



Agenda for the International Topper Class Association (Great Britain) (ITCA GBR) AGM

Tuesday 11th August 2026 18:30
Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy

- 1. The annual report of the Chair of the National Committee, Greg Croxton.**
- 2. Treasurers Report, Marcus Lambert.**
- 3. The appointment of an accountant.**
- 4. Boat Builders report, Russ Dent**
- 5. Any proposal of the National Committee or of the International Committee.**
 - a) Constitution Clause 3.3(a) — proposed amendment to clarify the number of boats a family may enter.**

The definition of "Family Member" per the Constitution Clause 3.1(c) is "each of two or more people within a direct family".

The current wording of Clause 3.3(a) most naturally already means that each family member may enter one boat, so a household with more than one sailor can already enter a boat for each. However, the following amendment to the Constitution wording is proposed to ensure there is no doubt on the number of boats that a family may enter.

Constitution Clause 3.3(a)

For any Association restricted event: an Individual, Family, Honorary, or Honorary Life Members shall be entitled to enter one boat.

to be replaced with

For any Association restricted event: an Individual, Honorary or Honorary Life member shall be entitled to enter one boat, and a Family Member shall be entitled to enter one boat (so that each eligible sailor within a family membership may enter one boat).

b) Constitution Clause 4, Area Organisation

Amendment to Clause 4.1, Area D:

The Midlands shall no longer be split into West and North Zones, but shall instead be listed as a single area.

c) Constitution Clause 5, National Committee

Over the years, various new volunteer positions have been created within the Association. Amendments to the Constitution are required to clarify which volunteer positions are part of the National Committee.

Further, to reflect common practice, the Constitution is to be amended to allow members to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair of the Association at the AGM, rather than these positions being elected by the National Committee.

1) Constitution Clause 5.2b)

a minimum of three and maximum of ten Individual Members, Honorary Life Members or representatives of Family or Group Members to be elected at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with clause 6 hereof;

to be replaced with

a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Treasurer, a Sailing Secretary, a Training Secretary, a Safeguarding Officer, a Safety Officer and a Ribmaster. Each of these roles will be filled by Individual Members, Honorary Life Members or representatives of Family or Group Members to be elected at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with clause 6 hereof;

2) Constitution Clause 5.3a)

At their first meeting after each Annual General Meeting, or after a vacancy has otherwise arisen, the Committee shall elect two of their number to be respectively Chair and a Vice-Chair (or two vice chairs as the committee sees fit) who, unless they resign or cease to be members of the Association, shall hold office until their respective successors are appointed. In the event of either resigning or ceasing to be a member of the Association, the Committee shall elect one of their number to fill the resulting vacancy at their next meeting. Any person so elected shall thereupon cease to hold any appointment of Area representative they might hold. At the same meeting the Committee shall seek to fill any vacancy that may then exist for Area representatives.

to be replaced with

In the event of either the Chair or Vice-Chair resigning or ceasing to be a member of the Association, the Committee shall elect one of their number to fill the resulting vacancy at their next meeting. Any person so elected shall thereupon cease to hold any appointment of Area representative they might hold. At the same meeting the Committee shall seek to fill any vacancy that may then exist for Area representatives.

- 3) Constitution Clause 5.5 to be amended to reduce the number of days notice to be given by the Secretary for the Committee Meeting agenda – reduction from 14 days to 7days.
- 4) Constitution Clause 5.7 to be amended to state that the Secretary is not a committee member.
- 5) Constitution Clause 5.8 to be amended to state that other key staff members, as appointed by the General Committee, will not be committee members.
- 6) Constitution Clause 5.9 to be amended to clarify that one of the Committee shall serve as a representative on the International Committee, but the Chief Measurer, as appointed, will not be a member of the National Committee.

d) Constitution Clause 5.10 – proposed amendment to permit the Officeholder Recognition Scheme.

The Officeholder Recognition Scheme recognises the additional time and commitment given by certain officeholders in supporting the Topper Class and provides for partial reimbursement of National Series early-entry fees for ITCA GBR officeholders (National Committee Members, Area Representatives and RIB Custodians) who have a sailor from their household competing in the Topper Class. A qualifying officeholder may claim reimbursement equivalent to 50% of an eligible sailor's early-entry fee for National Series events. This excludes the National Championships.

This scheme was previously clause 1.3 of the ITCA (GBR) Expenses Policy but has been separated out into a separate scheme. The scheme is a DRAFT and does not take effect until approved by members at a General Meeting.

The following amendment to Constitution Clause 5.10 is to permit the Officeholder Recognition Scheme.

