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International Topper Rota moulded polyethylene hull

It is with great pleasure that I can report that World Sailing has approved the latest version of the Class Rules which are now available on the WS website <u>here</u>.

With the publication of the Class Rules, I can confirm that World Sailing have approved the new rota-moulded polyethylene as an International Topper and that sailors owning the new hull can compete equally with the injection moulded polypropylene without penalty.

I would like to thank all those who have worked so diligently to achieve our goal. Since there was not have a lot of time between the final approval of the rota-moulded design and the start of the Irish national and world championships, it took a great deal of effort and time by members of the ITCA (World) special sub-committee and everyone at Topper International especially Martin Fry, Rob White, Graeme Morris, Rick Reading and Russ Dent.

I must also thank those sailors who helped us with the testing carried out at the Weymouth and Portland Sailing Academy – Emily Shearer, Holly Norton, Ella Fitzgerald, Jasper Bramwell, Sam Morley and Cormac Byrne. Your contribution to the testing was invaluable.

Of course, we should recognise the contributions of the National Associations of International Topper Class, their chairs have all contributed to the process that we had to follow to achieve the final approval.

Lastly, I would like to add my own thanks to the Proctor family. To Ian that gave us the wonderful International Topper and to Roger and Gill who allowed us to produce the rota-moulded polyethylene hull and who contributed their time and resources of Ian Proctor Designs Limited, without whom we could not have achieved this great step forward.

I look forward to welcoming you all to the Topper International Topper Class World Championships in Cork where we will meet in friendly but competitive racing with red, blue and grey hulls.

Bill Brassington Commodore International Topper Class Association