

HalSail FAQ

What racing classes (fleets) do I need to support my racing programme?

The class register defines the fundamental organisation of your club's racing. It is vital that you get their structure right.

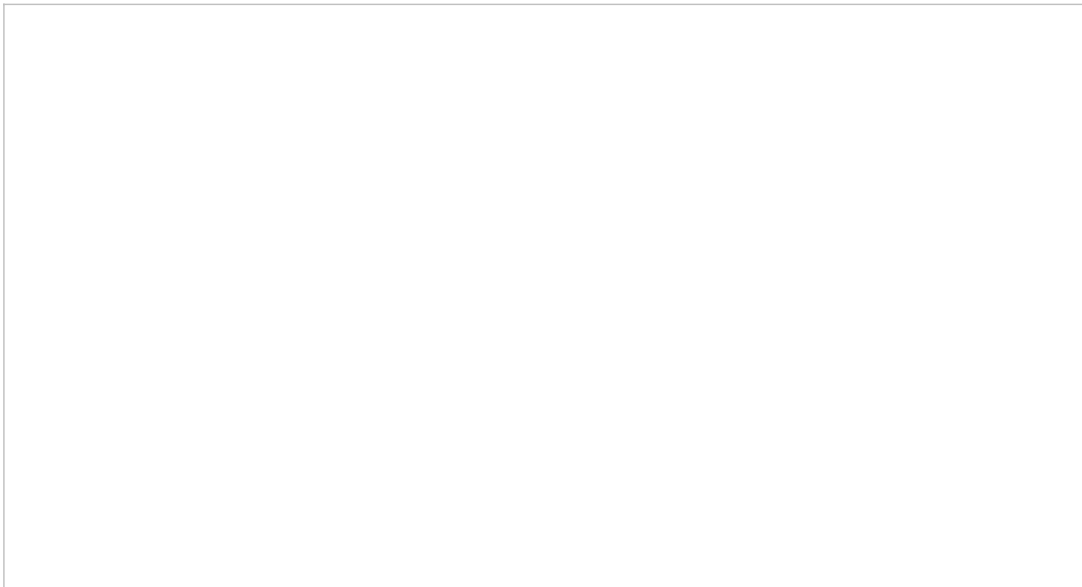
Start with the boat register. Every boat that takes part in any races needs to be in the Boat Register. If it is not there its sail number will not be in the list of boats available to the race officer when he is entering results.

Next consider the Class Register. All racing takes place in classes. Each series of races, or each individual race, is for one of the classes in the Class Register. For a boat to take part in a particular race it must be in the Boat Register and be a member of the class in question.

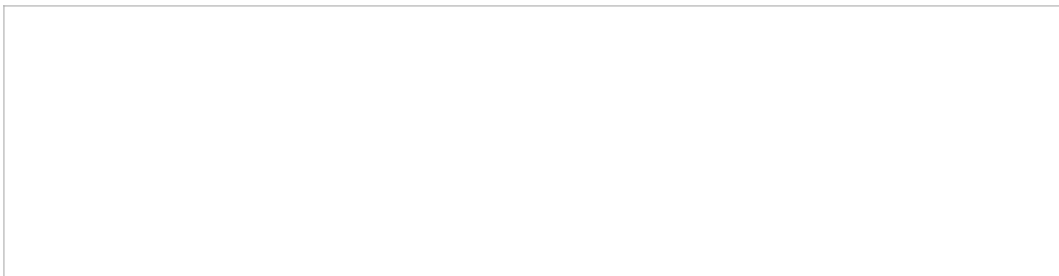
For instance, your club might organise races every Monday evening for the classes shown below.

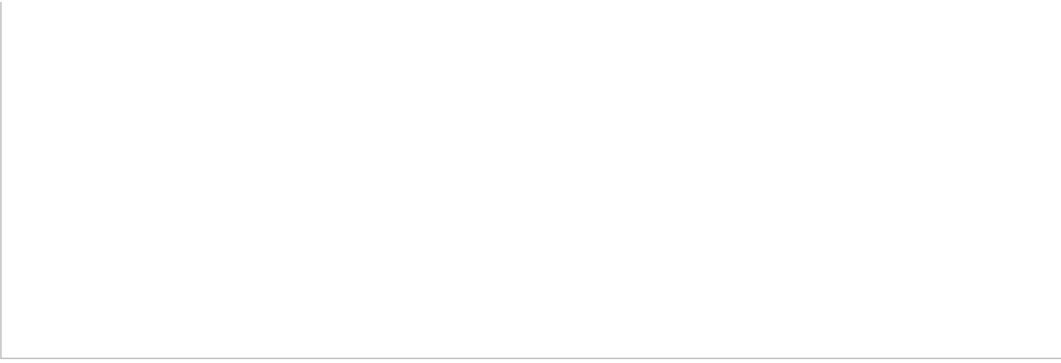


So Laser 1, Laser 2, etc. must be in the Lasers class. Fireball, Scorpion, etc. must be in the Dinghy H'cap class. And so on. On Wednesday evenings the Lasers might not have their own start but might sail with the other non-asymmetric dinghies. So racing should be organised as shown below. Note that the Lasers and the boats that were in the Dinghy H'cap class for Monday evenings also need to be in the Non-Asym class so that they can take part on Wednesdays.



Sometimes the club may organise races for all the boats on its Boat Register, so it needs a class for that. Below you see that all the boats are members of the All-In H'cap class.





So all boats are members of at least two classes: their own class and the All-In H'cap class. The Lasers and the non-asymmetric dinghies are members of three classes because they sometimes sail together in the Non-Asym class and sometimes sail separately in the Lasers and Dinghy H'cap classes.

This is a typical structure for club racing. You should note the following important points:

- Races are set in series. Each series is for one class. Note that a series can have any number of races in it up to 42. It could have just one race.
- To take part in a race a boat must be in the Boat Register and be a member of the class for which the series is organised.
- Each boat may be a member of several classes overall, so that the fleet can be divided in different ways on different occasions.
- On any one occasion the races should be for classes that divide up the boats unambiguously. In other words each boat should be a member of one, and only one, class that is racing on that occasion.

For more information, you might like to see the video on this subject

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