



***International Optimist
Class Association (UK)***



2021 BRITISH NATIONAL REGATTA FLEET CHAMPIONSHIPS

31st July – 6th August 2021

The Organising Authority is
The International Optimist Class Association (UK)
in conjunction with and held at
Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy (WPNSA).

A competition for less experienced sailors to be run in conjunction with the National and Open Championships.

Event website ioca.uk/nationals

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SAILING INSTRUCTIONS: REGATTA FLEETS

[NP] denotes a rule that shall not be grounds for protests by a boat. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

[DP] denotes a rule for which the penalty is at the discretion of the protest committee.

1. RULES

- 1.1. The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2. The Post-Race 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 SI 27 and **Error! Reference source not found..**

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board, which will be online at <https://ioca.uk/onb>.
- 2.2. In addition to the Official Notice Board, the Organising Authority may send messages to competitors and support persons via the Instant Messaging Application, Telegram. Please see ATTACHMENT B:
ATTACHMENT B:

3. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1. Any changes to the Sailing Instructions will be posted not later than 30 minutes before boats are launched for the first race in which it will take effect, except that any change to the time of the 1st warning signal will be posted by 20:00 hours on the day before it will take effect

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 4.1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the flagpoles on the balcony outside the event hall.
- 5.2. Flag AP displayed without a numeral means "Racing is postponed indefinitely. Launching will start shortly after AP is removed." This changes race signal AP.
- 5.3. Flag D with one sound means that competitors may launch as instructed by the beachmaster. Competitors shall not launch until this signal is made. The warning signal will not be made until boats that launch promptly as instructed have had the opportunity to sail directly to the race area. [NP][DP].

6. SCHEDULE

- 6.1. Times of Registration, Briefings, First Warning signals etc for all fleets are all tabulated below.
- 6.2. Requests for late registration made after Day 0 will be at the discretion of the Organiser.
- 6.3. Dates of racing: Sunday 1st to Friday 6th August 2021
- 6.4. No warning signal will be made after 15:00 on the final day of the championship.
- 6.5. The schedule is as follows:

Day	Event	Location	Time
Day 0	Registration	Event Hall	14:00 – 17:00
Saturday 31st	Regatta Fleet	Event Hall	14:00 – 14:50
	Safety Inspection		15:00 – 17:00
July	Opening Ceremony	Main Stage	15:00
Day 1 Sunday 1st August	Late Registration (by prior arrangement)	Race Office	08:30 – 09:30
	Support person vessel Briefing	Spinnakers	09:30
	RF Competitors' Briefing	Marque/balcony	10.30
	1 st Warning Signal	Portland Harbour	11.25
	Number of Races	Portland Harbour	2+
Day 2 Monday 2nd	RF Competitors' Briefing	Marque/balcony	09.25
	Coached RF Briefing	Marque	09.35
	1 st Warning Signal	Portland Harbour	10:25
	Number of Races	Portland Harbour	4+
Day 3 Tuesday 3rd	RF Competitors' Briefing	Marque/balcony	09.25
	Coached RF Briefing	Marque	09.35
	1 st Warning Signal	Portland Harbour	10:25
	Number of Races	Portland Harbour	4+
Day 4 Wednesday 4th	Proposed lay day		
Day 5 Thursday 5th	RF Competitors Briefing	Marque/balcony	09.25
	Coached RF Briefing	Marque	09.35
	1 st Warning Signal	Portland Harbour	10:25
	Number of Races	Portland Harbour	4+
Day 6 Friday 6th	RF Competitors Briefing	Marque/balcony	09.25
	Coached RF Briefing	Marque	09.35
	1 st Warning Signal	Portland Harbour	10:25
	Number of Races	Portland Harbour	4+
	No Warning Signal After	Portland Harbour	15:00
	Prize Giving (TBC)	Main Stage	18:00

- 6.6. It is anticipated that the Regatta Fleet will come in for lunch on most days, with the option for longer day(s) of more back to back races with lunch afloat as required to make best use of the forecasted weather and support preparation for Main Fleet progression.
- 6.7. Any number of races may be held during the event.
- 6.8. Flag K displayed before the warning signals indicates that the race is a training race and will not count towards the championship.
- 6.9. Registration will only be available on Saturday at the times specified. Registration at other times, including Sunday morning, will only be available with prior arrangement.
- 6.10. Division into fleets (as defined in the entry criteria on the event website):
 - a) Regatta Racing
 - b) Regatta Coaching
- 6.11. On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 15:00.
- 6.12. Flag F displayed from a finishing committee boat means that another race is planned.

