

INTERNATIONAL TOPPER CLASS ASSOCIATION

ITCA (WORLD)

NEW
6.4m² rig



WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF TOPPER

Sailing is an exciting sport and the International Topper is an ideal and very popular single-handed racing dinghy for junior, youth and adult sailors.

And with the new 6.4 rig, sailors can continue to sail and race the boat they love after leaving the 5.3.

With full international recognition from World Sailing, the Topper phenomenon is spreading around the World. There are nearly 50,000 Toppers worldwide, with over 1,600 registered racing Topper sailors who take part in official International Class Association (World) events. The boat is sailed in over 50 countries across 5 continents.



The Topper is ideal for all levels of racing, from beginner to highly experienced sailors, and is a perfect transition and training boat.

Many former Topper sailors are now members of their respective country's Olympic sailing teams. Currently in GB it includes Giles Scott (Gold in Rio), Helena Lucas MBE (Gold in London and Bronze in Rio), Hannah Mills (Gold in Rio) and Crispin Beaumont who won Gold in the 29er at the Youth Worlds in 2016. Currently over 25 former Topper sailors are in the British Sailing Team. In Ireland there are Finn Lynch, Liam Glynn, Ryan Seaton and Analeise Murphy (Silver in Rio).



GILES SCOTT (GBR)
2016 Olympic Gold Medal.
2019 Sailing World Cup - Finn



HANNAH MILLS (GBR)
Gold 2016 Olympics, Silver 2012
Olympics in the 470



ANNALEISE MURPHY (IRL)
Silver 2016 Olympics
in the Laser Radial



HELENA LUCAS (GBR)
Britain's first ever female Paralympic
sailing Gold 2012 Olympics, Bronze
2016 Olympics

- Multi-award winning design delivering **challenging, true and fair one-design racing**
- Fun and exciting, **developing accurate boat and sail control skills**
- With **three rig sizes** crew weights from 25kg upwards (4.2, 5.3 and 6.4)
- **Eases transition** from junior to senior classes
- Easily righted, **fast** and **light hull**
- **Simple** to rig and maintain
- Competitive pricing delivering **lower costs**
- Tough materials making it virtually **indestructible** and **recyclable**
- **Truly international** with nearly 50,000 boats worldwide
- **Olympic pathway** with 2 Golds and 1 Silver medals from former Topper sailors in Rio



INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

The International Topper Class Association (ITCA (World)) provides the umbrella organisation for the National Associations of the International Topper Class (NAITCs) around the globe. Its role is to promote international sailing and the International Topper in particular in fast, fun, fair and competitive sailing.

ITCA (World) organises annual World Championships and encourages multinational attendance at the event. We assist in the creation, development and networking of NAITCs. ITCA (World) also supports international sailors at the World Championships through travel assistance, coaching and the provision of charter boats.

The newest class associations to be recognised by ITCA (World) are China, Malta, Australia and Canada.

The Royal Yachting Association (RYA) in Great Britain, the Irish Sailing Association (ISA) and now the Chinese Yachting Association (CYA) use the Topper as a 'Junior Pathway Class', enabling young sailors to develop their racing talents towards worldwide competition and beyond to Olympic class sailing.

OUR MISSION

The Topper aims to develop sailors for life. As the 'Friendly Class' we deliver fun and challenges to help our sailors achieve their full sailing potential and acquire key life skills, including mental and physical fitness, independence, confidence and team work, all whilst making friends for life.



The Topper dinghy has a unique place in the world of sailing instruction. It has made a greater contribution to the development of teaching techniques than any other boat...

John Driscoll, Former RYA National Sailing Coach



WHAT IS THE TOPPER?

5.3 TOPPER

Approximate racing weight
38kg to 65kg upwards



4.2 TOPPER

Approximate racing weight
25kg to 45kg



6.4 TOPPER

Approximate racing weight
65kg upwards



LENGTH	3.4m
BEAM	1.2m
SAIL AREA	4.2m², 5.3m² and 6.4m²
HULL WEIGHT	43kg
CONSTRUCTION	Injection moulded Polypropylene
MAST	Coated Aluminium
BOOM	Coated Aluminium
RACING CREW	1
BLOCKS	Stainless Nylon
PN	1363
SKILL LEVEL	Starter/Intermediate/Advanced

Right from the start there was no doubt that the International Topper's colourful 'fun factor', combined with its serious racing pedigree grabbed the attention of the sail training world and helped revolutionise the way sailing is taught.

Designed by Ian Proctor in 1977 the Topper has become a design icon. Her honours include: Design Council Awards, Horner Award for Innovation, featuring in the Victoria & Albert Museum's Best of British Design exhibition beside Concord and the 'E-Type' Jaguar, featuring in the UK's Science Museum's Best of British Manufacturing exhibition alongside the Rolls Royce jet engine.

