



Marathon Technical Committee Divisional Racing Rules - 2014

“Marathon 10” in 2014 will be a series of ten (10) ‘Divisional’ races run by the PNSW Marathon Technical Committee (PNSW MTC) and delivered by PNSW affiliated clubs throughout NSW.

The objective of **“Marathon 10”** is to provide a program of races for paddlers in ‘Divisions’ that match their paddling capabilities, and provide opportunities for, and recognize improvement in paddler proficiency.

“Marathon 10” does not recognize boat classes, gender, or age groups, and is based primarily on paddlers’ abilities to paddle a range of distances within certain time periods or brackets.

The **“Marathon 10”** Series is also seen as a development ground for paddlers wanting to compete at State, National and International levels, and aims to provide an opportunity for such development.

General Rules.

1. There will be 11 Divisions, each based or ranked on speed or time brackets, but not on boat type, or paddlers’ age/gender.

The “Time Brackets” and typical speeds for each Division are as follows:

Division	Distance	Time to paddle	Approximate Speed
1	25km	<2:15	(>12kph)
2	20km	1:40~1:45	(11.5-12kph)
3	20km	1:45~1:50	(11-11.5kph)
4	20km	1:50~1:55	(10.5-11kph)
5	20km	1:55~2:00	(10-10.5kph)
6	20km	2:00~2:10	(9.5-10kph)
7	20km	2:10~2:30	(<9.5kph)
8	15km	1:25~1:45	(~10kph)
9	10km	< 0:55	(>11kph)
10	10km	0:55~1:00	(>10kph)
11	10km	>1:00	(<10kph)

(Note that speeds are approximate only)

(Portaging is mandatory for Divisions 1 & 9 where courses allow for it)

2. Division ranking and/or re-ranking will be by the following manner:
- a. Paddlers who are new to the series, and/or paddlers who have not competed in a PaddleNSW Marathon Series in the previous two (2) years, shall nominate themselves in the Division or Time Bracket that they believe is most appropriate to their capabilities, and will use their first race as a 'Ranking' race, to confirm the most appropriate Division for future races.
 - b. New Doubles Team entries (any combination of paddlers who have not paddled together in a PNSW Marathon Series event within the previous two years) must also enter their first race as a 'Ranking' race, in a Division they believe most suited to their capabilities, but at a minimum, must compete in at least the next higher Division of the highest ranked individual paddler.
 - c. PNSW MTC may request that a Paddler or Doubles Team review their entry and select another Division, in the interests of all paddlers.
 - d. Personal Points and Club Points will **not** be awarded to Paddlers/Doubles Teams in their 'Ranking' race, or to Paddlers/Doubles Teams who do not paddle in their correct or allocated Division.
 - e. Paddlers continuing from the 2012 or 2013 "PNSW Marathon" series will be allocated to the Division determined by the result of their last event in 2012 or 2013.
 - f. Regular doubles paddlers who elect to paddle a single, may enter in one (1) division lower than the Division determined by the result of their last event in a Double.
 - g. Paddlers/Teams whose finishing time is faster than their Division time bracket by 1 minute or more will be re-ranked to an appropriate higher Division.
 - h. Paddlers/Teams whose finishing time is slower than their Division time bracket by 1 minute or more, for 2 consecutive races, will be re-ranked to an appropriate lower Division.

The PNSW Marathon Technical Committee (MTC) reserves the right to review results and rankings and apply re-rankings after each race. The MTC, at its discretion, will make appropriate allowances for "slow courses" and/or other influencing factors when reviewing results and considering re-rankings.

Appeals against re-ranking must be made, in writing, to the PNSW Marathon Technical Committee, (marathon@paddlensw.org.au) prior to the next race, after results/re-rankings are published.

3. Courses will be as follows:

- a. Division 1 = 25 km *(with portages where possible)*
- b. Divisions 2-6 = 20 km *(portaging may be optional where possible)*
- c. Division 7 = 20 km
- d. Division 8 = 15 km
- e. Division 9 = 10 km *(with portages where possible)*
- f. Divisions 10-11 = 10 km

Host clubs must ensure their course layouts are accurate and no shorter than the required 25km, 20km, 15km, and 10km distances.

4. The 10km and 15km distances are available to any competitive paddler who legitimately cannot manage the greater distance, e.g., Juniors, Vets, Novices.

- a. Promotion will not take place automatically from Div.9-11 to Div.8, or Div.8 to Div.7, if the paddler does not wish to compete over the greater distance. However, paddlers may be ruled ineligible to win further points if they are considered (by the MTC) to be unfairly using the shorter distances to accumulate points.
- b. Paddlers seeking promotion to the longer distances will need to meet pre-qualification times as follows:
 - i. Moving from 10km (Divisions 9-11) to 15km (Div 8) must be able to complete 10km in less than 1hr:10 mins.
 - ii. Moving from 15km (Division 8) to 20km (Div 7) must be able to complete 15km in less than 1hr:45 mins.

