**2018’19 BTC Handicapping**

The new season will include handicap racing for the Long Course and Short Course events, as we have done in prior years. Handicapping places a bit more complexity to the events, and can consume a lot of admin time. However the committee feel it is invaluable to give all participants an opportunity to be rewarded for performing well.

In an attempt to keep it as simple as possible, we have provided an overview so that handicapping can be understood.

The methodology for providing each participant a handicap will be determined by;

1. Handicaps will be calculated against the BEST TIME achieved in recent years for both events. For the coming season, the best time recorded for the Long Course (LC) is 44min and 54sec. For the Short Course it is 25min and 01Sec.
2. Each participants handicap for their first event in 2018’19 will be calculated based on the AVERAGE unadjusted time of any event competed in 2017’18. Example;
	1. LC participant with an AVERAGE unadjusted average time of 56min and 54 secs will receive a 12min 00sec handicap to be DEDUCTED from their race time. If they did the event in 55 min 54 sec, their NET time will be recorded as 43min 54sec.
	2. SC participant with an AVERAGE unadjusted average time of 32min and 01 secs will receive a 07min 00sec handicap to be DEDUCTED from their race time. If they did the event in 33 min 01 sec, their NET time will be recorded as 26min 01sec.
3. If a participant’s unadjusted time beats their AVERAGE handicap time of 2017’18, this will be their new 2018’19 time for handicapping against the BEST TIME.
4. For those that did not race in 2017’18, or are new to the club as a first timer, your first race will not be included in the handicapping. You will receive a handicap once you have recorded a finish time which will allow a calculation for future events.
5. If the BEST TIME for any event (handicap benchmark time) is beaten in any event in 2018’19, then all handicaps will be adjusted against this new BEST TIME benchmark for future races.

It is important to reflect that, to prepare handicaps for each event, the committee need to know who is racing. It is STRONGLY encouraged to register online by the 6pm Friday cut-off prior to each race to ensure we can prepare. On day registrations may result in not being included in the handicapping of the event (you may only receive your raw time).

On race day, it is expected that live results will be able to be seen at the timing desk. Note these times will not reflect the handicaps, which is processed once completion of the events are done. A hard-copy listing of handicaps will be provided at registration to give you an idea of what a participant may need to deduct. We may require 5 minutes ‘grace period’ to run and review the handicaps at the end of each race please!

Varying methods of conducting handicap events can utilized. Example - A mass or wave start, versus a pool staggered start. The committee will communicate in advance of the event which method will be proposed for each event.

Ohh, and one other thingy. The committee decision is final ☺.

Remember we are not playing for sheep stations, but want to ensure we have fun and get recognized for good performances somehow.

Good racing

BTC