- **Affordable**, simple to rig and maintain single-handed dinghy
- **Fun** and **exciting**, developing accurate boat and sail control skills
- Delivers **challenging racing** – also a popular **family boat**
- Every moulding exactly the same ensuring **pure and fair one-design racing**, so only highlighting the sailor's talent
- Three rig sizes for different weight ranges and experience, **4.2m², 5.3m² and 6.4m²**
- For sailors **25kg to 65kg**, and beyond with the **new 6.4 rig**
- **Eases transition** from junior to senior classes
- Easily righted and dry after capsize, **fast** and **light hull** (43kg) that is easy to transport
- Moulded out of **recyclable** polypropylene making it **tough, durable and virtually indestructible**
- **Unique production process** for a boat delivering lower costs. Probably the largest injection moulded product in the world
- Recognised as a full **International World Sailing Class** with nearly 50,000 boats worldwide
- **Olympic pathway**





THE INTERNATIONAL TOPPER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

World Championships have been held in the UK, Ireland, France, Italy, Holland, Austria, UAE, Germany, Finland, Norway and China. For the 2020 Worlds we are returning to Italy.



The 2019 Rooster International Topper Worlds in Holland and the 2018 Meisha Campus Worlds in China attracted over 225 sailors from 14 countries and 275 sailors from 20 countries respectively, from across 5 continents. Sailors from the following countries participated:

Australia	Macau
Canada	Malta
China	New Zealand
Denmark	Singapore
France	South Africa
Germany	Sudan
Great Britain	Switzerland
Greece	Taiwan
Hong Kong	Turkey
India	USA
Ireland	Vietnam
Japan	

The competitors are regularly supported by approximately an additional 750 coaches, officials and family members.

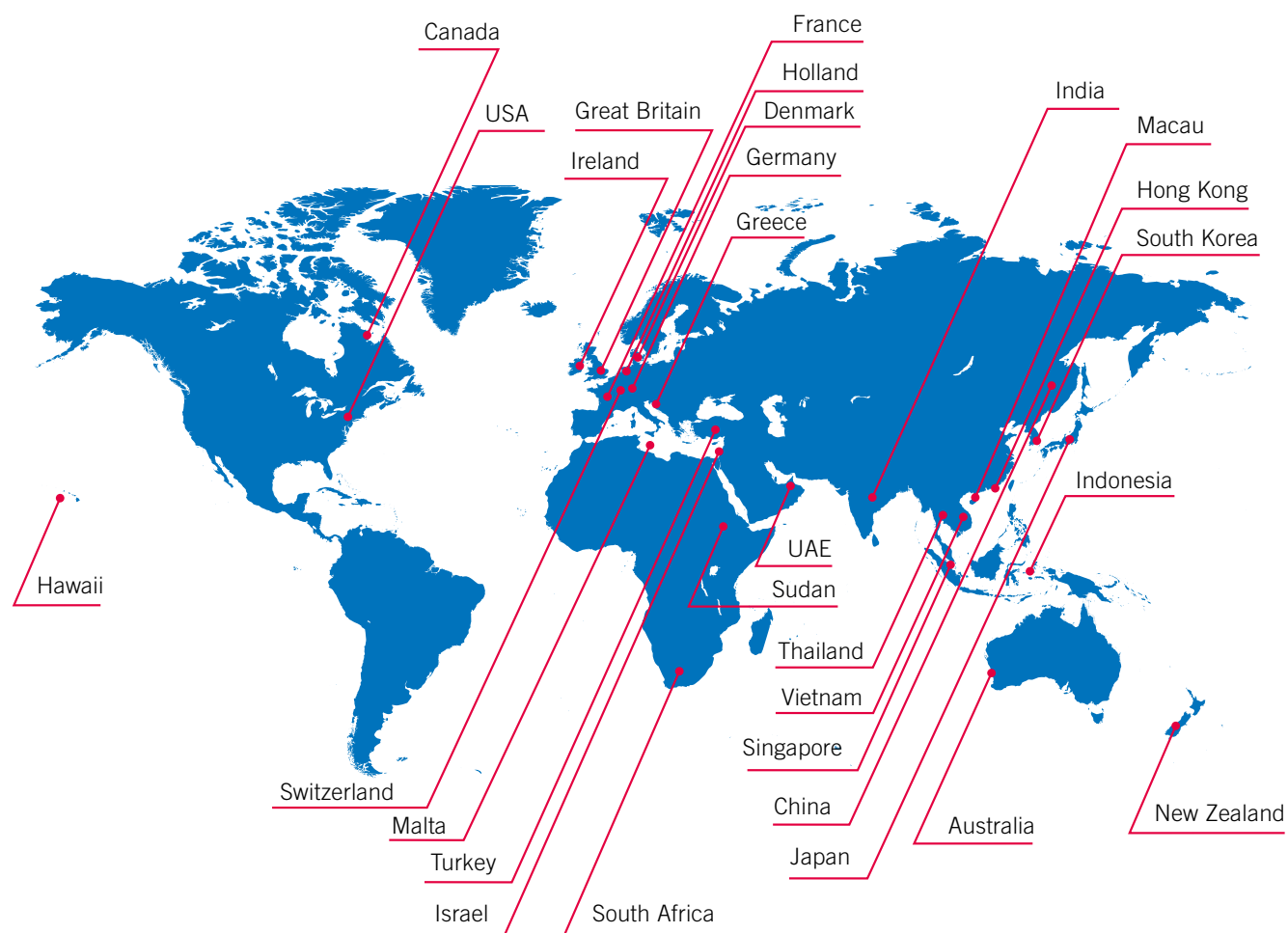
Around the world NAITCs have an extensive calendar of local, regional and national racing events that are held throughout the year, which involves the unwavering support and attendance of loyal followers that includes the sailor, their parents and families. For instance, Great Britain runs a national series culminating in an annual National Championships, which attracts 250–300 sailors plus approximately another 600–700 supporters.