Constitution Clause 5.10

All members of the Committee shall be entitled to their reasonable expenses of attending meetings of the Committee or undertaking other duties at the request of the Committee, and the Chair, Vice-Chair(s) and other holding Honorary appointments shall be entitled to reasonable expenses incurred as a result of those appointments but otherwise no payment shall be made to or received by any members of the Committee save those appointed under either clause 5.7 or 5.8.

to be replaced with (proposed addition in bold):

All members of the Committee shall be entitled to their reasonable expenses of attending meetings of the Committee or undertaking other duties at the request of the Committee, and the Chair, Vice-Chair(s) and other holding Honorary appointments shall be entitled to reasonable expenses incurred as a result of those appointments but otherwise no payment shall be made to or received by any members of the Committee save those appointed under either clause 5.7 or 5.8, **and save for reimbursements properly made to officeholders under the ITCA GBR Officeholder Recognition Scheme as approved and reviewed annually by the Committee and reported to members at each Annual General Meeting.**

e) Proposed amendments to the Constitution to restrict all events to ITCA (GBR) members.

Currently the ITCA (GBR) Constitution restricts National Championships, and (at the discretion of the National Committee) any Area Championship or other event, to Association members.

The National Committee proposes the following amendments to the constitution to restrict all events to members only, and will automatically charge an event membership fee for non-members (temporary membership for that event only).

This amendment is to ensure that all sailors are appropriately covered by the association's insurance, which covers the association's members only (any non-members are required to have signed up for temporary membership in order to be covered by the policy). The National Committee would like to ensure that class association events remain accessible to all, so propose a token amount for the temporary membership fee for regional events (this is suggested as £1).

- 1) 'Constitution Clause 10 CHAMPIONSHIP RACING' shall be renamed 'Constitution Clause 10 ITCA (GBR) Events'

2) Constitution Clause 10.1

Any National Championship shall, and at the discretion of the National Committee any Area Championship or other event may, be restricted to Association members.

to be replaced with

Any ITCA (GBR) training or racing event shall be restricted to Association members.

3) Constitution Clause 10.2

At any event which is restricted to Association members, a valid championship number must be applied to the sail as specified in the class rules.

to be replaced with

At any National and Area Championships, National Series events or other Nationally arranged events, a valid championship number must be applied to the sail as specified in the class rules.

6. Any proposal by a member notified to the Secretary prior to 16th June 2026.
No proposals received.

7. Election of Honorary Members:

An Honorary Member being any person who does not fall into the categories of Honorary Life Member, Individual Member, Family Member, Group Member, Associate Member or Overseas Associate Member, but who is elected or co-opted to serve on the National Committee.

Honorary Members to be elected:

- a) Chris Atherton (RYA representative)
- b) James Deaton (RYA representative)
- c) Will Penny (Safety Officer)

8. Election of Lifetime Honorary Members:

An Honorary Life Member being a person nominated by the Committee for a significant contribution to the Topper Class and elected by the Association at a General Meeting.

<u>Existing Honorary Life Members</u>	
Roger Proctor	
Chris Dugdale	
Andy Millington	
Dave Cockerill	
Lester Wellerd	
Clive Grummett	
Shaun Tordoff	
Sally Dugdale	
Vanessa Ripley	

Honorary Life Members to be elected:

- a) Bill Brassington (nominated by Roger Proctor).

Bill is the Commodore of the International Topper Class (World), a role he has filled with dedication for the last 9 years or so. Prior to that he was Chairman/President of ITCA (World) following being Safety Officer and also Event Director of ITCA (GBR), sitting on the ITCA (GBR) committee for many years. He has been involved with Toppers both as a sailor, parent (his daughter Marina was a top sailor) and in official capacities over decades, probably the last 45 years. He got a Topper as his and his wife Cathy's wedding present!

Over the years Bill has dealt extensively with World Sailing on behalf of the class and dedicates many hundreds of hours every year to the good of the Topper community and the boat. He was heavily involved in the consultation of the development of the grey hull and ensured that it complied with the class rules. His wisdom and his experience was invaluable!

Not only has he demonstrated immense dedication to the Topper, but he has also deployed his huge experience and commitment to the benefit of the class over decades. In short, he is passionate about the Topper and what it delivers to young people, and continues to demonstrate his commitment day after day, year after year.

9. The election of Individual Members, Non-Members (who then become Honorary Members), Honorary, Honorary Life Members or representatives of Family or Group Members to serve on the Committee until the next Annual ITCA (GBR) Constitution (Amended 12 August 2024) Section 6 General Meeting unless before that they resign or cease to be a member of the Association.

List of officers standing for election	
Chair	Greg Croxton
Vice Chair	
Training Secretary	Vanessa (Ness) Ripley
Sailing Secretary	
Treasurer	
Safety Officer	Will Penny
Rib Master	Andy Millington
Safeguarding Officer	
Designers Representative	Roger Proctor
Principal Area Representative	
East Area Representative	
Midlands Area Representative	Iain Swinton
North East Area Representative	
North West Area Representative	
South Area Representatives	
London & South East Area Representatives	Chloe Tollit, Alex Wraight
South West Area Representatives	Stuart Browning, Becky Steele
Scotland Area Representative	
Wales Area Representative	Bethan Venning
Commodore*	Sally Dugdale

*A Commodore shall be ex-officio a member of the National Committee without voting rights but shall not hold any other Association office.

10. AOB