



PORTSMOUTH YARDSTICK SCHEME AND PERSONAL HANDICAPS

2023

The RYA manage the [Portsmouth Yardstick Scheme](#) to help Clubs organise fair racing between boats of different classes by using Portsmouth Numbers as a yardstick of a boat's performance.

Slower boats have larger numbers and during result evaluation a boat's elapsed time is divided by its PY number so for the same race time slower boats have a smaller corrected time.

There are various classes of Portsmouth Numbers that the RYA publishes in booklet YR2; clubs may allocate Club Numbers (CN) and adjust them to suite local conditions.

There was a dramatic change to the numbers in YR2 for 1996. For the classes we sail they were increased by a factor of around 9.5; the objective was to allow a greater precision especially for the faster classes.

Club Numbers (BH) will be allocated to all classes of dinghies racing at Aquarius SC. The Club Numbers will normally be the RYA published Portsmouth Number divided by 10 (generally 6 less than the 95 PYS) to avoid changing the Personal Handicap Numbers and computer programmes. Allowances are made for factors such as two-handed boats being sailed without a crew (generally 2 less); they will be adjusted if thought necessary.

Aquarius operate a Personal Handicap System (PH) with a PH number allocated according to the experience of a helm; 0 for experienced, 30 for no experience. The PH adjusts up or down according to the PH result (race times divided by PH + BH); for 3 or 4 starters first and last place change by 1, for more than 4 starters first and last place change by 2 and the next place by 1. Results are evaluated for BH and PH; most prizes are allocated to PH results to encourage new sailors.

CLASS	RYA PORTSMOUTH NUMBER 1995	H = Historic		AQSC CLUB NUMBER (BH) Change from 2018	
		2023	Change from 2018	WITH CREW	NO CREW
420	115	1100	-11	110	108
Bosun	126	1198	H	120	118
Buzz		1020	-6	102	100
Byte CI	122	1210	?	115	115
Byte CII	122	1135	-9	115	115
Cadet		1430	-5H	144	142
Comet	124	1210	+5	120	120
Comet Versa	?	1165		116	114
Enterprise	118	1126	+10	112	110
GP14	119	1133		113	111
Graduate		1120	-9	113	111
Gull	144	1363	H	136	136
Lark		1065	-5	107	105
Laser	114	1101	+3	110	110
Laser 4.7		1210	+3	120	120
Laser Radial		1150	+8	114	114
Laser Rooster 8.1		1035	-16	105	105
Leisure 17		1285	H ?	128	128
Miracle	124	1194	-6	120	118
Merlin-Rocket		980		98	96
Mirror	146	1387	-3	139	137
Mirror SH	146	1377	-3	138	136
Pacer		1193	H	120	118
Pico SH single sail		1228	H?	128	126
Pico two sails		1330	H	131	129
Shipmate	138	1306	H	131	129
Signet	134	1265	H	126	124
Skipper 14 Bermuda Clubman ?		1182	H	132	130
Skipper 12 Gunter		1305	H	148	146
Skipper 14 Gunter		?		138	136
Solo	122	1142	-1	116	116
Streaker		1128		116	116
Tasar	108	1017	+2	102	100
Topaz Uno		1251	H	124	124
Topper	136	1369	+11	136	136
Vision (RS)		1137	+9	113	111
Wanderer		1193	+16	118	116
Wayfarer	116	1105	+3	110	108