will be in the Events Hall.
- 2.2 A competitor briefing (for ALL competitors) will be held at 10:00 on Saturday 7 February in the Events Hall. A short briefing for 4.2 competitors only will be held straight after this in the same location.
- 2.3 Communication with competitors (including BFD notification under rule 30.3 and Rule 42 penalty signalling under rule P1) will be by Championship Number.

#### **3 Changes to Sailing Instructions**

- 3.1 Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted [at least two hours before the scheduled start time OR before 09:00] 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**

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the flagpole on the NE corner of the Events Hall.
- 4.2 When flag AP is flown ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP.
- 4.3 One or more class or flight flags beneath flag AP indicates that the start of the next race for those particular fleets has been postponed.
- 4.4 Boats shall not go afloat until flag D is displayed. If one or more class or flight flags are displayed beneath flag D only boats in the relevant fleet(s) may go afloat at that time.

#### **5 Schedule of Races**

- 5.1 Racing is scheduled for both classes on both the Saturday and the Sunday.
- 5.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first start of the first race of each day is as follows:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Scheduled time of the warning signal for the first start of the first race</i>	
	<i>5.3 class</i>	<i>4.2 class</i>
Saturday 7 February 2015	11:25	11:35
Sunday 8 February 2015	10:40	10:50

- 5.3 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed on the race committee signal vessel with one or more sound signals at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 5.4 On the last day of the regatta no warning signal will be made after 15:30.

### **Format of Racing - 5.3 class**

- 5.5 The intention is to sail six races in total, with three races on each day (sailed back-to-back). However, additional races may be sailed on any day in order to complete the programme if weather or other reasons dictate.
- 5.6 The race committee may split the entry into flights, in which case each boat shall while racing display from the top of her sail a coloured pennant (issued at registration) corresponding to her flight colour. When the entry is divided into four flights races will be started as follows, with the warning signal for the second start being made not less than 5 minutes after the first start.

Race Number	1 <sup>st</sup> Start	2 <sup>nd</sup> Start
1	Yellow and Blue	Red and White
2	Yellow and Red	Blue and White
3	Yellow and White	Blue and Red
4	Red and White	Blue and Yellow
5	Blue and White	Red and Yellow
6	Blue and Red	White and Yellow

### **Format of Racing - 4.2 class**

- 5.7 It is intended that up to 10 races will be sailed over the two days. Races on each day will be back-to-back but there may be a break for lunch.

## **6 Class / Flight Flags**

- 6.1 The class flag for the **5.3 class** will be flag T. However, when the fleet is divided into flights, the class flag for each flight will be a flag whose colour corresponds to the flight colour.
- 6.2 The class flag for the **4.2 class** will be flag T defaced with "4.2".

## **7 Racing Areas**

- 7.1 The racing area for each class for each day's racing will be posted on the event notice board.

## **8 The Courses**

- 8.1 For the **5.3 class**, the diagram in the 5.3 Course Card 2015 shows the standard courses to be sailed, including the order in which the marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- 8.2 For the **4.2 class**, the diagram in 4.2 Course Card 2015 shows the courses to be sailed, including the order in which the marks are to be passed and the side on which each mark is to be left. The course number to be used for a race will be displayed on a numeral board on the port side of the Committee

Boat at least 5 minutes before the warning signal. Boats must pass through the start/finish line on each beat.

- 8.3 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat may display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.
- 8.4 When one of two gate marks is missing then the remaining mark shall be left to port.

## 9 Marks

- 9.1 For the **5.3 class**, all marks will be blue Olympic inflatables other than mark 5 which will be an orange inflatable. Mark 2 may have the sponsors' banner and mark 5 may have a blue band.
- 9.2 For the **4.2 class**, mark 1 will be a dumpy buoy and all other marks will be yellow pillar marks.

## 10 Areas that are obstructions

- 10.1 A safety boat in close attendance to a craft or competitor in difficulty is an obstruction.

