

VETERAN HANDICAP EVENTS
OPERATING NOTES
2009 Revision

INTRODUCTION

Racing under a National Standard of Handicapping was introduced as a means of expanding the opportunities for Veteran Competition in Regattas and Long Distance Events.

An Age/Performance characteristic has been established on which a table of time differentials between Veteran age Categories is based. This enables competitors in dissimilar categories to compete against one another on fair terms. The Characteristic was based on 1000m race times and aimed at Regatta competition. Early indications showed that it was also applicable to longer race times so it was adopted for Heads, the range of Standard Times in the Handicap Table being extended to cover the race times involved.

Over the years there has been a very strong growth in Veteran Rowing so that considerably more data is now available on age/performance which has led to a comprehensive review of the effects of ageing being carried out. This has shown that while the age/performance characteristic used for Regatta competition is still sound the loss of boat speed with age over the longer race times in Heads becomes progressively less as the duration of the race increases.

In this fourth revision of the Operating Notes the existing characteristic has been retained for Regatta competition but new characteristics have been established for application to Heads. The Handicap Table has been restructured to reflect more accurately the changes in age/performance for a wide range of Head race times. All Heads offering events run under Handicap Conditions should now use the revised handicap times in the Table in this 2009 Revision of the Operating Notes.

HANDICAP TABLE

The Handicap Table sets out time differentials (handicaps) for each age category relative to Veteran A over a range of Standard Times. These are in two groups, the first related to Regatta distances and the second related to Heads. The Standard Time is that which a winning Veteran A or Open crew or sculler would take to cover the course on the day of the event when all local conditions of course length, stream and weather are have been accounted for. The table may be used for any category of boat and for men, women, and mixed crews.

The Standard Time must relate to the nature of the event being raced e.g. eights or double sculls, men or women. Where a Regatta has limited information on the winning race times for some events the following table is a guide to the relationship between events for 1000m still water and wind conditions.

Where local conditions and course lengths dictate that higher or lower Standard Time values should be used all values in the table below should be adjusted in the same proportion. For mixed crews a value mid way between the men's and the women's should be used.

Standard Time

<i>Boat Type</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
8	3.00	3.20
4x/4	3.10	3.30
4+	3.20	3.40

2x/2	3.30	3.50
1x	3.40	4.00

OPERATING NOTES – HEADS

1. Application – Heads which offer Veteran categories may find entries limited in any one category, particularly in the older age groups. Competition in any one category is limited or nonexistent. To create a generalised category for Veterans clearly favours the younger crews irrespective of the true merits of the older competitors. With the handicap table for long distance events it is now possible for HOR's to allow limited numbers of Veterans to compete against one another fairly.
2. Standard Time – This will be determined from the finish time of the winning Veteran A or Open entry on the day.
3. Corrected Time – The Handicaps for each category will be determined from the Handicap Table once the Standard Time is known and will be deducted from the finish time of each crew to produce a corrected result from which the finishing order may be determined.

VETERAN HANDICAPPING DATA - 2008

LONG DISTANCE EVENTS – TIME DIFFERENTIALS – MINS/SECS

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
10.00	0	.05	.16.	.35	.52	1.11	1.35	1.58	2.22
11.00	0	.05	.17	.37	.55	1.15	1.40	2.05	2.30
12.00	0	.05	.18	.39	.58	1.19	1.45	2.11	2.37
13.00	0	.05	.19	.41	1.01	1.23	1.50	2.17	2.44
14.00	0	.06	.20	.43	1.03	1.26	1.54	2.22	2.50
15.00	0	.06	.20	.44	1.04	1.28	1.57	2.26	2.55
16.00	0	.06	.21	.45	1.05	1.29	1.59	2.28	2.58
17.00	0	.06	.21	.45	1.06	1.30	2.00	2.30	3.00
18.00	0	.06	.21	.45	1.07	1.31	2.01	2.31	3.01
19.00	0	.06	.21	.45	1.06	1.30	2.00	2.30	3.00
20.00	0	.06	.21	.45	1.06	1.30	2.00	2.30	3.00
21.00	0	.06	.21	.44	1.05	1.29	1.58	2.28	2.57
22.00	0	.06	.20	.44	1.04	1.27	1.56	2.25	2.54

Example :- 1000m - Coxed Four - Standard Time 3.20.

Handicap C - D= 8 secs. F - G= 9 secs.