

Subject: Club championship scoring and handicaps generally.

attn Sailing Committee RMYCPH sailing division

As a very long-time member of the sailing division who has seen many changes in the programme over many years. I have watched with interest the discussions on the club championship and handicapping and as a skipper who has experienced everything from Wednesday twilight to Cat 3 racing over 36 seasons, I feel that I do have something to offer in these discussions. So, I have researched the facts from last season's results and put my thoughts out in two attached documents.

Happy to discuss with anyone
regards
Tony Towndrow

Currently club championship points are scored using PPH. In my opinion this is not good practice. The championship should be awarded to the best crew with due allowance for different models of boat. i.e CBH of some kind.

A bit like golf where handicaps are set to allow a level playing field to encourage less experienced golfers to play against more experienced players. You don't see golfers at the elite levels with a handicap allowance and that should not be the case in the championship either.

I am strongly in favour of ORC Club as already proposed in the discussion paper. This has many advantages as once done it will enable Port Hacking boats to compete seamlessly in events in other club's jurisdiction using ORC.

Point scoring for championship. I am not in favour of the 1,2,3 places being used. As rightly pointed out by some, if there are only three boats racing everyone gets at least one point. This is true for both the HBR and SOS series. The truth is that both series are not well represented. (See attachment). The HBR last year averaged about 3.5 boats/race and the SOS 4.5. Neither is good.

I propose that we go back to the tried and tested previous method of only counting first places with second and third only used for tie break. That will eliminate the gripes. (I may be wrong, but I don't recall that change ever being taken to a skippers meeting and it should have. The same as this one should.)

I am 100% against high point scoring. There are all kinds of reasons why a boat might or might not sail in any one race and the penalties for not racing in high point score are far too great.

PPH scoring: There is every good reason to continue with PPH in the individual series. The sailors in this club are not elite sailors (only some may think they are) so, just as in golf, PPH is appropriate. However, there are obvious flaws in merely continuing the last race handicap in one year to progress to the start of the next. It doesn't allow anomalies that creep in to be sorted out, and this is particularly evident in HBR and SOS with so few boats in each.

One way to sort his out is to start all boats afresh each season with the ORC Club handicap and go from there as we do now. There may be other ways but at least it should be discussed at a skippers meeting.

Yours, Tony Towndrow Skipper Patrol Boat

Reply

Tony,

Thank you for your input.

I will publish with the Skippers survey which is now accessible for all Skippers to contribute to and share. There has been a lot of thought gone into the vexed problems with handicaps and Club Champion.

I have attached the draft handbook and draw your attention to Pages 28, 45 and 49. These items are highlighted and not final.

I am in general agreement with your comments.

The main problem is coming up with the fixed handicap for performance.

The full ORC is expensive and not likely to be picked up by all. There are cut down versions at an annual expense of around \$150 and still not likely to be picked up by all, and in fact may not produce a suitable benchmark for us.

I believe there is a way to do this with what we already have by selectively averaging boats best performances (ECHO's) over many races.

See below and contact me for the explanation of this proposed Performance Based Handicap (PBH).

The blue figures are from the last short haul series, and the red are from the current winter series; the top 1/3 best ECHO's are being averaged.

The yellow highlighted figures are where boats haven't raced (DNC)

The races we use, and the scoring system needs to be decided in line with your comments or the options in the draft handbook.

Kind regards, John

Short Haul	R1	R4	R5	R8	R10	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Average	Adjusted
Boat	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	ECHO	top third	PBH
Reference	0.730N	0.730N	0.730N	0.730N	0.730N	0.730N	0.730N	0.730N	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.730	0.710
Excelsior	0.800N	0.767	0.846	0.841	0.858	0.777	0.895	0.838N	.838N	0.000	0.000	0.860	0.836
Patrol Boat	0.850N	0.850N	0.821	0.866	0.853	0.797	0.905	0.687	0.985	0.000	0.000	0.902	0.877
Navigator	0.868	0.916	0.898N	0.876	0.890N	0.894N	0.905	0.898N	1.052	0.000	0.000	0.937	0.911
Reve	0.950N	0.950N	0.950N	1.025	0.976N	0.977N	0.977N	0.977N	.977N	0.000	0.000	1.025	0.996
Axiom	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.009	1.036N	1.036N	0.000	0.000	1.050	1.021
Etre Jeune	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	1.050N	0.000	0.000	1.060	1.031
marri nuwi	0.984	1.023	1.014	1.045	0.959	0.943	0.969	0.772	1.161	0.000	0.000	1.061	1.031
Mach 1	1.048	1.115	0.962	1.037N	1.027	1.096	1.073	1.048	0.972	0.000	0.000	1.083	1.053
L'attitude	1.106	1.067	1.132	1.049	1.073	1.132	1.053	1.084N	0.958	0.000	0.000	1.111	1.080
Excentric	1.175	1.095	1.160	1.084	1.105	1.109N	0.965	0.971	0.972	0.000	0.000	1.134	1.102
Starship	1.076	1.152N	1.045	1.004	1.125	1.146	1.174	1.380	1.094	0.000	0.000	1.206	1.173
Yknot	1.134	1.057	1.163	1.165	1.126	1.146	1.143N	1.378	1.038	0.000	0.000	1.213	1.179
	0.986	0.986	0.986	0.986	0.986	0.988	0.988	0.988				1.029	1.000
									drifter				