



Topper Northern Championships **Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th August 2026** **Hosted by Carrickfergus Sailing Club**



NOTICE OF RACE

ORGANISING AUTHORITY

This event will be organised by Carrickfergus Sailing Club (CSC) in conjunction with International Topper Class Association of Ireland.

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the notice of race (NoR) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 Racing rule(s) Signal AP, 33, 35, 60.1, 60.3(b), 61.1(a), 61.2(b)(1), 61.4(b), 63.5(c), A2, A5.1, A5.2, P2 will be changed. The changes are detailed in this notice of race or in the sailing instructions.
- 1.3 In the event of a discrepancy between the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions take precedence. This changes RRS rule 63.5 (c).

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available on-line at www.carrickfergussc.org and on the Official Notice Board.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official notice board is located on the ground floor window of the Alcorn room below the balcony on the seaward side of the 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 AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to boats of the International Topper Class using a 5.3 or 4.2 sail.
- 4.2 Helm must be a member of the Irish Topper Class Association or other Topper class association. This is €30 for the season. Link to membership is <https://topperireland.com/membership/>
- 4.3 Eligible boats may enter by completing the online entry form using Eventbrite on www.carrickfergussc.org together with payment of the required fee.
- 4.4 To be considered an entry at an event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements and pay all fees.
- 4.5 Competitors should note that Carrickfergus Sailing Club implements the RYA Racing Charter and that they will be expected to sail in compliance with it. The charter can be found on the RYA website at www.rya.org.uk/racingrules.

Notice of Race

4.6 Boats should enter before midnight on Wednesday 26 August 2026. Late entries will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the Organising Authority up to Friday 28th August 2026.

4.7 Entries will be capped at 50.

5 FEES

The Entry fees are £65.00.

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

9.1 Registration: Saturday 29 August 2026 from 0900 to 1030.

9.2 Briefing: A Competitors' briefing will be held at 1030 on Saturday 29 August in the Club Boat Shed.

9.3 Racing:	Date	Race
	Saturday 29th August 2026	Races 1 to 3
	Sunday 30th August 2026	Races 4 to 6

9.4 Six races are scheduled. (Tidal information: Saturday HW 1237 / Sunday HW 1305)

9.5 The scheduled time of the first warning signal of the first race on the Saturday is 1155.
The scheduled time of the first warning signal of the first race on the Sunday is 1055.

9.6 An additional race may be run on the Saturday at the discretion of the Race Committee. To indicate the intention to do this the finish boat will display numeral four at the end of race three.

9.7 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 five minutes before a warning signal is made.

9.8 No warning signal will be made after 1500.

10 EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

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 Sail Number and tag number provided at Registration.

12 VENUE

The Sailing Area will be in Belfast Lough, in the vicinity of Club.

13 COURSES

The courses to be sailed will be the Topper Trapezoid configuration.

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.
- 14.2 Appendix P will apply. P2.2 shall apply to the second and subsequent penalties. P2.3 is deleted. This changes RRS P2.

15 SCORING

- 15.1 Two race are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 15.2 (a) When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
(b) When from four to six races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. This changes RRS A2.

16 [DP] [NP] 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 150m 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;

Notice of Race

- (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 / €3,000,000 (Euro) per incident or the equivalent.

24 PRIZES

5.3 Fleet			
Youth	14 Years old or more on 1 st January 2026	Female	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
		Male	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
Junior	Under 14 Years old on 1 st January 2026	Female	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
		Male	1 st , 2 nd , 3rd
4.2 Fleet			
Male or Female			1 st , 2 nd , 3rd

25 FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact: sailing@carrickfergussc.org

[END OF NOTICE OF RACE]