

Topper Open Meeting

13 May 2018

Notice of Race

The organising authority is Royal Harwich Yacht Club.

1. RULES

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

1.2 The International Topper Class Rules and ITCA (GBR) Prescriptions will also apply. [DP]

1.3 Competitors and their supporters shall abide by RHYC club rules and any special instructions announced by the organising committee. [DP]

1.4 Competitors and their supporters should note that RHYC implements the RYA Racing Charter and that by entering this event they undertake to compete in compliance with the Charter, which can be found at the front of the RYA rule book Racing Rules of Sailing 2017-2020 and on the RYA website www.rya.org.uk. [DP]

1.5 Competitors and their supporters shall comply with any reasonable request of a regatta official. [DP]

1.6 The notation [DP] in a rule means that the penalty for a breach of that rule is at the discretion of the protest committee and may be less than disqualification.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

2.1 The regatta is open to all International Topper class dinghies using either a 5.3 or 4.2 sail.

2.2 Competitors must be able to sail triangular, windward-leeward and trapezoid courses, be able to right their boat unassisted after a capsize, and have at least a basic understanding of the racing rules. [DP]

2.3 Only the competitor listed on the entry form for a boat shall helm that boat whilst it is racing.

2.4 Eligible boats and competitors are encouraged to pre-enter using the online entry system available on the RHYC web site at www.royalharwichyachtclub.co.uk. The discounted entry fee when booking in advance via the website is £12. The entry fee on the day is £15.

3. REGISTRATION

3.1 Race day entry will be from 08:00 to 08:45, in the foyer of the clubhouse.

3.2 Each competitor, including those who entered online, shall register before racing. To register, each competitor shall provide a completed entry form signed by the competitor, and signed by their parent or legal guardian in the case of a competitor under 18 years of age. [DP]

4. SCHEDULE

4.1 A briefing for all competitors (and their supporters) will be held at 08:45 on the lawn, or in the clubhouse if wet.

4.2 The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first start is 09:25.

4.3 The intention is to sail four races back-to-back (with no opportunity to return to shore between races).

4.4 No race will be started after 12:00 (HW predicted 11:15).

5. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

5.1 Sailing instructions will be available on the RHYC website before the event, and will also be available at registration.

6. VENUE AND COURSES

6.1 Racing will be on the River Orwell in the vicinity of the Royal Harwich Yacht Club. The courses to be sailed will be detailed in the sailing instructions.

7. PENALTY SYSTEM

7.1 The Exoneration Penalty and RYA Arbitration of the RYA Rules Disputes Procedures will be available.

8. SCORING

8.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply.

8.2 Race scores will be excluded as follows:

- a) When fewer than three races have been completed, no race score will be excluded
- b) When three or more races have been completed, one race score will be excluded.

8.3 One race needs to be completed to constitute a series.

9. PRIZES

9.1 Prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the event at the discretion of the organising committee.

10. SUPPORT BOATS

10.1 Only support boats registered with the organising authority will be permitted in the race area.
[DP]

11. RISK STATEMENT

11.1 Rule 4 of the Racing Rules of Sailing states: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone." Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor and their parents/legal guardian 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, support boats and other officials and volunteers by the organiser does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
- f) The provision of support 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 regatta drawn to their attention in any rules and information produced for the venue or regatta, and to attend any competitor briefing held for this regatta.

12. INSPECTIONS

12.1 The inspection of any boat by any race official does not in any way diminish the responsibilities of competitors under the rules.

13. INSURANCE

13.1 Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of £3,000,000 per incident or equivalent. [DP]

14. MEDIA RIGHTS

14.1 The Royal Harwich Yacht Club may arrange for photographs or videos to be taken at the event and published on the club website or social media channels to promote the event or the club. Images of competitors will only be used for this purpose if they give their explicit permission to do so on the registration form.

15. PARENTAL DUTY OF CARE

15.1 Parents/guardians remain responsible for their children at all times during the regatta. Each competitor under 18 years of age shall have a parent/legal guardian or responsible adult acting in loco parentis (notified to the organising authority in writing) available on site at all times during the regatta. [DP]

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

16.1 For further information please contact the RHYC Office on 01473 780 319 or email office.manager@royalharwich.co.uk