



**Zhik International Topper Class
World Championships,
5.3m² and 4.2m² World Championships
10th to 15th August 2014**



**Organized by the International Topper Class (ITCA) in conjunction with the Clwb Hwyllo
Pwllheli Sailing Club (PSC)**

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Rules

- 1.1 The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 The prescriptions of the RYA that apply are stated in the Notices of Race and will also be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 1.3 If there is a conflict between these Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions prevail. This changes rule 63.7.
- 1.4 All times are BST and UT / GMT + 1 hrs

2. Notices to Competitors and Communication with Competitors

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located near the main marquee.
- 2.2 Communication with competitors (including BFD notification under rule 30.3 and Rule 42 penalty signalling under rule P1) will be by Championship Numbers. This changes rules 30.3 and P1.
- 2.3 A signal displayed with the flag used as the warning signal for a fleet applies to that fleet alone. A signal displayed with the flag used as the Topper 4.2m² warning signal applies to the Topper 4.2m² class alone.

3. Changes to Sailing Instructions

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted at least two hours before the scheduled start time on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be notified by the race committee before 09:30 on the day concerned.

4. Signals made Ashore

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the official mast near the slipway
- 4.2 When flag AP is flown ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes'. This changes the meaning of flag AP in the Race Signals.
- 4.3 Boats shall not go afloat until flag D is displayed with a sound signal.

5. Schedule of Races;

5.1 Topper 5.3m²

- 5.1.1 There is a Qualification Series of up to nine races. Up to four races may be sailed on each of Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th August. If four races have not been completed by the end of 13th August the Qualification Series will continue until at least four races have been completed.
- 5.1.2 In the Qualification Series, there will be two fleets, Blue and Yellow, to which boats will be assigned by the organizing authority for the first day's racing. New fleet assignments for subsequent days will be made at the end of racing for a day, based on results and decisions available at 20:00 hrs each day. This may ignore the outcome of protests and requests for redress if these are not known at the time the assignment to fleets is made. Assignment to fleets will not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a). See also SI 17.1.1.

- 5.1.3 When the Qualification Series is finished there will then be a Championship series of up to six races. Up to four races may be sailed on each of Thursday 14th and Friday 15th August. The 50% of entries (rounded up in the case of an odd number of entries) with the better net scores in the Qualification series will be assigned to Gold Fleet (yellow streamer). If two or more boats are tied for the last Gold Fleet place they will all be assigned to Gold Fleet. The remaining entries will be assigned to Silver Fleet (blue streamer).
- 5.1.4 The order of starting will be notified by the warning signal. The warning signal for the next race will be at least five minutes after a previous start.
- 5.1.5 Boats shall while racing display a streamer of the colour of their fleet, as supplied by the race office, from the masthead.
- 5.1.6 The organizing authority may decide before Monday 11th August at its sole discretion to change the racing format in any way (including changing to a series of 15 scheduled races with a single start, with up to four races being sailed on each day of the event and without division into Qualification and Championship series).

5.2 Topper 4.2m²

Fifteen races are scheduled, and up to four races may be sailed on any day of the event.

5.3 Timing matters related to both Topper 5.3m² and Topper 4.2m²

The first warning signal of the day is intended to be at 11:00 and no warning signal will be made on the last day of the event after 15:00hrs. See also SI 5.1.4. To alert boats that a race or a sequence of races will begin soon, an orange flag will be displayed with one sound at least five minutes before a warning signal is displayed.

6. Flags used for warning signals and other signals

Yellow and Gold fleet - a yellow flag. Blue and Silver fleet - a blue flag. Topper 4.2m² - Flag T (which may be defaced with '4.2').

7. Racing Area

See Attachment 1.

8. The Courses

All races will be sailed on the same course area. Attachment 2 shows the diagram and committee boat signal for each course, the order in which marks are to be passed, a description of the marks and the side on which each mark is to be left. The target time for the first boat is 45 minutes, but a shorter or longer time (whether or not the course is shortened) will not be grounds for redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

9. The Starting Line, Recalled Black Flag Starts and U Flag Starts

- 9.1 The starting line will be from the staff or mast displaying an orange flag on the committee boat at the starboard end to, at the port end, a staff or mast displaying an orange flag on another vessel for the Topper 5.3m² class or to a White mark for the Topper 4.2m² class. The port-end starting mark for one class is not a mark for the other class.
- 9.2 Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other fleets.
- 9.3 A boat starting later than four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. This changes rules A4 and A5.
- 9.4 If a start under rule 30.3, Black Flag Rule is recalled, the championship numbers of the boats identified in the triangle will be displayed on the race committee signal vessel for a minimum time of 3 minutes. A repeated sound signal will be made as the numbers are displayed. This changes rule 30.3. Any boat so notified that she has been disqualified shall not sail in any restart or re-sail of that race.
- 9.5 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.



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10. Change of the Next Leg of the Course

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

11. The Finish

11.1 The finishing line will be between the mast displaying a blue flag on a committee vessel at the port end and an orange mark with a blue flag at the starboard end.