7. FLEETS FLAGS

- 7.1. Fleet, flight and division flags are as follows:

Fleet	Fleet Flag	Mark Colours	Ribbon Colour
Regatta Racing Fleet	Flag R	Orange	Blue
Coaching Racing Fleet	Flag E		Various – on Clew

8. RACING AREAS

- 8.1. The race area will be inside Portland harbour, usually close to the marina.
- 8.2. Competitors will be directed to the specific location within the race area by patrol vessels after launching.
- 8.3. Both regatta fleets will race on a single course.

9. THE COURSES

- 9.1. The diagrams in attachment A shows the courses.
- 9.2. The course to be sailed will be displayed on the Committee Vessel from the warning signal using the signals in Attachment A
- 9.3. Gates may be replaced by a single mark to be left to port.

10. THE MARKS

- 10.1. The marks will be large inflatable marks of the colours listed in the table in SI 7.1 above.
- 10.2. Any change of course marks shall be the same as the original marks.
- 10.3. The starting marks will be an official vessel, displaying an orange flag and a staff mark displaying an orange flag
- 10.4. The finishing marks will be either an official vessel displaying a blue flag and a staff mark displaying a blue flag or - if the start line is the same as the finish line – an orange flag

11. AREAS WHICH ARE OBSTRUCTIONS [NP][DP]

- 11.1. Boats shall not transit at any time through the RNSA moorings, which are to the left of the Marina exit as leaving the Marina.
- 11.2. Boats shall keep more than 100m from vessels over 100m, vessels displaying Flag A (including divers in the water) or vessels at anchor not associated with the event.

12. THE START

- 12.1. Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal five minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.2. When there is more than one start in a sequence there will usually be at least 1 minute between a start and a subsequent warning signal.
- 12.3. The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on the starting marks.
- 12.4. A boat starting later than 4 minutes after its starting signal may be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.
- 12.5. To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed on the committee signal boat with one long - or multiple short - sound signal(s) at least **two** minutes before a warning signal is made.
- 12.6. When the orange starting line signal is displayed, boats that are not in the next fleet to start shall keep clear of the Starting Area. [NP][DP]

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1. To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will move the existing mark or finishing line, or lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practical.
- 13.2. Minor mark moves (up to approximately 100m) may be made without signalling the change. This changes RRS 33.
- 13.3. In addition to RRS 32.1, the Race Committee may shorten the course, or abandon the race,
 - c) because of insufficient wind, or,
 - d) because of any other reason the Race Committee deem appropriate.

Decisions made in this regard will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

14. THE FINISH

- 14.1. The finishing line will be between the masts displaying blue flags on the finishing marks, or an orange flag as described in SI 10.4
- 14.2. After finishing and clearing the finishing line boats shall avoid the course area including the finishing area and all boats not yet finished. [NP][DP]
- 14.3. The race committee may give a finishing place to any boat as follows:
 - 14.3.1. When a race committee boat displays flag W with two sounds, boats that have not yet finished may be given a finishing place anywhere on the race course, at a nearby mark or not.
 - 14.3.2. When a boat is scored in accordance with this instruction, she shall be awarded points matching her race position in that race. This changes RRS A5.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1. Post-Race Penalties

- 15.1.1. A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 of the Racing Rules of Sailing or rule 31 may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of any related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts a Post-Race Penalty – a 30% scoring penalty (SCP) calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c), except that the minimum penalty is three places. However, if the boat caused injury or serious damage or, despite taking a penalty, gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.
- 15.1.2. When a Post-Race Penalty is accepted:
 - a) Neither the boat nor a protest committee may then revoke or remove the penalty.
 - b) The boat shall not be penalized further in a protest hearing when the protest committee decides that it was appropriate to the facts found and the applicable rules.

16. TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 16.1. The target times are as follows:

Regatta Racing	20 – 25
Regatta Coaching	15 - 20

16.2. There is no time limit.

16.3. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

17. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

17.1. If practical, a boat intending to protest shall inform the Race Committee of the boat(s) being protested at the finishing line immediately after finishing. For the purposes of this rule, Race Committee includes the Measurers when they are located in the vicinity of the finish. This changes RRS 61.1(a).

17.2. For all incidents, except those involving serious damage or injury, it is intended to conduct protests using the RYA arbitration process. The role of the rules advisor is to explain to the participants which rules were broken, why, and by whom. The penalty for a breach of Part 2 of the Racing Rules or Rule 31 is at the discretion of the rules advisor (to be scored as 'DPI') and may be less than disqualification. The intention of this process is to serve as an educational resource and prepare sailors for competing at higher levels. Protest forms are to be submitted online via <https://ioca.uk/protest> within the appropriate time limit.

