

Watauga Lake Sailing Club Racing Policies and Awards

Per ISAF rule 86, we are replacing the ISAF Appendix A (Scoring) with the following WLSC Race Scoring Policies. If for any reason it needs modification during this season, yacht skippers having previously raced this season shall be notified.

WLSC Race History: The first sailboat races were held on Watauga Lake by Gene Linkous and Clarke Lucas in the summer of 1979. The enthusiasm of the racers led to the formation of the Watauga Lake Sailing Club (WLSC) in the fall of the same year. Of the original group, only Clarke Lucas, “Skip” Greene, and John Middaugh remain as members today.

Presently Employed Racing Handicap Systems: It is very difficult to conduct a totally equitable race with such a diverse group of boats, crew, and captains as that found at Watauga Lake. *All handicapping systems have limitations, but we believe the chosen systems do create a fair and competitive atmosphere for our members.*

In an attempt to address these inequities, we currently employ two different handicapping systems: The US PHRF (United States Performance Handicap Racing Fleet) and the WLSC Club. We initially utilized the Portsmouth handicapping system, but it was supplanted in 1995 by the Time on Distance (TOD) PHRF system. Soon thereafter, the TOT (Time on Time) PHRF system was introduced by Bill Murdoch to replace the TOD PHRF system in our Fall and Spring Series Races, but the TOT PHRF system is still used for various other races.

No credit is given in the PHRF handicaps for lack of crew training or boat preparation. The approach assumes that the boat is crewed by a competent crew and with a boat in excellent condition. Thus, if one does not maintain their boat (sails, hardware, bottom, etc.) well and exert a significant effort in understanding sail trim and race tactics, it will be somewhat difficult to consistently finish high in the PHRF race series. *Only boats with a US PHRF assigned handicap can compete in our PHRF race series.*

The WLSC Club system (developed by John Middaugh) attempts to consider the actual condition of the boat and the skill of the crew in the handicap. We employ this approach to create a competitive atmosphere for those that might not initially desire to spend a lot of time and money improving their boat. However, as the boat and crew improves, their handicap is increased over time. *Any sailboat can compete in this racing series if they have either a Portsmouth or PHRF rating.*

Fun races, summer Races, and the January 1st Frostbite Race employ TOD PHRF systems. Boats without PHRF handicaps are assigned handicaps by the Race Captain using guidance from the Portsmouth ratings.

The various handicapping systems are described in separate documents. The descriptions include examples employing handicaps for boats typically raced in the WLSC races and point systems for overall winners.

Fall and Spring Race Series: The Fall and Spring Series races employ two handicap systems, the WLSC Club and the TOT PHRF. Thus, the majority of the fleet is actually racing in two races simultaneously. Trophies are awarded at the end of the season based on the summed scores of individual races in the series. Other races are scored separately for trophies or just held for fun, and shall have the race course, handicaps, etc., determined by the Race Captain or his designee.

A. The Fall and Spring Series Races will each have four scheduled races. Each Series race must have at least a 1st and 2nd place finisher to be a completed race. At least three races in a series must be completed by a yacht for awards or trophies in that series. An attempt to reschedule cancelled series races shall be made.

B. The PHRF handicaps are based on boats which are assumed to meet certain specifications. WLSC will not penalize or credit boats for specifications which are not met. We do not have the resources or desire to monitor these specifications. Captains should attempt to meet these specifications in order that the PHRF handicapping system will perform properly.

1. The spinnaker pole length is equal to "J".
2. The spinnaker maximum width is 180% of "J".
3. The spinnaker maximum length is equal to .95 of the jib stay length, i.e., $0.95(I^2 + J^2)^{1/2}$.
4. The jib overlap (LP) is between 150% and 155% of "J".
5. The boat is in racing condition.
6. The boat has a folding or feathering propeller, a two bladed solid propeller in aperture, or a retractable outboard motor
7. The hull and appendages are unmodified.
8. Full length battens are usually allowed without penalty.

Point Scoring Systems: Actual examples of the handicap systems and associated scoring system are described in separate documents. The two systems are scored and summed separately for trophies.

1. All yachts get 1 point for starting plus 1 point for finishing.
2. Yachts finishing, will also get 1 point for each yacht they finished ahead of on corrected time in their respective finished fleet position. That is 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and so forth down the line of the number of yachts in their respective fleet. Thus in a race starting 10 yachts, a 1st place yacht receives 11 points which would also include boats designated as DNF (did not finish).
3. Yachts still racing but not finished within one hour of their starts 2nd finishing Yacht will receive a DNF designation and one 1 point for starting. Yachts dropping out after starting, will also receive a DNF and one 1 point.
4. If a race skipper is on "Committee Boat Duty", he will receive the average score of his best 2 races of that Series for his 3rd race score, providing his yacht *didn't* participate in that race in his name.

Trophies/Awards: WLSC will award trophies to WLSC members for the Spring and Fall Series and the Overall (points from spring and fall summed) Club and PHRF Series. Ties in points will be broken if possible by considering the number of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishes of the races counted for the series of interest. A member is expected to at least volunteer to be Committee Boat once a year or perform some other duty as needed or designated by the Race Captain in order to be eligible for a trophy.

A yacht must have at least three scores in a Fall or Spring Series Races to be eligible for a trophy in that series. If a Yacht has four scores in a series, his lowest score is discarded.

For eligibility for the Overall Club and PHRF Series trophies, a yacht must have received points for 3 Spring Series and 3 Fall Series Races. The points for the best 3 Spring and best 3 Fall Series races are summed to determine the Fleet winners for Overall Club and PHRF champions. Ties in points will be broken if possible by considering the number of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishes of the races counted for the series of interest.

A yacht being raced by another skipper without an original race entries resident family member on-board, will be considered a new or separate yacht entry. Any person may consider skippering a separate yacht entry.

The following trophies or awards will be presented at the Fall Dinner Meeting for the Spring Series races:

- 1st - WLSC PHRF SPRING SERIES 20xx
- 2nd - WLSC PHRF SPRING SERIES 20xx
- 3rd - WLSC PHRF SPRING SERIES 20xx
- 1st - WLSC CLUB SPRING SERIES 20xx
- 2nd - WLSC CLUB SPRING SERIES 20xx
- 3rd - WLSC CLUB SPRING SERIES 20xx

Similar trophies will be award for the Fall Series except "FALL" will be substituted for "SPRING" in the trophy titles listed above.

The following Overall Club and PHRF trophies will be awarded at the Fall Dinner Meeting for the winners of the summed Spring and Fall PHRF Series Races:

- 1st - WLSC OVERALL PHRF 20xx
- 2nd - WLSC OVERALL PHRF 20xx
- 3rd - WLSC OVERALL PHRF 20xx
- 1st - WLSC OVERALL CLUB 20xx
- 2nd - WLSC OVERALL CLUB 20xx
- 3rd - WLSC OVERALL CLUB 20xx

Note: *These 2008 Scoring Policies made by J Little (Race Captain) supersede all previous scoring policies. Policies based on information from J. Middaugh, C. Lucas, and Jeff Arnfield.*