**HalSail FAQ**

**How does HalSail handle times?**

HalSail uses time in a number of ways. You need to specify the start time of each race   and, in the case of handicap races, the finish time of each boat  . In addition you can specify the time when the handicap of a boat will change from one value to another  . In each case you specify the time to the nearest second.

There is nothing in the Racing Rules of Sailing that states that times are to the nearest second. However it seems to be almost universal practice and some handicap schemes, such as IRC and ORC, do specify it explicitly. Indeed in the context of sailing, it is difficult to imagine a situation where it would make sense to specify a greater degree of timing precision than the nearest second.

The other type of time that is used in HalSail is the corrected time of each boat in a handicap race. It makes no sense to use more precision for that than for the race start time and the boat's finish time. So corrected time is also rounded to the nearest second. If two boats have the same corrected time to the nearest second, they will tie for a place in the race.

[Help index](#)