11.2 In addition to rule 32, the race committee may also award a finishing score to a boat 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, 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. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

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

11.4 A boat recrossing the finishing line from the course side will be scored for her final crossing.

12. Penalties for Breaking Rule 42

12.1 Appendix P will apply as changed by instructions 2.2 and 12.2.

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

13. Outside Help

Rule 41 is changed to allow help from a race committee vessel to recover after a capsize or to return the competitor to the boat.

14. Time Limits

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

14.2 If no boat finishes within 90 minutes, the race will be abandoned.

14.3 Abandonment under SI 14.1 or 14.2 will not be grounds for redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).

15. Declarations

A boat that retires before finishing or takes a one-turn penalty or a two-turn penalty under rule 44.2 shall record the details on the Declaration Form before the end of protest time. Declarations may be made near the tally board.

16. Protests and Requests for Redress

16.1 Protests forms are available at the race office or near the tally board. Protests and requests for redress or reopening shall be delivered to the race office within the time limit.

16.2 The protest time limit will be posted and will be, for a protest by a Topper, 60 minutes after the last Topper has finished the relevant race or the last of the relevant series of back to back races for

that fleet or for that class. This time limit is extended by 30 minutes for a protest by the race committee or protest committee.

- 16.3 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 also the notification required by rules 61.1(b) and 63.2. Hearings may begin without a notice and within protest time when the parties are available.
- 16.4 On the last day of the Topper 5.3m² qualification series or of the event, a request for re-opening a hearing shall be delivered:
- (a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision on the previous day.
 - (b) no later than 15 minutes after the party requesting re-opening was informed of the decision on that day.

This changes rule 66.

- 16.5 Changing rule 60.1(a), no boat may protest another boat for infringements of the following:
- NOR 8, Sail and Championship Numbers
 - SI 5.1.5 Flight Identification Ribbons
 - SI 9.2 Keeping Clear Before Starting
 - SI 11.3 Keeping Clear After Finishing
 - SI 15 Declarations
 - SI 19 Tallies
 - SI 20.1 Advertising
 - SI 24 Support Boats

17. Scoring

17.1 Scoring for the Topper 5.3m² Championship

The event will be scored by Appendix A, low point system, with these changes.

- 17.1.1 A race in the Qualification series is not completed until both Yellow and Blue fleets have completed it. When at the end of a day a race for one fleet in the Qualification series has not been completed, the race committee will abandon the race for the other fleet (whether or not it has been completed). The race may be resailed by both fleets on a later day. This changes rule 32.1.
- 17.1.2 Each fleet in a Qualification series race will be scored separately. The scores 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.
- 17.1.3 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 fleet.
- 17.1.4 At least four completed races are required to constitute the Qualification series. At least one completed race then is required to constitute the Championship.
- 17.1.5 A boat's gross event score will be her score in the Championship series added to her score in the Qualification series, classifying Gold fleet and Silver fleet series scores separately. One score is discarded after four races are completed and two scores are discarded after ten races are completed. Only one race score may be excluded from the Championship series and then only if at least two Championship series races are completed. The resulting net scores are the results of the event, placing all Gold fleet results before all Silver fleet results.

17.2 Scoring for the Topper 4.2m² Championship

The event will be scored by Appendix A. At least 5 completed races are required to constitute the Championship. One score is excluded after four races are completed and two scores are excluded after ten races are completed.



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18. Safety

- 18.1 Competitors shall wear personal flotation devices at least CE50 Newtons or equivalent at all times when afloat except when adjusting clothing. This changes rule 40. Wet suits and dry suits are not adequate personal buoyancy. Flag Y will not be displayed.
- 18.2 A boat shall comply with an instruction from the organizing authority, the race committee, a patrol boat of the race committee or an equipment inspector that she shall not go afloat, or shall return ashore or shall take some other action. The instruction will not be grounds for requesting redress. This changes rules 60.1(b) and 62.1(a).
- 18.3 A patrol boat in close attendance to a competitor in difficulty is an obstruction.
- 18.4 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the Race Committee or the Race Office as soon as possible.

19. Tallies

- 19.1 All competitors shall tally out before launching, and tally in after returning ashore.
- 19.2 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 ten points, added in her score in the first race of the day that she finishes, without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1. A competitor who does not tally out must (in addition to the boat's penalty) request AND RECEIVE permission to compete from a race committee official.
- 19.3 The time to tally in finishes ten minutes after the last boat is ashore. The penalty for failing to tally in is ten points, added in her score in the last race of the day that she finishes, without a hearing. This changes rule 63.1.

20. Advertising

- 20.1 When event sponsor's promotional material is issued at registration, competitors shall make every reasonable effort to display it on their boats, sails and, in the case of race bibs, on top of all sailing apparel throughout the event, as directed at registration.
- 20.2 Any individual caught stealing sponsor promotional items (e.g., flags, banners, prizes), has committed a gross breach of good manners and may be subject to a hearing under rule 69.