17.3. The protest time limit is 45 minutes after the last boat of the same fleet comes ashore or the race committee signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The protest time limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board or posted to the Telegram Broadcast channel.

17.4. Notices 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. The notices will state the location for the hearings and the time of the first hearing, if known.

17.5. Notices of protests by the race committee or protest committee will be posted to inform boats under rule 61.1(b)

18. SCORING

18.1. This section changes NoR 8 and 15

18.2. Racing will take place in a single series, RRS Appendix A scoring will apply.

18.3. Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

18.4. A boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst scores as listed below:

Races Completed	Scores Excluded
1-3	0
4-7	1
8-11	2
12 or more	3

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP][DP]

- 19.1. On any day that racing is scheduled, boats may not go afloat without the permission of the race committee. This includes the lay morning.
- 19.2. Competitors shall not unzip drysuits while in their boats and unaccompanied.
- 19.3. When the race committee considers that a boat, its equipment or crew are not adequate for the existing or anticipated conditions or that a boat or crew is in difficulty, it may instruct the boat and crew not to launch, or to retire or to sail ashore or to accept outside help. The boat and crew shall comply with such instructions without delay. The race committee's decision is final.
- 19.4. At all times whilst afloat all competitors shall comply with all instructions given from an official vessel. Before, between and after races, official vessels may require boats to pass or remain on a specified side of a mark or other object. Instructions given to competitors by the official vessels are for the safety of the fleet, and the efficient and fair completion of the racing, and must be complied with.
- 19.5. Tallies
 - 19.5.1. Tally bands will be collected from separate identified tally boards for the Regatta Racing fleet and Coaching Fleet.
 - 19.5.2. All boats will fly a ribbon as follows:
 - a) Regatta Racing - A ribbon as supplied by the fleet coaches at the peak of her sail
 - b) Regatta Coaching - A ribbon as supplied by the group coach at the clew of her sail
 - 19.5.3. Tally boards will be located under the balcony.
 - 19.5.4. When instructed by the beachmaster or when Flag D has been displayed, competitors intending to race shall take the appropriately coloured tally band bearing their tally number from the tally board and place it securely and visibly on their wrist.
 - 19.5.5. Boats shall not be moved from their parking spaces toward the launching ramp until instructed to do so by the Beachmaster.
 - 19.5.6. Immediately after coming ashore at the end of racing for a day, each competitor shall remove his or her tally band and place it back on the tally board.
 - 19.5.7. If the fleet returns to shore temporarily due to postponement or other reasons, sailors shall follow the instructions of the beachmaster regarding whether or not to return their tallies.
 - 19.5.8. Competitors who go afloat without tallying out, or who fail to tally in before the end of the protest time limit, will receive a 5 point penalty applied to their overall series score after excluded scores without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.

20. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [NP][DP]

- 20.1. Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution shall be made at the first reasonable opportunity via the Telegram Queries Group [DP].

21. MEASUREMENT [NP][DP]

- 21.1. A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

22. EVENT ADVERTISING [NP][DP]

- 22.1. Boats shall display event advertising as supplied by the organising authority. The advertising shall be attached to the forward 40% of each side of the hull. If this rule is broken, World Sailing Regulation 20.9.2 applies.

23. OFFICIAL BOATS

23.1. Official boats will be marked as follows:

Role	Identification	Script
Safety Control	Blue Flag	Safety Control
Safety Fleet		Numeral
Medic		Medic
Press, Official	Yellow Flag	Press, Official
Jury	Yellow Flag	Jury
Mark Layer	Red band on engine cover	None

- 23.2. Official vessels shall remain 100m from any boats racing unless they are required to be closer to perform their duties.
- 23.3. In order to prevent fuel spillage, refuelling of boats/tanks is not permitted on the pontoons at WPNSA. Boats may refuel at the Portland Marina fuel pontoon or removable tanks may be taken offsite to be refuelled at a service station.
- 23.4. Kill cords shall be worn at all times whilst engines are running. The Course Safety Leader will be looking out for compliance on this issue, there are no excuses and boats will be requested to leave the race area immediately if kill cords are not being used appropriately.

