

To: Handicapper

Subject: Review of Short Haul Series Handicaps

Dear John

Last weekend laid out for us what we have been suspecting for some time, namely, that the handicap numbers need review as has been demonstrated over the last two seasons and continuing this season. It seems to have started on the arrival of Excelsior on the scene where in their first race they were thrashed and consequently rewarded with a large handicap reduction. Their performance has since improved markedly as evidenced by their elapsed times compared with ours. We would expect that over time the handicap difference would have narrowed due to their positions in the races.

That does not seem to have happened and if you compare the latest results for the Harbour Series and Short Haul series you can see the stark differences. Same boats, same crew, same course but vastly different handicaps for the three smallest boats. We haven't looked at the larger boats but it might be that they need review as well.

Sticking to the boats in the Harbour series and comparing them with Short Haul. They are as follows.

	Boat Harbour	Short Haul
Excelsior	0.810	0.800
Patrol Boat	0.810	0.850
Navigator	0.850	0.894
Tobruk	0.892	0.908
Starship	1.165	1.165

Given that Excelsior, Patrol Boat and Navigator are performing very close on elapsed times and since all three have the same waterline length the handicaps are clearly not defensible. Especially when you consider the minor differences in the case of Tobruk and Starship between the two series.

Can you please review the handicaps of all three slowest boats and take a hard look at the algorithm that calculates the handicaps with a view to resolving this before the next race on November 9. We do have some thoughts that we are happy to share with you.

Sincerely

Tony Towndrow Skipper Patrol Boat

Tony and Glen

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*Tony and Glen*

*I have read your submission and would make the following comments.*

- 1. I can find no errors in the calculations of results.*
- 2. You can't compare the handicaps in one series with another as the circumstances are different and are calculated independently and with a different formula.*
- 3. Both Patrol Boat and Excelsior have not raced yet in the short haul for the new season.*
- 4. Patrol Boat's handicap looks a little high so can change to 0.830.*
- 5. Excelsior's handicap looks a little low so can adjust to 0.820.*
- 6. Navigator has raced and had a small adjustment so should be the benchmark.*
- 7. The error after the last race was mine, not the program and rectified. It didn't affect the results.*
- 8. The Echo is the handicap that would have all boats finishing with the same corrected time and causing no inflation or deflation. A simple mathematical formula.*

*If you confirm acceptance of the above changes I will update the web for the next race.*

*If you would like me to sit down with you, I will show you how the result program works and how you can verify the results.*

*Regards,*

*John*

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Hi John

That would be fine. Yes, Glen and I would like to sit down with you sometime but no rush

Kind regards

Tony and Glen