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**TOPPER CHALLENGE**

**Saturday and Sunday 25 & 26 May 2019**

**NOTICE OF RACE**

**1. Rules**

**1.1**The series will be governed by the rules as defined in ***The Racing Rules of Sailing***

* 1. The prescriptions of the ISA or RYA, the rules of Topper Class Association of Ireland (ITCA Irl) shall apply

**1.3** The organizing authority shall be Donaghadee Sailing Club.

**2. Eligibility and Entry**

**2.1**The event is open to all boats of the International Topper Class Association, both Full rig and 4.2sq.m rig.

**2.2**All sailors resident on the island of Ireland must be members of the Irish Topper Class Association, ITCA (Irl) or British Topper Association, ITCA(GB). Overseas entrants should be members of their national Topper class association. Membership can be completed at registration.

**2.3**All competitors will be deemed to be temporary members of the host club for the duration of the event.

**2.4**Eligible boats **MUST** enter by completing the entry form and paying the required fee. Entries will be available at  <http://www.donaghadeesc.co.uk/sailing/topper-challenge/> and will **CLOSE ON THURSDAY 23 MAY @ 2100.**Places will be limited on a first come basis.

**3. Fees**

**3.1**The entry fee for the event is £45.00.

**3.2**Membership fee for the Topper Class Association is £25.00/€30.00

**4. Schedule**

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| Day/Date  | Time  |   |
| Friday 24h May 2018  | 17.00 – 22.00  | Dinghy park open for arrivals  |
| Sat 25 May 2018  | 9.00 – 10.00  | Registration  |
|   | 10.15  | Competitors Briefing  |
|   | 11.55  | Warning signal   |
| Sun 26 May 2018  | 10.25  | Warning signal  |
|   | 16.00  | No warning signal may be made after this time  |
|   | ASAP After Last race  | Prize Giving  |

 This is a sprint event, not held in the usual fashion of Irish Topper events. The fleet will be split into flights, starting on individual flight starts.

 The races will be short (circa 15 minutes), 9 races are scheduled for Saturday. Fleets will then be re- seeded and 6 races are scheduled for Sunday.

**5. Measurement.**

**5.1**A boat or equipment may be measured at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions.

**6. Sailing Instructions.**

**6.1**The sailing instructions will be available at Registration.

**7. The Venue.**

**7.1**The racing area will be in the waters off Donaghadee Harbour.

**8. The Courses.**

**8.1**The courses to be sailed will be as described in the Sailing Instructions.

**9. Scoring**

**9.1**There will be 1 discard after 5 races and 2 discards after 9 races on the Saturday series. There will be no discards from Sunday's results and the final race of the day shall be double points.

**9.2**Ties will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A8.

DSQ shall score 3 points more than the number of finishers

DNS, DNC, shall score 3 points more than the number of finishers

DNF, RET, OCS shall score 1 point more than the numbers of finishers.

**10. Risk Statement**

**10.1** Rule 4 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.

It is also the competitor’s responsibility to familiarise themselves with any risks specific to the venue of this event drawn to their attention in any rules and information provided by the venue or event and to attend any safety briefing held for the event.

**11. Insurance**

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