

DRAFT VERSION 2

Paradise Radio Yacht Club (Inc.)

**PRYC GUIDE TO HANDICAP RACING**

## **About This Document:**

1. The Paradise Radio Yacht Club Guide to Handicap Racing is to be read in conjunction with the RRS 2021 to 2024, The PRYC SSI, The Guidelines were drafted by the PRYC SSI committee, with each class represented by their fleet captain, and approved by the PRYC Committee.
2. It is recommended that all PRYC members be emailed a copy of these guidelines prior to the start of each years sailing calendar and be included in the PRYC welcome package for new members.
3. The Guide to Handicap Racing is designed to provide fleets with a framework to conduct their handicap sailing program. In addition, it will provide newly appointed Fleet Captains and members with guidance and information on the requirements and standards required by the PRYC.
4. It is also designed to encourage similarity of handicap procedures throughout the fleets which is important when fleets are competing in club special events such as The Bell Trophy and The Back Page Bar trophy where consistency of handicap procedures is preferable.

Trent Jarratt

PRYC Commodore

Dated:

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# Paradise Radio Yacht Club (Inc.)

## **PRYC GUIDE TO HANDICAP RACING** (AMMENDED DEC 2020)

### **1. Introduction:**

1.1. Handicap events are conducted to provide more competitive racing for skippers of different skill levels and to compensate for differences in boat speed. A well-run handicap event will result in close finishes and provide all skippers, who sails to best of his ability, an opportunity to win each race and the day. The system used to adjust handicaps must be unbiased, consistent, take into consideration the prevailing conditions, and be easy to administer. With fleet size increasing it has become necessary for the PRYC to develop a standard policy for running handicap events.

### **2. Aim:**

2.1 The aim of this instruction is to provide guidelines for the conduct of PRYC run handicap events. Fleets may amend these guidelines to best meet their individual requirement.

### **3. Conduct of Races:**

3.1 All club handicap events are to be conducted in accordance with the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2021 to 2024 and the Paradise Radio Yacht Club Standard Sailing Instruction (SSI) and based on these guidelines.

### **4. Initial Handicap:**

4.1 A boats initial handicap may be established by either of the following methods:

- a. **Method One – Skipper’s Recorded Handicap:** This method is preferred when the majority of competitors handicap have been recorded. Boats are allocated handicap based on their past results in handicap events. A templet for recording a skipper’s handicap results is Appendix A to this instruction.
- b. **Method Two - Scratch Seating Race:** This method is to be used when the sailing ability of several of the fleet is unknown. The initial handicap is established by conducting one scratch

seating race. The results of this race are to be excluded from the day's score. Based on their results in the seating race, boats will be allocated one of the following handicaps:

- (1) Scratch.
- (2) 20 sec.
- (3) 40 sec; or
- (4) 60 sec.

- c. The number of boats allocated to each handicap may be based on the number of boats competing. Fleets may use Table 1 as a guide for this stage.

## 5. Adjusting Handicaps:

5.1 Handicaps are to be adjusted after each race with a number of boats being promoted and dropped one handicap level. The number of boats to be promoted or dropped for the next race is determined by the number of boats competing. For a recommended guide to determining number of boats to be promoted or relegated 10 seconds, see Table Two.

5.2 In addition to the guidelines outlined in para 5.1, a fleet may also choose to reduce a boat's handicap by 10 sec if the boat's handicap does not change for two consecutive races. This option prevents boats from being stuck in the middle of the handicap which limits their chances to win a race. Should this option be selected, each skippers' handicaps are adjusted after each race and recorded on the form at Annex B. This option and requires additional time and work however closer finishing scores are achieved.

## 6. Example Method Two – Scratch Seating Race:

6.1 If there are 17 boats competing Table 1 shows that the first three boats to finish in the scratch race would receive a handicap of 60 sec, boats that finished 4 to 9 would be off 40 sec, 10 to 14 off 20 sec, 15 to 17 would be off scratch.

6.2 If there are 17 boats in the fleet, Table Two shows the first four boats to finish will have 10 seconds added to their handicap and the last four boats will have ten seconds taken off their handicap [**except for any boat that had started on scratch would remain on scratch and no boat would get a handicap higher than 120 sec**].

6.3 A boat that started on the 60 sec would increase his handicap 10 seconds per race they finished in the first four until he reaches 120 sec. It would then stay on 120 sec until it finished in the last four or it has stayed on a 120 for two consecutive races (see para 10) at which time its handicap would be reduced by 10 seconds.

6.4 Boats that arrive after the seating race has been conducted will be given a handicap determined by RO based on the known performance of the skipper. In the event that a visiting skipper arrives after the seating race [whose sailing ability is unknown] shall be given an initial handicap of 40 sec. The RO, at his discretion, may adjust the handicap of these boats up to a maximum of 60 sec after its first race to better reflect the boat's true handicap.

