



BMYC Handicap for Cruisers Scheme

PREAMBLE

The BMYC Handicap for Cruiser Scheme is a means of classifying a wide range of boats for competition by providing a Time Correction Factor for each competing boat based on the yacht's performance over a Series of Races.

Competing owners and crews are expected to observe and embrace the provisions set out below. The spirit of NHC Racing requires that owners and/or crew shall not seek to artificially reduce the Time Correction Factor applied to the boat; I.E. to increase the performance of the boat without associated change in Time Correction Factor.

Any exploitation of the provisions of BMYC NHC Racing and/or performance criteria of a yacht is discouraged; reported incidences of exploitation shall be subject to disciplinary hearing and may result in disqualification from competing in BMYC NHC events.

Brighton Marina Yacht Club reserves the right to make adjustments to the provisions of the BMYC Handicap for Cruisers Scheme at any time.

1.0 RULES:

- 1.1 The following rules shall apply to all yachts competing in yacht racing events promoted by Brighton Marina Yacht Club (BMYC). The provisions set out below shall take precedent over the provisions of the RYA's NHC, the associated base list and/or the adjustment module within approved results software.
- 1.2 For purpose of Managing the BMYC Handicap for Cruisers Scheme the BMYC Race Committee shall be deemed the Organising Authority.
- 1.3 Definitions: The following word(s) or initials capitalised in this document shall be used in its defined sense;
 - a) **Base Number (BN):** A Base Number is an initial Time Correction Factor derived from a measurement based rating formula, (see Article 1.3b in this document);
 - b) **Base List (BL):** The list of standard Time Correction Factors as published by the RYA. The list contains the base numbers for a large number of designs of yacht; Base Numbers can be seen in the Base List published on the RYA website (<http://www.rya.org.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/technical/Web%20Documents/NHC/Results%>);
 - c) **Club Number (CL):** A Time Correction Factor for use in a BMYC race series. The Club Number for each yacht is the final Time Correction Factor derived from the results of the last race of the Club Series; the Club Number is used as the starting Time Correction Factor for the following Club Series (see Article 1.3d in this document); a yachts' Club Number is not applicable to competing at any club save for Brighton Marina Yacht Club;
 - d) **Club Series:** A series of races promoted by BMYC. For the purposes of managing a race within a Club Series the following Time Correction Factor regimes shall apply:
 - i BMYC Sunday Series
 - ii BMYC Wednesday Evening Series
 - iii BMYC Regattas
 - iv BMYC Coastal Series
 - v BMYC Offshore Series
 - vi BMYC Pursuit Race Series

Any BMYC Club Series may be construed of a number Races; Races may not run consecutively; see the Notice of Race applicable to the Club Series for details of racing.

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- 1.4 Yachts unknown to the Organising Authority are required to register with the Organising Authority, prior to competing, via the NHC Registration form:
(http://www.bmyc.org.uk/racing/documents/NHC_Registration_Form.pdf/).
- 1.5 Where a yacht's design is not shown in the Base List, the Organising Authority shall award a Base Number to said yacht; in determining the Base Number information declared on the BMYC NHC Registration Form shall be used in conjunction with the RYA Base Number Calculation Formula.
- 1.6 The Organising Authority will accept a representation seeking to challenge the Base Number awarded to a yacht where such representation is based on new information; the decision of the Organising Authority shall be final.
- 1.7 A yacht's Club Number shall apply for purposes of managing Race 1 of any Series with exception of a Regatta where the yacht's base number shall be used. Where a Club Number is not available the Base Number for the yacht shall be used.

2.0 GROUPS

- 2.1 Yachts shall compete within the Group assigned by the Organising Authority – See Sailing Instructions applicable to the Club Series.

3.0 SCORING

- 3.1 With the exception of Pursuit Races; where a valid Rating Certificate (IRC) is registered with BMYC Office, Yachts will be 'Dual Scored' IRC and NHC; in all other instances yachts shall be scored under NHC. For Pursuit Races; the yacht's NHC Time Correction Factor shall be used to determine her start time.
- 3.2 For purposes of managing scoring of a race the scoring regime stated in the Notice of Race shall apply together with any restrictions or modifications stated in the Sailing Instructions applicable to the Club Series; in each case the Yacht's NHC Time Correction Factor shall be used.
- 3.3 The BMYC official Race Calculation software approved by the RYA for operating the National Handicap Scheme for Cruisers is Yardstick. Results determined via other means shall be deemed provisional.
- 3.4 The Time Correction Factor applicable to each yacht shall be recalculated following each race of the Club Series. An adjustment in Time Correction Factor shall not form grounds for redress, this changes RRS Rule 62.

4.0 SAFETY

- 4.1 The safety of each yacht competing under BMYC Handicap for Cruisers Scheme shall remain the sole responsibility of the Person-in-Charge. Such responsibility shall include; but, not be limited to:
 - a) the yacht is fully found and seaworthy;
 - b) the skills/experience of each crew member is sufficient to warrant as competent at sea under the prevailing conditions, and each crew member is familiarised with the location of equipment aboard and how to use said equipment;
 - c) a Personal Floatation Device (Life Jacket) is available for each person aboard, where said Personal Floatation Device conforms to the minimum requirements stated under the BMYC Safety Regulations
<http://bmyc.org.uk/racing/racing-information/>;
 - d) the yacht complies with the requirements of the BMYC Safety Regulations as stated in the Sailing Instructions applicable to the Club Series <http://bmyc.org.uk/racing/racing-information/>.

5.0 EQUIPMENT AND LOADING

- 5.1 Subject to the provisions of the Sailing Instructions applicable to the Club Series; on board equipment, whether a permanent installation forming part of the standard specification, or a detachable item, included in the declared information used in determining the Yacht's Base Number shall remain in place aboard throughout each race of the Club Series; removal or relocation of such equipment shall be deemed exploitation of the provisions of BMYC NHC Racing as stated in the Preamble of this document, unless such removal or change is declared to the Organising Authority accompanied by a request for recalculation of the yacht's Base Number.