## 11 The Start

- 11.1 The starting line will be between the mast displaying an orange flag on the committee vessel at the starboard end of the line and at the port end either:
- a mast displaying an orange flag on a committee vessel, or
  - the course side of a buoy with an orange flag.
- 11.2 If a buoy with an orange flag is used, the race committee may position a vessel outside the port end of the starting line. When that vessel is in position or manoeuvring to hold position, a boat that touches it shall take a one-turn penalty as described in rule 44.2 (addition to rule 44.1).
- 11.3 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races and flights.
- 11.4 A boat attempting to start later than 4 minutes after her starting signal will be scored 'Did Not Start' without a hearing. This changes rule A4.
- 11.5 If a start under rule 30.3 is recalled, the championship numbers of the boats identified in the triangle will be displayed on the race committee signal vessel for a minimum of 3 minutes. A repeated sound signal will be made as the numbers are displayed. Any boat so notified that she has been disqualified shall not sail in any restart or re-sail of that race. This changes rule 30.3.
- 11.6 If flag U has been displayed as the preparatory signal, no part of a boat's hull, crew, or equipment shall be in the triangle formed by the ends of the starting line and the first mark during the last minute before her starting signal. If a boat breaks this rule and is identified, she shall be disqualified without a hearing but not if the race is restarted or resailed or postponed or abandoned before the starting signal. This changes rule 26 and Appendix A5.

## 12 Change of the Next Leg of the Course

- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position.

## 13 The Finish

- 13.1 For the **5.3 class**, the finishing line will be between the mast displaying a blue flag on the committee vessel at the windward end of the line and at the leeward end either:
- a mast displaying a blue flag on a committee vessel, or
  - the course side of a buoy with a blue flag.
- 13.2 For the **4.2 class**, the finishing line will be the same as the starting line. The finish will be signalled by flag S flown from the Committee Boat, approximately 30 minutes after the start of the race. Boats will finish when they next pass through the start/finish line. Where a boat has done fewer laps than other boats, they will be placed after those boats which have completed more laps.
- 13.3 In addition to the procedure for shortening course in rule 32, the race committee may also award a finishing score to a boat that is still racing by displaying to her from a committee vessel (which may be

in motion) flag W with one sound signal. A boat so notified is no longer required to sail the course (changing rule 28.1), shall stop racing and shall return to the starting area, or return ashore if there is no more racing. A finishing score under this sailing instruction will be the score she would have received had she sailed the course and finished within any time limit, without gaining or losing any place. However, when two or more boats that are overlapped are notified, they will be scored as if they were tied. The decision by the race committee to use this procedure or not to use it shall not be grounds for requesting redress, changing rule 60.1(b).

13.4 Boats finishing should make every effort to show their sail number clearly to the committee vessel.

13.5 After finishing and clearing the finishing line, boats shall keep clear of the finishing area and of all boats not yet finished.

13.6 Boats re-crossing the finish line in the direction of the course from the last mark will be scored for their final crossing.

## 14 Penalties

14.1 Appendix P will apply as changed by instruction 14.2.

14.2 Rule P2.3 will not apply and rule P2.2 is changed so that it will apply to any penalty after the first one.

14.3 Penalties for boats found to be in breach of Class Rules may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.

## 15 Time Limits and Target Times

15.1 If no boat has passed Mark 1 within 30 minutes of the start the race will be abandoned.

15.2 If no boat finishes within 90 minutes, the race will be abandoned. It may be re sailed where possible.

15.3 Abandonment under SI 15.1 or 15.2 will not be grounds for redress. This changes rule 62.1(a).

15.4 For the **4.2 class**, any boat that has not finished within 15 minutes of the leading boat will be given a place based on the Race Officers judgement of their position on the course at the expiry of the time limit.

## 16 Exoneration Penalties, Advisory Hearings and Declarations

16.1 The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration procedures of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available. See the Official Notice Board for details.

