

Method used for calculating the RYA Returns 2007.

For the 2007 Portsmouth Yardstick Returns (Handicap numbers) from Thornbury Sailing Club, the RYAs Specimen Race One system is used to generate the proposed numbers for 2008.

This system is described as follows:

“A race with few classes each with several finishers in which it may be assumed that the range of Crew Skill Factors (CSF) within a class will balance out and so can be ignored”. The system does however remove poor performers from the calculations.

Step 1 is to calculate the race results in the standard way,
ie. Elapsed time / PY = Corrected Time.

To avoid the poor performers influencing the data, only the top 2/3 results are considered in the analysis.

The corrected times of the top 2/3 of the fleet are then averaged giving an Average Corrected Time (ACT)

This ACT is then multiplied by 1.05. Any boats with a corrected time exceeding this figure, ie. 5% slower than the ACT, are then also considered as poor performers and removed from the remaining calculations.

A Standard Corrected Time (SCT) is then calculated by averaging the remaining corrected times not already excluded.

A Performance Number (P) is then determined for each boat using the following equation:

$$\text{Performance Number} = (\text{Elapsed Time} \times 1000) / \text{Standard Corrected Time}$$

The difference between the Performance Number (P) and the current yardstick number (N), is then given for each boat, and this is called the Performance Indicator (PI).

As we do not apply a Crew Skill Factor (CSF) the Performance Indicator (PI) will equal the Performance Correction (PC).

The sum of all of the PCs for a given class is then made, as is the sum of boats in this class in this race. This information is then recorded for each race.

Once a class has competed in 4 races the sum of the PCs over the sum of the races taken part in by boats in this class gives the adjustment to be made.

The adjustment is then made to the handicap for subsequent races and the process rolls on again.