24. SUPPORT BOATS [NP][DP]

- 24.1. Support boats must register with the organising authority during the registration period specified in the schedule. This must include a list of the boats which they will be supporting.
- 24.2. Non-official vessels including registered support boats shall stay outside the course area from the time of the preparatory signal for the first flight to start until all boats have finished or the race committee signals a postponement or abandonment.
- 24.3. The penalty for failing to comply with this requirement will be determined by the protest committee, and may be the disqualification of all boats associated with the non-official vessel who fail to comply. This changes RRS 64.4.
- 24.4. The course area is the area upwind of the holding area and inside an imaginary line drawn 200 metres outside any area where a boat might sail whilst racing. The holding area is not considered part of the course area but the area between the finish and the holding area is considered part of the course area.
- 24.5. Your attention is drawn to SI **Error! Reference source not found.** For the safety of all competitors, when flag V is displayed on the committee vessel all registered support boats are strictly required to assist safety efforts as directed by the Safety Leader.
- 24.6. In order to prevent fuel spillage, refuelling of boats/tanks is not permitted on the pontoons at WPNSA. Boats may refuel at the Portland Marina fuel pontoon or removable tanks may be taken offsite to be refuelled at a service station.
- 24.7. Kill cords shall be worn at all times whilst engines are running. The Course Safety Leader will be looking out for compliance on this issue, there are no excuses and boats will be requested to leave the race area immediately if kill cords are not being used appropriately.

25. RUBBISH DISPOSAL

- 25.1. Rubbish may be placed aboard official or non-official vessels.

26. ADVISORY HEARING

- 26.1. When there is an incident that will not result in the lodging of a protest or a request for redress, a boat may request an advisory hearing and notify any boat involved in the incident. An adviser will then call a hearing to learn what may have happened and, provided all parties are willing to attend, will state whether any rule appears to have been broken, and by which boat. A boat may as a result notify the race office that she accepts a Post-Race Penalty when it applies to the incident, or choose to retire, but is not required to do so.

27. RYA ARBITRATION

- 27.1. When a protest is lodged, a boat may at the same time request RYA Arbitration, or the protest committee or race committee may offer it.
- 27.2. If the parties and a member of the protest or race committee agree that RYA Arbitration is suitable, an arbitrator (who may be that member of the protest committee) will call an Arbitration Hearing. When it is the arbitrator's opinion that a boat that is a party to the arbitration hearing has broken a rule for which the Post- Race Penalty is available, the party will be invited to accept that penalty and, if accepted, the protesting boat will be allowed to withdraw the protest, changing rule 63.1.
- 27.3. When there is not agreement to use RYA Arbitration or when, after RYA Arbitration, a protest is not withdrawn or the Post-Race Penalty is not applicable to the facts, there will be a normal protest hearing at which the arbitrator may be a member of the protest committee. Rules 66 and 70 (reopening and appeal, respectively) do not apply to an arbitration since this is not a protest committee decision or procedure. A boat may still accept a Post-Race Penalty at any time before the start of a protest hearing and receive its protection from further penalization. She may also retire.

28. RADIO COMMUNICATION [NP][DP]

- 28.1. Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make nor receive radio or mobile telephone transmissions whilst racing.

29. PRIZES

- 29.1. The list of perpetual trophies is available on the IOCA (UK) website. Prizes will be awarded to approximately the top 5 boys and 5 girls. Additional prizes may also be awarded.

30. 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 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 omissions;
- 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 vessels, umpires and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) The provision of patrol vessel 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 briefings held at the venue

31. INSURANCE

- 31.1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident or the equivalent.

