

Changes to the racing format:

General Meeting 17th November 2013

Following the letter from Geoff Atkinson, reported on in last weeks sailing report, there was some discussion between the committee members about this issue.

It was agreed in general that the top boats were tending to dominate the racing and that there was a need for a rebalance in the handicapping systems.

The result was the proposals in the other column.



Prior to the start of racing a meeting was called to explain the proposals to the members and discuss the implications.

Some alternatives were also discussed, such as retaining the A division limit at 20 seconds while increasing the others. Another alternative was to remove the limits on A and B division and allow any boat to have up to 70 seconds handicap.

At the end it was decided by vote that the proposals be accepted as written.

Also discussed at the meeting was the need to avoid dehydration and sun stroke. Drinks left over from the AGM were made available today and most were taken. There is a water fountain at the changing rooms.

Sun block is also made available each week (or most anyway) and available for the members, or indeed anyone at the pond that needs it.

With the proposals agreed the new handicap calculations, back to the start of the year, were brought out and the race schedule for the day was changed to the new format.

Proposed Changes

Proposal 1:

That the C division be reinstated. I enclose the results analysis for all scratch races and the divisional races from last year (2013) with a suggested split for C division.

Proposal 2:

That the handicap ranges be increased. It will be noted that in the divisional race analysis, with Tom and Brett discarded, the top B division was Terry at 5th position.

The current range is A: 0-20, B:0-40, C: 0-60. This should be increased to 30, 50, 70. (note: the starter is inadequate for much longer handicaps).

Divisional starts would increase from 0, 30, 60 to 0, 40, 70.

The series results will stand.

Handicaps and divisional results would be recalculated from the end of the 2013 year.

Proposal 3:

That the race format be changed to 2 scratch races and 4 handicap races with the first 3 handicap races to have individual handicap starts and the last handicap race to have a divisional start.

The race order would be H, S, H, H, S, HD.

There would be one race to discard.

Handicaps would be recalculated based on the two scratch races only.

Proposal 4:

In the scratch races the time of the first finisher and the last finisher that had not been unduly delayed should be recorded, or the difference between these using a stop watch, or other means, if available. This would be used to establish the range of handicaps required.

Please respond with counter proposals and/or acceptance on each of these proposals.

However it would have been much better if this had been brought up before the AGM.