16.2 A boat that retires before finishing or after finishing or takes a one-turn penalty or a two-turn penalty under rule 44.1 shall record the details on a declaration form at the tally board before the end of tally time.

## 17 Protests and Requests for Redress

17.1 For the **5.3 class**, boats intending to protest or request redress for an incident on the race course shall inform the Race Committee finish vessel at the leeward end of the finish line upon finishing the race, or if they do not finish, inform either a jury boat or a support boat as soon as practicable after they retire. This adds to the requirements of RRS 61.1 for a protest or request for redress to be valid.

17.2 For the **4.2 class**, boats intending to protest or request redress for an incident on the race course shall inform the Race Committee finish vessel at the starboard end of the finish line upon finishing the race, or if they do not finish, inform either a jury boat or a support boat as soon as practicable after they retire. This adds to the requirements of RRS 61.1 for a protest or request for redress to be valid.

17.3 Protests forms are available at the race office. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered there within the appropriate time limit.

17.4 The protest committee will decide and post the protest time limit for each flight or class. It will normally be 30 minutes after the last competitor comes ashore after a race or after the last of the day's back-to-back races. This time limit is extended by 30 minutes for a protest by the Race Committee or Protest Committee concerning an incident they observed in the racing area.

17.5 A notice will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. This is the notification required by rules

61.1(b) and 63.2. Advisory hearings, arbitration hearings and protest hearings may begin without a notice and within protest time when the parties are available.

- 17.6 On the last day of the event a request for re-opening a hearing shall be delivered:
- within the protest time limit if the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision on the previous day;
  - no later than 15 minutes after the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes rule 66.

- 17.7 On the last day of the event a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 15 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

- 17.8 Breaches of the following will not be grounds for a protest by a boat:

- NOR 2.3 Championship Numbers
- SI 5.6 Flight Identification Ribbons
- SI 11.3 Keeping Clear Before Starting
- SI 13.5 Keeping Clear After Finishing
- SI 16.2 Declarations
- SI 20 Safety
- SI 21 Tallies
- SI 22 Advertising
- SI 23 Support Boats
- SI 24 Waste
- SI 26 Trolleys
- Any Local Regulations

This changes rule 60.1(a). Penalties for these breaches may be less than disqualification if the protest committee so decides.

## 18 Rule 41 - Outside help

- 18.1 The help permitted by rule 41(a) is changed to include help from the Race Committee or registered support boats after capsizing.

## 19 Scoring

- 19.1 The event will be scored by Appendix A, low point system, except as amended below, and except that ties on total points will be broken by rule A8 only for the purposes of qualifications and of awarding trophies and prizes, in which case rule A8.2 will apply to tied scores only when the tied boats have sailed against each other.
- 19.2 The event will be valid for a class if one race is completed and scored for that class.
- 19.3 When 3 or fewer races are completed all races will count. When 4 to 7 races are completed there will be one discard. When 8 or more races are completed there will be two discards.
- 19.4 When the entry is divided into flights:
- 19.4.1 Each start in a race will be scored by Appendix A, low point system (as here amended). The scores from each start will be combined to produce the results of the race (so that there will be two firsts, two seconds, etc). These are not ties and will not be broken by rule A7.
- 19.4.2 When one or more starts is postponed, recalled or abandoned, the race will not be completed and scored until boats in each start sail the course and finish.
- 19.4.3 The first sentence of rule A4.2 is deleted and replaced with: "All other boats, including a boat that did not start, a boat that finishes and thereafter retires or is disqualified, shall be scored points equal to one more than the number of boats entered in the larger group of flights racing together".
- 19.4.4 In rule 44.3(c) the words "number of boats entered" are deleted and replaced with "number of boats entered in the larger group of flights racing together".

