

IOM Scottish Travellers Series - 3 events in 2009

Sailing Instructions

- RO briefing is at 9.45 am and no race shall start within 15 mins of the start of the RO briefing. (e.g. 9.45 No race shall start before 10am.)
- Events will be scored using the low points scoring system.
- The series will be scored using the MYA 2005/2006 National Ranking method.
- 2 or less events sailed - All events to count. 3 events sailed - best 2 results to count.
- Ties should be broken on count back of scores.
- Members of a race committee will be awarded the average points from all counting events in which they have sailed that season.
- Individual events are open to any MYA affiliated skipper. Valid MYA cards will require to be shown at registration to each event.
- Placing in the overall results will only be for skippers who are affiliated via a Scottish District club.
- Valid IOM measurement certificates are required for each boat taking part.
- The format of having two races back to back followed by a ten minute break will be utilised. However, the R.O. on the day can use his discretion to shorten the "Tune up/rest" time if he feels that there are time constraints.
- Starting advantages may be awarded to skippers at each event. (see Below) The starting advantages for each event will be published on the Scottish District web site at least one week prior to the event at which they will be used.
- Starting advantage backstay pennants (Yellow Tape) will be provided at each event and must be fixed on the lower one third of the backstay. It is the responsibility of skippers to ensure that the pennant is displayed on his/her boat.
- Timeouts of up to 3 minutes may be called by any skipper. The timeout will commence from the time that the skipper who has made the request recovers his boat back to the control area. The RO will have the discretion to refuse a timeout call where it is apparent that the time out would significantly delay the racing. Equally, the RO will also be able to refuse a timeout call where the skipper concerned has already made previous calls
- Scratch boats should stay clear of the starting area in order to provide adequate room for those boats with a Starting Advantage. The Race Officer has the right to call a penalty on any Scratch Boat that infringes this courtesy. Boats with a Starting Advantage should start promptly at the 20 seconds signal and should not thereafter impede the rest of the fleet. If a boat with a Starting Advantage is late for its start, then the rest of the fleet who are starting normally will not thereafter be required to make any special provision for the late starter
- If prevailing conditions limit the sailing area, then race officers should consider extending the course by adding additional laps so that it is possible for Scratch Boats to catch up with those with Starting Advantages.

Starting Advantages of 20 seconds will be used in all IOM Scottish Travellers in the 2009 season.

Starting Advantages will be determined as follows:

1. An average of the Travellers Series finishing points will be calculated for each skipper who has taken part in one or more of the last 6 events held (i.e. this average will be calculated by summing all the events where the points are greater than zero divided by the number of events where the points are greater than zero. RO points will not be included in the averaging).
2. Any skipper with average points less than 40 will be offered a 20 second Starting Advantage. Skippers are encouraged to use the Starting Advantage but it is not mandatory and any skipper can indicate they prefer to start on Scratch.

3. Where an entry is received from a skipper who has not sailed in the last 6 events, that skipper will be allocated a Starting Advantage at the discretion of the Race Officer for the event taking into account the skippers local club results.

4. Where there are 2 fleets or more, the starting advantage will apply to B-fleet or lower only. In A-fleet heats, all boats start off scratch. Handicaps are only lost as a result of top 3 places gained in A-fleet, (winning a "B" heat is just that, a "heat" it is not a Race and only allows a skipper to progress into the "A" heat)

If a skipper with a Starting Advantage achieves any top three position (i.e. 1st, 2nd or 3rd in any combination) for three races during the event, his/her Starting Advantage will immediately be withdrawn for the rest of that event. This compulsory withdrawal of the Starting Advantage will not apply to subsequent events. As normal, Starting Advantages will be calculated and published prior to the next event.

The Race Officer for each event will be required to start the event using the published Starting Advantages.