HalSail FAQ

Can I score a series by guest helms, rather than by boat?

Races and series are normally scored by boat. It is the boat's performance that is evaluated.

However in many clubs sailors move from one boat to another during a series. They may sail a Laser Radial in the first race, a RS200 in the second and a full rig Laser in the third. This is particularly the case where the club owns the boats and sailors take out any one of several boats whenever they race.

You can already use the guest helm field when entering a result to indicate who was sailing the boat on a particular occasion. However by default the results are still calculated by boat, when what you really wish to know is how each helm did.

That is where scoring by helm comes in. There is a button on the left-hand side of the bar on top of the overall results of a series to show results by helm. This takes you to a page that re-calculates the results of the series, and all its races, based on who was helming the boat in each race. If you use the guest helm field when filling in results, these names are used to score by helm.

In order to follow a helm from one boat to another between races, it is important to enter the guest helm consistently so that HalSail can track the names. HalSail ignores any spaces in the name and is case-insensitive. You can use either upper case or lower case letters as you like. But the names must be entered in the same way. For instance Andy Ball is not the same a A Ball or Andrew Ball. However andy ball, or andyBall, or ANDY BALL are all treated the same.

If you do not put a guest helm in for a particular result, the normal helm for the boat is used. So if you do not put any guest helms in, the results by helm will be the same as the results by boat.

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