



## Victorian Outboard Club Championships

### Clock Start Procedure-Handicapping overview.

This is a summary and the handicapper may amend the process in the spirit of competition and for the benefit of the competitors. **Objective:** The handicap system should deliver an equal opportunity to all competitors in a race. A perfect handicap race will see starts staggered so that all competitors approach the finish line together at the completion of 4 laps.

#### APBA RULES:

#### 909 HANDICAP RULES –

These rules can be applied to Formula Future and Handicap Championships. It is recommended that these rules also be used for Interclub Events.

- 909.01 Except when held for specific Classes, Handicap Races are unlimited and open.
- 909.02 The basis for the handicap is to be by timing of trial laps.
- 909.03 Handicaps for individual Races can be adjusted.
- 909.10 Start times are taken as the time given, not the actual start time.
- 909.11 Boats starting before time are disqualified and eliminated from the results of the Race.
- 909.12 Where two Boats are on the same or approximate start time, the handicapper will advise start positions.
- 909.20 Boats may finish up to 2 seconds before their handicap time without a penalty, other than having their times adjusted for the next Race.
- 909.21 The winner of the event is the Boat finishing closest to but not more than 2 seconds before their handicap time.
- 909.22 Places are in order of finishing.
- 909.23 Boats finishing more than 2 seconds before their handicap time are relegated to the next available place after other legitimate finishers. In case of more than one Boat breaking time, places are in order of closest to their handicap time.

#### Handicap Basis: rule 909.02

- The timing of Trial laps may be carried out individually, (hotlaps), or times may be taken from a Scratch Race.
  - Preferred method: A scratch race is conducted with boats drawing a random pole and all starting from 0.
  - The finish time for each competitor is noted, this then becomes the Handicap time.
  - Should the handicapper feel that a driver has been disadvantaged in a race time they may adjust the handicap (eg; a lead boat has a spin costing it time). In this instance the handicapper will look to the fastest clean lap and use this as the basis x 4.
  - should the handicapper feel that a driver is "Coasting" to manipulate handicap time they may also adjust the handicap based on the above method.
  - The handicapper may adjust handicaps at their discretion based on other factors eg Past knowledge, pole draw in large fields etc.
  - Any adjustments to handicap times will be explained to the driver if requested.

RACES 4 laps: Race 1 Scratch, Race 2 handicap, Race 3 handicap points allocated for all races.

Formula Future: To accommodate the new rules for novice drivers, (max 3 boats in the first race) separate heats may be required to establish handicaps for the field. These heats will be followed by 3 handicap races. In this instance points will be allocated for the Handicap Races only. (should there only be heats and 2 races then the heats will be counted)

Handicapping may also be used for bank starts, the time must include the start.

