

SBSC Race Management

Average Laps, making the most of the time afloat & knowing when to finish the race:

Background:

The club racing works on an **average lap** basis. This enables fast and slow boats to race for approximately the same amount of time.

If we designated the number of laps as '3' the Darts would complete their 3 laps significantly quicker than the Supernovas. This means the faster boats are hanging around for a long time, not maximising their time afloat and potentially getting cold. It is therefore important that we try to ensure all boats finish within approximately a 5 minute window, this is possible most of the time, however some circumstances such as dropping wind may effect this.

How do we work out when to shorten the course?

It can be a challenge to work out when to hoist the shorten course flag, hoisted at the wrong time and it might mean a long wait between races. The target race times are 45 minutes for the lead boat in normal club series racing and 30 minutes for junior specific races.

It doesn't matter if a fast class does 5 laps and a slow class only does 3, the key is getting them to finish close together. How do we work this out?

You can use the table below as an approximate guide. For example if the lead boat completes its first lap in 9 minutes it is likely to do 5 laps in total (to achieve the target race time), if the last boat does its first lap in 15 minutes it will need to do 3 laps in total, ensuring both boats finish at about the same time. You therefore hoist the shorten course flag as the first of those boats completes the anticipated number of laps i.e. the fast one if it's about to complete its 5th lap or the slow one as it is about to complete its 3rd lap.

Lead boat lap times	Last boat lap times
8-10 Minutes = 5 laps	12-15 Minutes = 3 laps
10-13 Minutes = 4 laps	15-18 Minutes = 3 laps
14-18 Minutes = 3 laps	19-26 Minutes = 2 laps
19 -21 Minutes = 3 Laps	27- 34 Minutes = 2 laps
22-30 Minutes = 2 laps	35 + Minutes = 1-2 laps