In Ireland, the Topper calendar is also extensive and attracts almost 100 sailors to the nationals plus approximately 250 supporters. In China Topper racing is growing with active regatta schedules, regular training and culminating in the Asian Championships with over 100 entries.

INTERNATIONAL RACING FLEETS

With 50,000 boats worldwide, the international recognition of the Topper continues to grow, with boats in over 50 countries. International Topper Class Associations and fleets regularly meet and race in:

Australia	Holland	Macau	Thailand
Canada	Hong Kong	Malta	Turkey
China	India	Singapore	UAE
Denamrk	Ireland	South Africa	USA
France	Israel	South Korea	
Germany	Italy	Sudan	
Great Britain	Japan	Switzerland	



TOPPER ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 3rd Meisha Education Cup (Topper Asian Championships) was held in 2019 in Shenzhen, China. Over 100 sailors attended from across China, India and Macau. In previous years ITCA (World) have sent an experienced safety, measurement and coaching team to assist and advise the Chinese team and officials.



TOPPER TRAINING CAMPS, INDIA AND BEYOND

ITCA (World) sends coaches around the globe to help NAITCs deliver coaching to their sailors. A very successful Topper Camp was held in Mandwa, India. Further trips are being planned to Malta and Canada.



FROM MUSSEL BAY, SOUTH AFRICA TO LONGCHEER, CHINA

ITCA (World) have worked with the Mossel Bay Yacht and Boat Club over several years to enable five young South African sailors from underprivileged backgrounds to attend several World Championships. ITCA arranged substantial travel and visa grants, free airport transfers and subsidised accommodation for them. This was part of a wider travel grant programme offered to many other sailors from around the world.



TRAINING IN CHINA

ITCA (World) has sent their International Coach on three training trips recently to various parts of China, not only to teach sailors but also to help train the coaches. This is part of an ongoing programme of development and cooperation in China.



A HISTORY OF SUCCESS

Former Topper sailors and their results.

GREAT BRITAIN

Giles Scott (Finn)

RYA British Sailing Team

- 2018 1st Sailing World Cup
- 2017 GBR Americas Cup team strategist

2016 **Olympic Gold Medal**
1st World Championship

2015 1st World Championship
1st Sailing World Cup

2014 1st Sailing World Championships
1st European Championships

2013 1st World Championships

Hannah Mills (Women’s 470)

RYA British Sailing Team

2016 **Olympic Gold Medal**

2015 2nd World Championships

2014 2nd European Championships

2012 **Olympic Silver Medal**
1st World Championships

Ian Walker (Star)

2015 1st Volvo Ocean Race around the world

2000 **Olympic Silver Medal**

1996 **Olympic Silver Medal**

Pippa Wilson MBE (Nacra 17)

2014 2nd Sail for Gold Regatta

2008 **Olympic Gold Medal**

Lorenzo Chiavarini (Laser)

RYA British Sailing Team

2015 1st World Sailing World Cup Qingdao

2014 1st U21 World Championships

Helena Lucas MBE (2.4R)

2016 **Olympic Bronze Medal**

2015 2nd World Championships
4th Para World Sailing Championships

2014 1st World Sailing World Cup Mallorca
3rd World Championships

2013 2nd World Championships
2nd World Sailing World Cup Hyeres

2012 **Olympic Gold Medal**

Alain Sign (49er)

2016 6th Olympics

2015 2nd French Olympic Sailing Week
4th World Sailing World Cup

2014 3rd European Championships

2013 2nd Sail for Gold
2nd European Championships

Nicola Groves (Nacra 17)