## 20 Safety



- 20.1 Each competitor shall wear a personal flotation device at least CE50 Newtons or equivalent at all times when afloat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. Flag Y will not be displayed. This changes rule 40.
- 20.2 When a member of the race committee or its designated official considers that a boat, its equipment or a competitor may not be adequate for the current or expected conditions, or for any other reason associated with safety, he or she may stop the boat launching, or require it to return ashore or to a designated location. This instruction will not be grounds for redress, changing rule 60.1(b).
- 20.3 Failure to comply with safety crew instructions may result in disqualification or such other penalty as the protest committee decides.
- 20.4 A fixed loop shall be formed in the longer end of the bow line to facilitate towing. The longer length of the bow line shall not be fixed or tied in a way that means it is not immediately detachable to facilitate towing. The penalty for breaking this instruction is 10% (rounded up) of the number of boats in her last race of the day added to her score without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1.

## **21 Tallies**

- 21.1 A tally system will be in operation and will work as follows:
  - 21.1.1 Each competitor shall, in person, tally out before launching, and tally in on return from, racing.
  - 21.1.2 The time for a boat to "tally out" ends at the starting signal of her first race of the day, or, if later, when the boat is launched. The penalty for failing to "tally out" is 10% (rounded up) of the number of boats in her first race of the day, added to her score without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1.
  - 21.1.3 The time to "tally in" finishes ten minutes after the last boat is ashore. The penalty for failing to "tally in" is 10% (rounded up) of the number of boats in her last race of the day, added to her score, without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1.
  - 21.1.4 If a competitor fails to "tally in or out" three times at an event, on the third time the penalty will be DSQ from the race concerned without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1.
  - 21.1.5 An announcement will be made when boats may tally out.
- 21.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee or the Race Office as soon as possible.
- 21.3 A competitor who does not tally out must request AND RECEIVE permission to remain afloat from a safety official before starting any race. The 10% (rounded up) penalty identified in 19.2. will still apply.

## **22 Advertising**

- 22.1 When any event sponsor's promotional material is issued at registration, competitors shall make every reasonable effort to display it on their boats and sails throughout the event, as directed at Registration.
- 22.2 Any individual caught stealing sponsor promotional items, e.g. flags, banners, prizes, shall be deemed to have committed a gross breach of good manners and may be subject to a hearing under rule 69.

## **23 Official and Support Boats**

- 23.1 All support boats must be approved and registered with the host club.
- 23.2 Only race committee vessels, jury boats and registered support boats will be permitted into the race area from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start until all boats have finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement may be the disqualification of all boats associated with the support personnel who do so.
- 23.3 All coach boats will be expected to perform as part of the safety fleet.
- 23.4 Except for rescue purposes, coach and support boats shall not communicate with competitors from the time of the preparatory signal until after the competitor has finished the race. Coach and support communication with competitors is restricted to the area from an imaginary line 100m to leeward of the race course when on the sea, or to an area designated by the Race Officer.

## **24 Waste**

- 24.1 Rubbish may be placed aboard support and race committee boats.

## **25 Radio Communications**

- 25.1 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

## **26 Video Cameras**

- 26.1 No boat shall have a video camera on board whilst racing.

## **27 Trolleys**

- 27.1 The championship number of each boat shall be clearly identifiable by a tag attached to the handle of the boat's trolley.

## **28 Prizes**

- 28.1 Prizes will be awarded as advised in the Notice of Race or on the ITCA (GBR) website.

## **29 Risk Statement**

**Rule 4 of 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 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 organiser 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.

## **30 Insurance**

- 30.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £ 2,000,000 per event.

## **31 Photography Consent**

- 31.1 By entering the event competitors accept that they may be photographed and/or videotaped participating in the event and/or using the event facilities and they consent to the taking of such images in any media, in conjunction with their name or not, without compensation and without the competitor's approval of such images or any use thereof.

## **32 Further Information**

Jeanette Sanderson (Secretary) 01647 253617 [secretary@gbrtopper.co.uk](mailto:secretary@gbrtopper.co.uk)

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