



TOPPER SPRINTS

Saturday 25th & Sunday 26th July 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

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

- 2.1 The sailing instructions will be available at registration.

3 Communications

- 3.1 The online official noticeboard is located in the foyer of DSC Clubhouse.
- 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 & entry

- 4.1 The event is open to boats of the International Topper Class using a 5.3 or 4.2 sail.
- 4.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing the entry form and paying at <http://donaghadeesc.co.uk>
- 4.3 To be considered an entry at an event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.4 Boats should enter before **Wednesday 22nd July 2026 @ 2100**. Late entries will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 4.5 The maximum number of entries for this event is 36 x 5.3 sails and 12 x 4.2 sails.
- 4.6 The Organising Authority may cancel the event, cancel classes and reject or cancel entries in its absolute discretion, subject to RRS 76.
- 4.7 Should the Organising Authority cancel a class or reject an entry they shall refund the entry fee in full.
- 4.8 Should the Organising Authority cancel the event within 36 hours prior to the scheduled start of race 1 any refunds will be at the sole discretion of the Organising Authority.
- 4.9 All competitors will be deemed to be temporary members of the host club for the duration of the event.

5. Fees

5.1 The entry fee for the event is £55.00. Payment to be made in sterling online.

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

Day/Date	Time	
Friday 24 th July 2026	17.00 – 22.00	Dinghy park open for arrivals
Sat 25 th July 2026	9.00 – 09.45	Registration
	10.00	Competitors Briefing
	11.00	First Warning Signal
Sunday 26 th July 2026	10:30	First Warning Signal
	ASAP after racing	Prize Giving

9.2 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.

9.3 The races will be short (circa 12-15 minutes), and shall be in a round robin fashion. More races may be run at the RO's discretion.

9.4. 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 one (1) minute before a warning signal is made.

9.5. No race shall start after 1500 on Sunday.

10 Equipment inspection

10.1 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 tag number.

11.3 All competitors shall be issued with a coloured flight streamer that must be tied to the top of their mast.

12 Venue

12.1 The Sailing Area will be in the waters off Donaghadee Harbour

13 Courses

- 13.1 The courses to be sailed will be as described in the sailing instructions. They will not necessarily be traditional Topper trapezoid.

14 Penalty system

- 14.1 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 There will be no discards in either the preliminary round robin series or the final series. All boats shall be allocated a coloured flight for the round robin series.
- 15.2 The boats shall be split into 3 fleets for the Sunday racing based on results from Saturdays round robin series. A minimum of 1 'medal' race on Sunday shall decide the winner of each fleet. Subject to time, the RO may sail more than 1 medal race and the scores shall be aggregated. There will be no discards on Sunday and every result will count.
- 15.2 Ties will be in accordance with RRS Appendix A8.
- 15.2 All boats shall carry a score of zero into Sunday's medal races.

16 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

- 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.

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

- 24.1 Prizes shall be awarded to the 1,2,& 3rd place boats in in the 5.3 Gold, Silver & Bronze fleet and 1,2 & 3rd place in 4.2 fleet.

25 Further information

For further information please contact Stuart Ogg – 07714262223 or stuart@consultav.com

NOR ENDS

Notes:

- **Rib launching:** slipway access is possible for launching ribs but will only be suitable a few hours either side of HW.
 - Friday evening launching should be possible between 1845 & 2200.
 - Saturday launching will be possible between 0745 & 1000.
 - Alternative launching & recovery is available at Millisle, Bangor & Groomsport.
- **Tea / Coffee & light breakfast:** shall be available in the Clubhouse from 0830 on both days.
- **Boat delivery** is possible in advance of the event by arrangement with DSC. Contact Stuart Ogg at the above number.