2016 9th Olympics
1st Sailing World Cup

2015 1st European Championships
2nd World Sailing World cup Miami

2014 4th Sail for Gold
3rd World Sailing World cup Miami

2013 1st Sail for Gold

Dylan Fletcher (49er)

RYA British Sailing Team

2016 6th Olympics

2015 2nd French Olympic Sailing Week
4th World Sailing Cup Miamai

2014 3rd European Championships
3rd World Sailing Cup Mallorca

2013 1st World Sailing Cup Hyeres



Crispin Beaumont (29er)

2016 1st Youth Worlds
3rd 29er Worlds

2015 1st Eurocup

Other former Topper sailors who are currently members of the RYA British Sailing Team

Hector Simpson (Finn)
Henry Wetherell (Finn)
Michael Beckett (Laser)
Elliot Hanson (Laser)
Jack Wetherell (Laser)
Sam Whaley (Laser)
Dan Whiteley (Laser)
Ali Young (Laser Radial)
Georgina Povall (Laser Radial)
Arran Holman and Marcus Tressler (Men’s 470)
Ben Whaley (Men’s 470)
Anna Carpenter (Women’s 470)
Flora Stewart (Women’s 470)
Ben Saxton and Nikki Boniface (Nacra 17)
Ellie Aldridge (49er FX)
Steph Orton (49er FX)
James Grummett and Daniel Budden (49er)

IRELAND

Annalise Murphy (Laser Radial)

2016 **Olympic Silver Medal**
2nd World Cup

2015 5th World Cup

2014 7th World cup

2012 4th Olympics

Finn Lynch (Laser)

2015 Irish Sailing Association Youth Sailor of the Year

2014 4th European Championships

2013 1st U21 Men’s Laser World Championships
1st U21 Men’s Laser European Championships

2012 2nd World Sailing Youth Sailing World Championships

Ryan Seaton (49er)

2016 10th Olympics

2014 2nd World Sailing World Cup

2012 14th at Olympics

THE FUTURE

Over the last few decades the Topper has proven its ability as an exciting, tough, durable and versatile training and racing boat.

Because of this in 1994 it gained recognition from World Sailing as an International Class. In addition it is increasingly being used in many countries as the perfect transition boat for their developing national sailors.

The Royal Yachting Association (RYA), the Irish Sailing Association (ISA), and now the Chinese Yachting Association's models for developing sailing talent has made the Topper one of their key Junior Pathway Classes.

Many of GBR's and IRL's 2016 Olympic medal winners and their current sailing teams are former Topper sailors.

Added to this track record is the fact that Topper sailing is often a shared activity within families, so encouraging even more take-up of the sport. The versatility of the boat means that both younger and older sailors can learn, sail and race together. Parents support their young sailors both on and off the water, bringing them together.

The Topper delivers an excellent sailing experience to a wide weight and age range. It is easy to rig, manage and sail. It's simple, tried and tested sail controls ensure an excellent sailing experience, right from the very start.

And it is easily righted after a capsize and comes up dry, so making it even more fun and safe.

Added to this the highly developed international Topper organisation offers experience, support and first class coaching and coach training which is available at all times.

The recent adoption of the Topper in China is an exciting development and turns a new page in the future development of both the Topper and sailing worldwide.

The Topper is:

- **Fair** – because the Topper is injection moulded, every boat is identical. The 'one-design' nature of the boat makes for uniquely fair competition.
- **Fun** – with a 5.3m² sail it has good upwind and downwind performance, making it a thrilling, accessible and exciting experience. Its 4.2m² sail also makes it suitable for younger and lighter sailors.
- **Fast** – the lightweight hull and the large sail area make the Topper a fast boat for its size, and being so close to the water just makes it appear even faster.
- **Simple** – easily rigged and maintained.
- **Robust** – its unique polypropylene construction makes the boat virtually maintenance free, almost indestructible and recyclable.
- **Light** – at just 43kg (compared to similar boats that weigh upwards of 60kg) the Topper is the lightest boat of its size and configuration in the world. It is easily righted after a capsize and ideal for sailors from 25kg upwards.
- **Transportable** – its weight of 43kg means that it is easily transported by sailors and their parents.
- **Media friendly** – with eye-catching multi-coloured sails and a distinctive bright hull, the Topper is a highly photogenic boat.

- **Low cost** – a race rigged Topper is one of the cheapest single handed racing dinghies in its category.
- **Award winning** – it has won many awards for innovative design and construction, including from the world renowned Design Council.
- **International** – with nearly 50,000 boats worldwide, a recognised International Class and a well-established international class structure across Europe, the Middle East, Far East, America and Australasia, Topper sailing is truly international.





The Topper is recognised by World Sailing as an International Class, is a Junior Pathway Class for the Royal Yachting Association, the Irish Sailing Association and the Chinese Yachting Association.

Contact us:

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