32. DATA PROTECTION (GDPR)

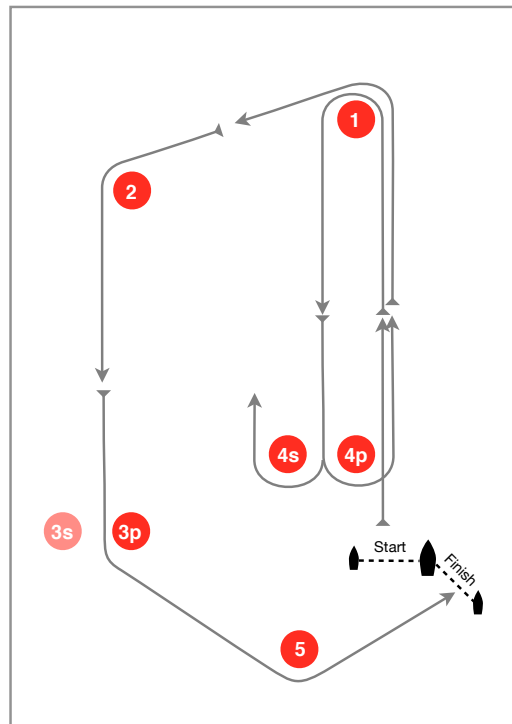
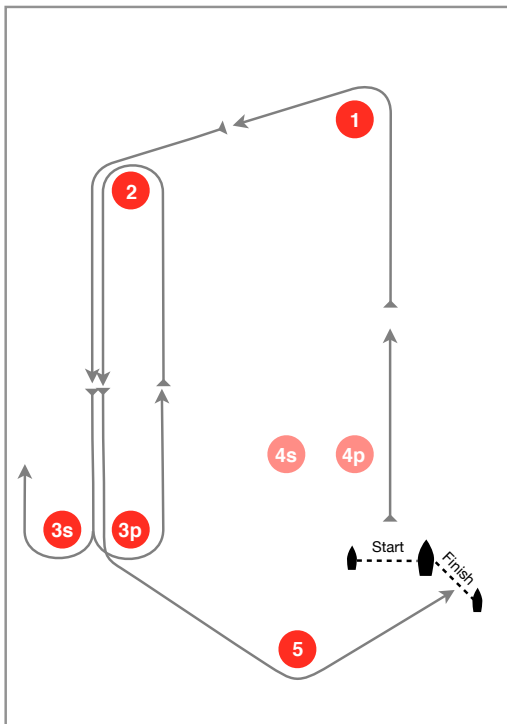
- 32.1. The personal information you provide to the organising authority will be used to facilitate your participation in the event. If you have agreed to be bound by the Racing Rules of Sailing and the other rules that govern the event (the rules), the legal basis for processing that personal information 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 organising authority's privacy policy. When required by the rules, personal information may be shared with the RYA and/or World Sailing. The results of the event and the outcome of any hearing or appeal may be published.
- 32.2. Still or video photography may be used as part of the Race Management processes for the event. These images will only be used for Race Management purposes and will not be published without the express permission of all sailors who are identifiable in the images.
- 32.3. Details of what information we collect, and how we use it is set out in our Privacy Policy:
<https://tinyurl.com/ioca-privacy>

33. FURTHER INFORMATION

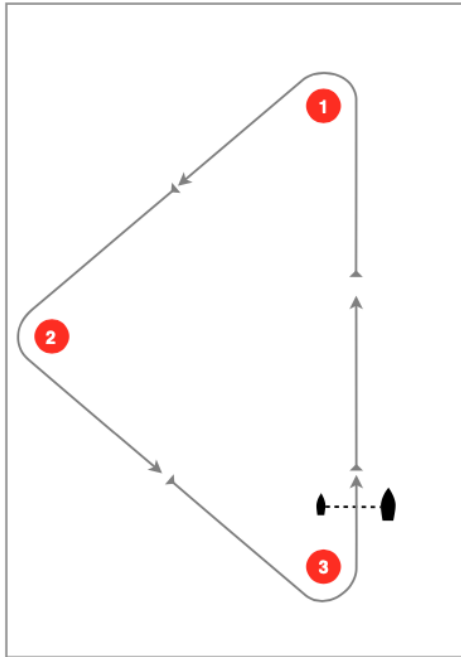
- 33.1. For further information please contact admin@optimist.org.uk

ATTACHMENT A: COURSES

Signal	Mark Rounding Order
O1	Start – 1 – 2 – 3p – 5 – Finish
O2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – 5 – Finish
O3	Start – 1 – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3s/3p – 2 – 3p – 5 – Finish
I2	Start – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 2 – 3p – 5 – Finish
I3	Start – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 4s/4p – 1 – 2 – 3p – 5 – Finish



Signal	Mark Rounding Order
T1	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish
T2	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Line – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish
T3	Start – 1 – 2 – 3 – Line – 1 – 2 – 3 – Line – 1 – 2 – 3 – Finish



ATTACHMENT B: **MESSAGING**

In addition to the Official Notice Board, the Organising Authority may send message to competitors and support persons via the Instant Messaging Application, Telegram.

Telegram is similar to WhatsApp but has better privacy (phone numbers are not public) and does not limit groups to 250 people.

Please download Telegram for your Smart Phone and/or Laptop prior to the event from the links on <https://telegram.org>



Then join the groups below by following the link or scanning the QR codes:

Broadcast: Messages from the Organising Authority and Race Committee:

<https://ioca.uk/broadcast>



Queries: Questions to the Organising Authority or Race Committee:

<https://ioca.uk/queries>



The speed of answers may vary and may be sent via the broadcast group. Please use this facility as sparingly as possible and certainly not for chat or it will lose its effectiveness.