21. Inspection

In addition to measurement before the first day of racing, an official measurer or an equipment inspector may inspect or measure a boat before or after she races. A boat selected for inspection or measurement shall comply with the instructions of the measurer or inspector. In addition to any report lodged by an equipment inspector with the race committee, a boat that an equipment inspector decides does not comply with class rules shall not race until she is reinspected and found to comply.

22. Waste

Trash may be placed aboard support and race committee boats. The penalty for breaking rule 55, Trash Disposal, is at the discretion of the protest committee (DPI) and may be less than disqualification.

23. Radio Communication

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.

24. Support Boats

- 24.1 Support boats (including coach boats) shall comply with Section 14 of the Notice of Race. No other vessel associated with a boat or competitor shall enter the racing 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.
- 24.2 Except when helping a boat or competitor in danger, a support boat shall not
- (a) communicate with a competitor from the time of the preparatory signal for the first start of a race until the competitor boat has finished or retired or the race committee signals a postponement, general recall or abandonment.
 - (b) come within 100 metres to leeward of the starting line during starts, within 50 metres of any course mark or of a boat that is racing, or within any other area designated by the race committee.
 - (c) make excessive wash.
- 24.3 Support boats shall display nationality identification and shall comply with race committee safety instructions.
- 24.4 When a support boat does not comply with this sailing instruction, any or all competitor boats associated with the support boat may be penalized as the International Jury decides.

25. INTERNATIONAL JURY, PENALTIES AND ARBITRATION

25.1 The decisions of the International Jury, constituted under Appendix N, are not subject to appeal.

25.2 The penalty for breaking the following rules is at the discretion of the International Jury:

Rule 55: SIs 5.1.5, 9.2, 11.3, 13, 15, 18, 19.1, 20.1,22 and 24.

25.3 ARBITRATION SYSTEM

25.3.1 Exoneration Penalty

A boat that may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 may, after finishing the race concerned and before the start of a related protest hearing, notify the race committee that she accepts a 30% scoring penalty in accordance with rule 44.3(c), (except that the minimum penalty is two places if that does not result in a score worse than DNF). This penalty does not reverse an OCS score, a disqualification under rule 30.3 or a penalty under Appendix P. It is not available for a breach of rule 2 or of class rules or for gross misconduct under rule 69. Nor is it available to a boat that caused injury or serious damage, or gained a significant advantage by her breach: in these circumstances, her penalty is to retire.

25.3.2 When an Exoneration 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.

25.3.3 Arbitration

When a protest or request for redress is lodged, a boat may at the same time request Arbitration, or the protest committee or race committee may offer it.

- (a) If the parties and a member of the protest or race committee agree that Arbitration is suitable, an arbitrator who is a member of the International Jury will call a hearing conforming to Section B of Part 5 of the Racing Rules of Sailing, except that rule 64.1(a) will not apply. Instead, when the arbitrator decides that a boat that is a party to the arbitration hearing has broken a rule for which the Exoneration Penalty is available, the party will be invited to accept that penalty, and, if it is accepted by a protested boat, the protesting boat will be allowed to withdraw the protest, changing rule 63.1.
- (b) When there is not an agreement to use Arbitration, or when, after Arbitration, a protest is not withdrawn or the Exoneration Penalty is not applicable to the facts, there will be a normal protest hearing. Rule 66 will not apply to the arbitration decision. A boat may still accept an applicable Exoneration Penalty at any time before the start of a protest hearing and receive its protection from further penalization. She may also retire.



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- (c) When redress is offered and accepted at the Arbitration, the International Jury or the race committee may seek to have this reviewed by asking for a full hearing. When redress is offered and not accepted, or not offered at all, the boat may have her request heard before a protest committee.
- (d) Arbitration is available only when all parties agree. Therefore, when a party to a protest does not attend a scheduled protest hearing and does not have a good reason for not being present, so that the hearing continues, it will be decided as a normal protest by the International Jury.

26. REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT

26.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed.

26.2 Only one sail shall be used in the event, unless SI 26.3 applies.

26.3 Substitution of damaged or lost equipment will not be allowed unless authorised by the official measurer. When the damage or loss occurs while afloat, the authorisation may be sought after the substitution is made (which shall not be when a boat is racing, except for items carried on the boat and replaced by the competitor).

27. RISK STATEMENT

27.1 Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone."

27.2 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 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;

28. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of €1,500,000 per incident or the equivalent.



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ATTACHMENT 2

COURSE SIGNAL	COURSE	SAILED BY
Numeral Pennant 1	1(p), 2(p), 3 gate, 5(p), finish	Any fleet
Numeral Pennant 2	1(p), 6(p), 1(p), 2(p), 3 gate, 5(p), finish	Topper 4.2m ²
Numeral Pennant 2	1(p), 2(p), 3 gate, 2(p), 3 gate, 5(p), finish	Yellow / Gold
Numeral Pennant 2	1(p), 4 gate, 1(p), 2(p), 3 gate, 5(p), finish	Blue / Silver

Marks 2, 3 gate, 5 and 6 and are ORANGE. Marks 1 and 4 gate are YELLOW. The port-end starting mark for the Topper 4.2m² is WHITE

