



Topper Irish National Championships 2023 Friday 7th July to Sunday 9th July 2023 Hosted by Ballyholme Yacht Club, Bangor, County Down

NOTICE OF RACE

ORGANISING AUTHORITY

This event will be organised by Ballyholme Yacht Club in conjunction with International Topper Class Association of Ireland.

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the notice of race (NoR) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 Racing rules Race Signals AP, 33, 35, 60.1(a), 60.1(b), 61.3, 62.2, A2 A5.1 and A5.2 will be changed. The changes appear, in full, in this notice of race or in the sailing instructions.
- 1.3 RRS Appendix P applies.
- 1.4 RRS P2.3 does not apply and RRS P2.2 is changed so that it applies to any penalty after the first one.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available at <https://ballyholme.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Irish-Topper-Nationals-2023-Sailing-Instructions.pdf>

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official noticeboard is located at the south side window of the club, visible from the outside.
- 3.2 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to boats of the International Topper Class using a 5.3 or 4.2 sail.
- 4.2 Helm must be a member of the Irish Topper Class Association or other Topper class association.
- 4.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form and paying at <https://ballyholme.com/events/topper-irish-nationals-2023/>
- 4.4 To be considered an entry at an event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.

Notice of Race

4.5 Boats should enter before Midnight on Thursday 29th June. Late entries will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Organising Authority up to Midday on Wednesday 5th July.

4.6 There will be a Regatta fleet for less experienced sailors.

4.7 Regatta fleet sailors may use either a 5.3 sail or a 4.2 sail and may change the sail during the event.

5 FEES

Entry fees are £ 60.00 or € 70.00 and Regatta Fleet £60.00

6 CREW LIMITATIONS

Does not apply.

7 ADVERTISING

[DP] [NP] Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organising authority.

8 QUALIFYING SERIES AND FINAL SERIES

Does not apply.

9 SCHEDULE

9.1 Registration Thursday 6th July 1900 to 2030. Friday 7th July 0900 to 1030.

9.2 Briefing – A Briefing will be held at 1030 on Friday 7th July. A separate briefing will be held for the Regatta Fleet.

9.3 Racing:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Race</i>	<i>Regatta Fleet</i>
Friday 7 th July	Races 1 to 3	TBC
Saturday 8 th July	Races 4 to 6	TBC
Sunday 9 th July	Races 7 to 9	TBC

9.4 Nine Races are scheduled.

9.5 The scheduled time of the first warning signal of the first race on Friday 7th July is 1155. The scheduled time of the first warning signal of the remaining race days is 1055.

9.6 An additional race may be run on any day at the discretion of the Race Committee. To indicate the intention to do this the finish boat will display flag numeral four at the end of the last scheduled race on that day.

9.7 To alert boats that a race or sequence of races will begin soon, the orange starting line flag will be displayed with one sound signal at least five minutes before a warning signal is made.

9.8 On the last scheduled day of racing no warning signal will be made after 1500.

9.9 For the Regatta fleet, the intended schedule of activities, and of any breaks ashore, will be announced at the Regatta briefing for these competitors before sailing each day.

10 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

Boats may be inspected at any time.

11 CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

11.1 RRS 40.1 shall apply at all times while afloat.

11.2 All competitors shall have a launching trolley suitable for their boat that is fully serviceable and clearly marked with their Sail Number.

Notice of Race

12 VENUE

The Sailing Area will be in and to the north of Ballyholme Bay.

13 COURSES

13.1 The courses to be sailed will be Trapezoid.

13.2 The courses to be sailed by the Regatta fleet will be announced at the briefing for Regatta fleet competitors before sailing each day.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

Appendix T Arbitration and the post-race penalty shall apply to this event. Decisions from Arbitration can be referred to the protest committee but cannot be reopened or appealed.

15 SCORING

15.1 Two race are required to be completed to constitute a series.

15.2 (a) When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

(b) When from four to seven races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

(c) When eight or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores.

This changes RRS A2.

16 [DP] [NP] SUPPORT PERSON VESSELS

16.1 Support person vessels shall register with the Organising Authority at registration and, if required, display identification flags provided by the Organising Authority.

16.2 Support person vessels shall have an operating VHF marine radio and maintain a watch on the dedicated working channel so they can be called by the Event Safety Officer to assist in the case of an emergency.

16.3 Support teams, including all support persons and support person vessels shall stay 100m outside areas where boats are racing 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.

16.4 When afloat, all persons on that vessel, shall wear a personal flotation device and when the engine is running the support vessel driver shall use a kill cord.

17 CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

Does not apply.

18 BERTHING

[DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places in the dinghy park.

19 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Does not apply.

20 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Does not apply.

21 DATA PROTECTION

The Class Data Processing Policy is available on the class website.

22 RISK STATEMENT

Notice of Race

22.1 RRS 3 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: “The responsibility for a boat’s decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone”.

Sailing by its nature is 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 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 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;
- (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 or information produced for the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

22.2 [NP] [DP] COVID Statement

By taking part in any of the events covered by this notice of race, each competitor agrees and acknowledges that they are responsible for complying with any regulations in force from time to time in respect of COVID-19 and for complying with the venue/OA/sailing club COVID-19 procedures. Competitors and support persons shall comply with any reasonable request from an event official. Failure to comply may be misconduct. Reasonable actions by event officials to implement COVID-19 guidance, protocols, or legislation, even if they later prove to be unnecessary, are not improper actions or omissions.

23 INSURANCE

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

24 PRIZES

5.3 Fleet			
Youth	14 Years old or more on 1 st January 2023	Female	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
		Male	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
Junior	Under 14 Years old on 1 st January 2023	Female	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
		Male	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
Other prizes including perpetual trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Authority			
4.2 Fleet			
Male or Female			1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
Regatta Fleet			

Notice of Race

Prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Host Club	
---	--

25 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Topperirishnationalsenquiries@gmail.com

END OF NOTICE OF RACE

For further information on the event please go to the event webpage:

<https://ballyholme.com/events/topper-irish-nationals-2023/>