

# Handicapping Policy of The RNZYS Handicap Committee

## **1. Objectives**

- a. To encourage fair and competitive sailing between participants
- b. To apply handicapping that at the end of a race gives corrected times that are in close proximity
- c. To apply handicapping that at the end of a series gives overall results that are in close proximity
- d. To Provide each yacht with a handicap that:
  - I. given conditions to its liking, and
  - II. given intelligent and consistent sailing by her crew, and
  - III. given reasonable luckcan win the race
- e. To put newcomers into the fleet on a fair handicap as quickly as possible
- f. To take into account fairly and quickly changes to boats that affect performance
- g. To provide handicapping that is easily understood by competitors
- h. To provide handicapping that is not considered by competitors as being subject to bias by the Handicap Committee

## **2. Procedures**

- i. The handicapping will be carried out by applying a Time Correction Factor (TCF) on a Time on Time (TOT) basis for all handicap divisions
- j. The Race Management software from the Top Yacht Handicap System will be used to calculate all race and series results and a new TCF for each yacht for the next race
- k. The Handicap Committee may adjust the TCF of a yacht when it considers that the new TCF calculated by the computer does not reflect a fair handicap for the yacht, for example when a boat is new to a series, when a boat has had significant changes, etc.
- l. Owners of yachts new to the RNZYS racing program must notify the Handicap Committee of their intention to race so that an initial handicap may be set. Where class based handicap information is available, this may be utilised to calculate an initial handicap
- m. Owners of yachts that have been upgraded or modified so as to increase the yachts performance before a series or between races must notify the Handicap Committee of these changes before the next series or race they intend to compete in.

## **3. Series Starting Handicaps**

- a. The series starting handicaps will be a yachts TCF at the end of the equivalent series of the previous season provided the boat has not changed owners or been modified so as to affect performance
- b. For boats that did not compete in the previous season's equivalent series, the starting handicap may be calculated from the results of any race or series that offers performance comparisons using a TCF model
- c. Series starting handicaps will be determined before the start of the series and will be made available before each race for the owners of boats entered.