5. Starting order

- a. Starting order shall be: Div 7, Div1, Div2, Div3, Div4, Div5, Div6, Div8, Div9, Div 10, Div 11.
- b. Each division shall have its own separate start, with starting intervals determined by the MTC in conjunction with the Host Club, taking into consideration issues such as course layout, weather conditions on the day, and others that influence the running and/or safety of the race.
- c. Typically, Division 7 will start at -15:00 minutes, Division 1 will start at 0:00, and each Division thereafter at intervals as determined for the course.
- d. Starts may be combined (depending on numbers) at the discretion of the MTC.
- e. Starting order may be changed at the discretion of the MTC.

6. Points shall be awarded to Boat/Team Entries as follows :

- a. Every Boat/Team Entry's race time shall be ranked fastest to slowest in each Division.
- b. The fastest boats in each division will receive 50 points.
- c. The second fastest boats in each division will receive 49 points.
- d. Third fastest boats in each division will receive 48 points etc.

7. A Boat/Team Entry shall be defined as follows:

- a. For a Single Boat entry – the name of the single Paddler on that entry
- b. For a Double Boat/Team entry – the combination of the two Paddlers names on that entry.

8. Every race (except a Ranking Race) shall contribute to a Boat/Team Entry's total Individual point score, with the three (3) lowest scoring races being dropped, and a maximum of seven (7) races.

9. In the case of Doubles entries, points will be awarded to the Boat/Team combination only. If paddlers swap partners in Doubles during the course of the series the new combination will be treated as a new Boat/Team Entry, with points being treated individually and separately to points already earned in a previous combination.

10. Points for each distance cannot be carried up or down between the three (3) primary distances.

- i.e. - points gained in the 15km division cannot be taken up to the 20km divisions.
- points gained in the 10km divisions cannot be taken up to the 15 or 20km divisions.
 - points gained in the 20km divisions cannot be brought back to the 10-15km divisions.
 - the only exception being between Divisions 1 & 2.

11. All Boat/Team entry points shall be retained and carried through (unless changing distances) regardless of any re-ranking, up or down. However, for determination of prizes, we look at where a paddler has spent MOST of their time, and a minimum of five (5) Marathon Series races (keeping in mind that there is a total six (6) race minimum for eligibility for end of year prizes).

12. Boats in each division shall earn points for their Club towards the “Brian Norman Club Trophy” as follows:

1 st Place	8 Club points
2 nd Place (only if from another club)	6 Club Points
3 rd Place (only if from another club)	4 Club points
4 th Place (only if from another club)	2 Club Points
International Class Boat	2 Club Points
Voluntary Portage (Div 2-6)	2 Club Points

Doubles paddlers from the same Club only receive one set of Club points. Doubles paddlers from different clubs must nominate one Club to receive any points.

13. Club Points will be awarded to any competitor who elects to paddle an International Class K1/K2 or C1/C2) boat in any Division, and also to paddlers in Divisions 2-6 who elect to portage, on the following basis:

- a. Paddlers who enter and finish a race in a recognized International Class Boat (K1/K2, C1/C2) shall earn two (2) Club points for the Club nominated in their entry.
- b. Paddlers who elect to Portage in Divisions 2-6 will earn two (2) Club points for the Club nominated in their entry (provided that they complete all required portages)**
- c. Paddlers in Division 1, and Divisions 7-11 will not earn Club points for Portaging.**

14. Prizes may be awarded at the end of the Season as follows:

- Highest points overall
- Highest points in each division
- Most improved paddlers (Senior/Junior)
- Outstanding Paddlers (Senior/Junior)
- Highest accumulated Club Points for the Club trophy.

There may also be lucky draw prizes at each race drawn from the boat numbers allocated on the day. Entrants must be present to claim these prizes.

15. If an event is cancelled during the race all participants, who have started, will be awarded the maximum 50 points. No Club Points shall be awarded.

16. If a race is cancelled before the event begins, no points will be awarded.

17. Lifejackets –(PFD's).

- a. Every paddler must have a Lifejacket available for use on the day.
- b. The Race Director and/or the Marathon Technical Committee will determine and advise whether Lifejackets will be required to be worn for a race.
- c. All U14 paddlers **must** wear Lifejackets.
- d. Junior Ages shall be interpreted as per Australian Canoeing Rules (1.4) and as such will be determined as at 1st January 2014.
- e. All Lifejackets must comply with NSW Maritime laws.

18. Disqualifications

- a. All competitors must respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence and behave in accordance with the rules of good sportsmanship.
- b. Any competitor who attempts to win a race by any other than honorable means, or who breaks racing regulations will be disqualified for the duration of the race concerned.
- c. Physical violence will result in immediate disqualification for the duration of the race, and referral to the Marathon Technical Committee (and/or Australian Canoeing if deemed appropriate) regarding eligibility for future races.

19. Interpretation of Rules.

The intention of the above Rules is to provide a fair and enjoyable competitive environment for all paddlers. In situations not covered by the above Rules, reference shall be made to ICF Canoe Marathon Competition Rules, or Australian Canoeing Marathon Competition Rules and/or Bylaws, as appropriate. For any situation which is not specifically addressed by ICF or AC Rules, the decision of the PNSW Marathon Technical Committee shall remain final.

Paddlers requiring further information should direct any questions relating to "Marathon 10" series to marathon@paddlensw.org.au