



International Topper 5.3 National Championships 2015

**Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy
Saturday 1st to Friday 7th August 2015**

The organising authority is WPNSA together with ITCA (GBR)

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013-2016*.
- 1.2 Prescriptions of ITCA (GBR) and WPNSA Local Sailing Instructions will apply.
- 1.3 Competitors should note that ITCA (GBR) implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be required to undertake to sail in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book *The Racing Rules of Sailing 2013 – 2016* or at www.rya.org.uk/racing/charter.

2 ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The event is open to all International Topper class dinghies.
- 2.2 All competitors must be current members 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 to become a temporary member of ITCA (GBR) for the duration of the event.
- 2.3 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 Only sails and spars supplied by the licensee Topper International shall be used, and sails shall have been officially stamped *Race Approved Sail*.
- 3.2 Each competitor shall use only one sail during the event. In the event of damage that it is not feasible to repair the competitor shall obtain written permission from the Race Officer before they use a replacement sail.
- 3.3 4.2 sails shall not be used.
- 3.4 Each boat shall display the 2015 Championship Number of the competitor sailing the boat (unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Race Committee) in accordance with ITCA (GBR) prescriptions. 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 2015 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 prescriptions of ITCA (GBR), and to obtain and attach a suitable tag to the handle of the boat's trolley.
- 3.5 Boats may be checked for compliance with class rules and ITCA (GBR) prescriptions at any time. Any boat that is found not to comply may be prohibited from racing until she does comply. Any boat that is inspected after one or more races have been completed and is found not to comply may be disqualified from races completed that day without a hearing (changing rule 63.1).

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 £200 for entries received on or before 22nd May 2015, £230 from 23rd May to 19th June inclusive. After this date the entry fee increases to £265. On-line entry closes on 18th July 2015.
- 4.3 After on-line entry has closed entry may be possible by contacting the ITCA Class Secretary secretary@gbrtopper.co.uk or by phone 01647 253617.
- 4.4 In exceptional circumstances entry may be possible at registration at WPNSA prior to the start of the first race.
- 4.5 If an entry is cancelled by the competitor, the entry fee will be refunded as follows:

Cancellation date	Refund
Up to 2 weeks prior to the event	Entry fee less £5 admin. charge
Within 2 weeks prior to the event	No refund

5 REGISTRATION

- 5.1 Registration will be from 13:00 to 17:00 on Saturday 1st August 2015.
- 5.2 Each competitor shall register at the Registration Desk at WPNSA. Registration will require a completed entry form, completed 2015 Self Certification Measurement form (APPENDIX 1), and proof of current membership of a National Topper Class Association.

- 5.3 Each competitor shall present the (one) sail they intend to use for racing for inspection and limitation marking prior to the commencement of racing.
- 5.4 Flight identification ribbons will be issued at registration.

6 FORMAT

The Championship will consist of a Qualification Series and a Final Series.

7 SCHEDULE

- 7.1 Racing is provisionally scheduled to take place on each day from Sunday 2nd August to Friday 7th August inclusive as follows:

<i>Day</i>	<i>Scheduled time of first warning signal</i>	<i>Number of races</i>	<i>Series</i>
Sunday 2 nd August	12:55	3 races	Qualification
Monday 3 rd August	11:55	3 races	Qualification
Tuesday 4 th August	11:55	2 races	Qualification
Wednesday 5 th August	11:55	3 races	Final
Thursday 6 th August	11:55	3 races	Final
Friday 7 th August	11:55	2 races	Final

- 7.2 Races will normally be back-to-back, with no opportunity to return to shore between races. It is intended that each race last approximately 45 minutes for the lead boats. The intention is that competitors are afloat for no longer than 6 hours each day without a break ashore.

8 RACING AREAS

Racing will be in Portland Harbour or Weymouth Bay.

9 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be available at registration, will be displayed on the Official Notice Board, and may be published on the ITCA (GBR) website prior to the event.

10 THE COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be inner and outer loop trapezoids.

11 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 11.1 The Exoneration Penalty and the Advisory Hearing and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

12 SCORING

- 12.1 The low points scoring system of Appendix A will apply as amended by the Sailing Instructions.
- 12.2 At least three races must be completed in the Qualification Series prior to the fleet being split into Final Series fleets (Gold, Silver and, if required Bronze). A further three races must be completed by the Gold fleet in the Final Series to constitute the Championship.
- 12.3 A boat's Championship score will be the total of her scores in all races in the Final Series after discards, together with a points score equal to her overall ranking at the end of the Qualification Series (which shall not be discarded). All boats in the Final Series Gold fleet will rank ahead of all boats in the Final Series Silver fleet, who will rank ahead of all boats in the Final Series Bronze fleet.
- 12.4 For each of the Qualification Series and the Final Series:
- 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 races are completed there will be two discards.
- 12.5 When the Championship is not properly constituted (minimum 3 races completed in the Final Series by the Gold Fleet), prizes will be presented. However, the Overall Championship Trophy will not be awarded.

13 SUPPORT BOATS

Only support boats registered with the Safety Officer will be permitted on the race course.

14 RISK STATEMENT

Rule 4 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 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.

15 INSURANCE

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

16 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact:

Sally Dugdale (Chair) 07786 085518 chairman@gbrtopper.co.uk.

Jeanette Sanderson (Secretary) 01647 253617 secretary@gbrtopper.co.uk

Paul Luxford (Ribmaster) 07973 345151 ribmaster@gbrtopper.co.uk

INTERNATIONAL TOPPER CLASS ASSOCIATION (GBR) 2015 SELF CERTIFICATION MEASUREMENT FORM		CHAMPIONSHIP NUMBER		
		SAIL NUMBER		
		BOAT NUMBER (IF DIFFERENT)		
		HELM		
CLASS RULE	ITEM			CHECKED & CERTIFIED
5.2	Tiller extension Maximum length 975mm			<input type="checkbox"/>
5.3	Kicking Strap Maximum purchase 3:1 Immediately detachable			<input type="checkbox"/>
5.4	Clew Outhaul Maximum purchase 4:1 Immediately detachable			<input type="checkbox"/>
7.5	5.3 Sail Reefing Able to reef sail by two complete turns of the mast			<input type="checkbox"/>
5.5	Tack Downhaul Maximum purchase 6:1, attached by hook or shackle			<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3; 5; 6.1 & 6.2	Hull, Foils and Spars No additional fittings. Original manufacturer's equipment, except where permitted under rules 5, 6.1 and 6.2			<input type="checkbox"/>
7.4	Bow Line 6mm diameter and at least 1500mm in length. Longer length able to reach rear end of centreboard case.			<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1	Mainsheet Boom take off block 595mm to 715mm from mast. Boom end block within 15mm of fitting			<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1	Centre Mainsheet Loop Centre of Loop 1225mm to 1275mm from mast and 105mm to 155mm wide.			<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7 & 6.3	Sail Original manufacturer's equipment, sail and championship numbers correct, legible and correct colours. Starboard above port. Minimum height 230mm, spacing 30mm to 45mm.			<input type="checkbox"/>
7.8	<p>I accept that it is the helm's responsibility to ensure that this boat complies with the Class Rules, GBR Prescriptions and relevant ISAF Racing Rules of Sailing. I confirm that I have checked the above items and that this boat complies with the rules.</p> <p>Signature of Helm</p>			