

Broadwater Sailing Club

Changes to Class Handicaps effective from 4th September 2016

The principles

The RYA has updated the Portsmouth Yardstick figures (PYs) for 2016 based on national averages and, from this year forward, has introduced a scheme to provide more club specific local PYs, derived from the SailWave results that Broadwater and other clubs produce for handicap races.

The choice of which figures to use is left to each club to decide. The RYA suggests that clubs should adjust RYA national PY numbers locally to reflect their own conditions.

We have discussed this issue for a while at the Sailing Committee. Our aims have been to achieve fairer handicapping, closer racing, and to encourage more sailors out racing by giving them a better chance to win.

Based on a lot of careful analysis, the Sailing Committee has decided **to trial** a variation to the national PYs until March 2017 based on the following principle:

“BSC will trial the RYA local PY scheme by taking the current year RYA national PY numbers and applying an adjustment. This adjustment will be 25% of the difference between the current year RYA national PY number and the current RYA local PY number.”

This approach will allow Broadwater to adopt the RYA suggestions for adjustments that are based on our actual results data without causing large changes to any one class in a given year. Over time this should ensure that our PYs evolve to achieve the aims set out above. The Sailing Committee intends to keep this under close review. In practice the changes for most boats will be small compared to the 2015 PYs that we are currently using.

Implementation

The new PYs will operate from the start of the autumn series starting on the 4th September 2016. **15 classes will have revised start times.** Please check and remember the revised start time for your class.

From 4th September 2016 the **Autohoot** will be changed to a different starting pattern. After the Pursuit race starting gun, and until the fastest boat has started, the Autohoot will give:

- **a single 2 second hoot on the minute**
- **a double 1 second hoot on the half minute**

Remember it is your responsibility to start at the correct time for your class!

Any member of the Sailing Committee will gladly help you with any questions.

Greg Hart

2nd August 2016