6.5 The RO, at his discretion, may adjust a boat's handicap up to a maximum of 60 sec after the seating race, to better reflect the handicap of a boat whose finishing place may have been affected in the seating race by:

- a. entanglement with a buoy or another boat,
- b. doing penalty turns,
- c. picking up weed or other obstructions,
- d. mechanical or electrical problems with the boat,
- e. radio interference, or
- f. a skipper sailing well below his known ability.

## **7. Personnel Requirements:**

7.1 For this guideline to be work affectively, a RO and Scorer should be assigned to each handicap event. If a dedicate RO is not available, skippers should take turns at performing the duties of RO/scorer and scored in accordance with SSI 5.6 by receive his average points for the days sailing for that race. The first boat to finish is to call the remining boats as they cross the line.

## **8. Recording the Finish:**

8.1 The first boat to finish is to call the finish for the RO. A heat finishing template is shown at Annex C.

### **Tables:**

1. Number of Boats per Handicap level (method 2)
2. Number of boats to be promoted and relegated

### **Annexes:**

- A: Event Handicap Sheet
- B: Handicap Sheet
- C: Heat Finishing Sheet

## Appendix A

### TABLE ONE:

Table one is used to allocate boats their initial handicap for method two. Boats are assigned an initial handicap based on the number of boats registered to sail and a boat's finishing place in the seating race:

Number of boats per handicap – Method Two

NUMBER OF BOATS	60 sec	40 sec	20 sec	SCRATCH
30	1 to 6	7 to 16	17 to 24	25 to 30
29	1 to 5	5 to 16	17 to 23	24 to 29
28	1 to 5	6 to 15	16 to 22	23 to 28
27	1 to 5	6 to 14	15 to 22	23 to 27
26	1 to 5	6 to 14	15 to 21	22 to 26
25	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 20	21 to 25
24	1 to 4	5 to 13	14 to 19	20 to 24
23	1 to 4	5 to 12	13 to 18	19 to 23
22	1 to 4	5 to 11	12 to 18	19 to 22
21	1 to 4	5 to 11	12 to 17	18 to 21
20	1 to 3	4 to 10	11 to 16	17 to 20
19	1 to 3	4 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 19
18	1 to 3	4 to 8	9 to 14	15 to 18
17	1 to 3	4 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 17
16	1 to 3	4 to 8	9 to 13	14 to 16
15	1 to 3	4 to 7	8 to 12	13 to 15
14	1 to 3	4 to 7	8 to 11	12 to 14
13	1 to 3	4 to 6	7 to 10	11 to 13
12	1 & 2	3 to 6	7 to 10	11 & 12
11	1 & 2	3 to 5	6 to 9	10 & 11
10	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 to 8	9 to 10
9	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 to 9
8	1 & 2	3 & 4	5 & 6	7 & 8
7	1	2 & 3	4 & 5	6 & 7
6	1	2 to 4	5	6
5	1	2 & 3	4	5

### TABLE TWO:

Table Two is to be used to determine the number of boats to be promoted and relegated ten seconds. The same table is used for both method one and two:

No of BOATS	UP/DOWN
25 to 30	6
20 to 24	5
15 to 19	4
10 to 14	3
Less than 10	2

**EVENT HANDICAP SHEET****Annex A**

Used to adjust a skipper's handicap for each race when using method two.

EVENT: ..... DATE: .....

SE R	SKIPPER	S/N	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.														
2.														
3.														
4.														
5.														
6.														
7.														
8.														
9.														
10.														
11.														
12.														
13.														
14.														
15.														
16.														
17.														
18														
19.														
20.														

**HANDICAP RECORD****Annex B****FOR USE WITH METHOD ONE**

Fleet:

SER	SKIPPER	S/N	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.														
2.														
3.														
4.														
5.														
6.														
7.														
8.														
9.														
10.														
11.														
12.														
13.														
14.														
15.														
16.														
17.														
18														
19.														
20.														

Note: Skipper's starting handicap are to be adjusted based on their results in the previous handicap event.

**PRYC FINISHING SHEET**
**Annex C**
**FLEET: .....EVENT: SCRATCH/HANDICAP**
**SCORER:----- DATE: -----**

POS.	RACE 1.	RACE 2.	RACE 3.	RACE 4.	RACE 5.	RACE 6.	RACE 7.	RACE 8.	RACE 9.	RACE 10.	RACE 11.	RACE 12.
<b>1.</b>												
<b>2.</b>												
<b>3.</b>												
<b>4.</b>												
<b>5.</b>												
<b>6.</b>												
<b>7.</b>												
<b>8.</b>												
<b>9.</b>												
<b>10</b>												
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<b>14.</b>												
<b>15.</b>												
<b>16.</b>												
<b>17.</b>												
<b>18.</b>												
<b>19.</b>												
<b>20.</b>												
<b>DNS/ DNF</b>												
<b>DNS/ DNF</b>												
<b>DNS/ DNF</b>												
<b>DNS/ DNF</b>												
<b>RO</b>												