

OK Dinghy World Ranking Lists (March 2006)

There have recently been a number of enquiries about how the World Ranking List is calculated. So here is a short explanation of its current workings. It is a work in progress and is constantly evolving. Since the Worlds in Australia in February we have introduced an Event Weighting so points on the list will not correspond to the previous list.

The ranking list is based loosely on the ISAF method with competitors counting their best five results from a two year rolling system. Regattas in the first year of the list will count half the points of the current year in order to put priority on the present year's events. This is the **Year Weighting**. The column for, "number of events sailed", on the published lists is purely for interest. By the end of the current year, I would expect there to be about 100 sailors counting 4 or more events.

So, a competitor's **Ranking Points (RP)** for an event are based on

EP. The competitor's event position.

EW. The event weighting .

CW. The competitive weighting of the event.

YW. The year weighting.(1 or 2)

A competitor's **Event Points** should clearly be based on their position within the fleet. After a few trials we settled on the following system. The winner shall get 100 points and last place shall get 10 points. We felt that there should be some attendance bonus, hence the 10 points for last place. Also 90 boats will probably be our maximum attendance. Other competitors' points are spread evenly over this 90 point gap. So, for example if there are 45 boats, points will run 100, 98, 96... Similarly, if we have 10 boats, the points will be spread 100, 90, 80...

From here we multiply the competitor's Event Points by EW, CW and YW as above.

The **Event Weighting** is a fixed weighting based on how important the event is considered.

Worlds	1.5
Europeans, Interdoms, Nordics	1.2
National Championships	1
Open Events (EG Kiel)	0.8

Currently Medemblik Spring Cup, Kiel Week and Warnemunde week are included as Open Events. Sail Melbourne is a possibility to be included. My basic criteria are that there should be at least 20 boats from maybe 3 countries. Nominations are always welcome for events to be included.

The **Competitive Weighting** of the event is calculated from the number of top 20 ranking sailors that are competing; each sailor adds a weighting of 0.05 onto 1. This produces a result between 1 and 2. The only exception is that the World Championship always carries a weighting of 2.5. For the first year of the list, as the calculations were done at the end of the season, I used the top 20 at the Worlds. This year we have a ranking list to work from, so the people in the top 20, hopefully, will always be changing.

So as you can see the Worlds always carries a larger weighting than any other event, which is, I think, what most people would expect.

To summarise $RP = EP * EW * CW * YW$

It would seem that the top sailors could get around 1000 points in total. Nick Craig (GBR) and Jorgen Lindhartsen (DEN) are the only two sailors currently over 1000 points. I don't think many will get past this number and it is certainly an impressive result. Perhaps we can start a 1000+ club.

There are still a few problems to iron out, such as 4 sailors currently having two entries. If anybody has any ideas on how to improve the list or spots a mistake, I'll be glad to hear from them.

alistair@deaves.com

Alistair Deaves