



WHAT IS TIME TRIALING

WHAT FOSTER FRIENDSHIPS AND CAMARADERIE?

WHAT BUILDS CONFIDENCE IN EVERY BOATER

WHAT IS A ON WATER COMPETITION

WHAT SHARPENS NAVIGATION SKILLS

A time trial event

It is the sport where every power boat owner can compete and have a great time while learning more about boating and Navigation. It's a sure way to practice navigation and satisfy your competitive nature in a friendly environment. This is not a test of speed -It's a test of accuracy, it doesn't take a special boat or high priced electronics, all that is required is

A Boat, A Compass, A Speedo, A Clock and a crew of 2

Time trial events are similar to road rallies on the water. You don't remember road rallies? You don't have to. All you have to do is determine your arrival time at each point on a designated course. You do the calculations in advance and then run the course in your boat on the day of the contest with a navigator, clock and speedometer.

The Result

- A better understanding of your boat's performance
- Increased confidence in your boating skills.
- Expanded knowledge of the Swan River system.
- Lots of new friends, camaraderie and fellowship.
- The stories you'll share with fellow time trailers will rival any fish tail you may have heard.
- The chance to visit various yacht clubs on the Swan River.



The Excuses we have heard them all

- It sounds too complicated
- I don't know how it works
- I don't want to embarrass myself with all those "experts" out there
- My boat is too small, too big, too fast, too slow, too old etc, etc.
- What if the weather is bad

We are here to help. Local Yacht Clubs hold contests on a regular basis; they also hold classes to help you sharpen your skills. Seasoned competitors share their knowledge of the sport and work with you until you know the ropes. Many act as mentors working one-on-one to help you develop your confidence. It won't be long before you are ready - and don't be surprised at how well you do! Power boaters of every skill level participate regularly Time Trial contestants compete in every type of boat - from outboards to cruising yachts. Contests are scheduled well in advance, but they are postponed when adverse weather conditions arise.

Enjoy new friends no matter what kind of contest you enter, rest assured that each offers camaraderie and fellowship. The "stories" you'll share while you wait for the scoring results will rival any fish tale you've heard. The folks you'll meet will share your love of the water and boats. And you'll have a chance to visit various yacht clubs in your area. If you want to learn some of the nuts and bolts of Time Trialling contact your nearest yacht club.

Power Yacht Time Trial Instructions for Beginners

A brief and practical guide on what is required to Time Trial in a Time Trial Event.

General Information Time Trialling can be undertaken by any craft capable of travelling at a speed between five and fifteen knots while under engine power. Time Trialling is good fun and an excellent opportunity for family participation on a Saturday afternoon. It is also a great opportunity to entertain guests and is a very social occasion both during the event and afterwards. Other benefits associated with Time Trialling include, using the boat in the winter months, improving boat handling skills and becoming familiar with local waters and navigational marks.

Time Trial Objectives Attempt to accurately maintain a predetermined course between fixed marks on the river at a nominated speed and arrive at each mark at a predetermined time.

Getting Started Prior to entering a Time Trial event participants need to determine the most suitable speed for the boat to travel. Once determined, this information together with a nomination form is required to be provided to the Club Office. Having received this information the Club Office will respond by supplying fixtures, instructions, start times, course sheets, charts detailing elapsed times between marks at various speeds and a time trialling number for your boat.

Boat Equipment Required Participating boats are required to fly a club burgee, yellow racing flag, and display their time trialling number on the boat in a prominent position so as to be readily identified by check point teams. A second person apart from the skipper who can be wife, son, daughter or friend is designated as the navigator. It is necessary to have a minimum of two people aboard a time trialling boat. Another handy item is an accurate timing device and this can be a watch, clock, stopwatch or kitchen clock and it is suggested to have a facility to set the clock to accurate time. This can be achieved by ringing Telstra time (telephone 1194). A further aid is an instrument to determine the speed of the boat travel, namely a Speedo, GPS, or an engine rev counter will suffice.

Course Time Calculations Having been supplied with a start time, charts showing elapsed times between marks and knowing your travelling speed it is now necessary to calculate at what time the boat is required to arrive at each mark of the course. These calculations are compiled by adding the time between marks at the nominated boat speed, (taken from the supplied charts) and adding them to the boat's start time. The calculations obtained are recorded and used during the event to check the progress of the boat at each mark.

You are now ready to time trial in an event.

Time Trialling Procedure Prior to the ten-minute gun it is necessary to establish a "take off mark" as it is a requirement for the boat when travelling through the start line to do so at its nominated speed. In order to achieve this objective a shore based, or spit post mark is selected (75 to 100 meters back from the start line). This becomes the "take off mark" and once identified, a timed practice run is taken from that mark to the start line. The elapsed time resulting from this exercise is then deducted from the start time to give the "take off time". It is also important to check prior to commencing these procedures that the timing equipment being used agrees with the correct official time (Telstra 1194).

Starting Procedure As the "take off time" approaches the boat needs to be lined up at the selected "take off mark" so that exactly "on take-off time" the boat can be accelerated towards the start line and hence cross the start line at the correct start time and nominated speed.

Having crossed the line you are now competing in the event.

Time Trialling On The Course The intention now is to proceed around the marks of the course arriving at each mark at the correct time as disclosed from the recorded calculations. You may find that to achieve accurate results it may be necessary to account for the effect the wind and tide will have on the speed of the boat and it may be necessary to make minor throttle adjustments to maintain the required boat speed over the ground. In order to have an accurate timing at a mark it is important to know that a boat is recorded as passing a mark when the leading edge of the bow passes at ninety degrees to the centre of the mark. A number of marks around the course will have been pre-selected by the Race Control Officer for the purpose of checking the time each boat actually passed the predetermined marks. The recording of these times is conducted by "check point crews" who may be stationed on the land or in boats on the river, and the recording of these times are collated and used for calculating the race results.

Penalties Boats incur a penalty of one point for every second they are early or late at a checked mark. A Penalty of ten points can be incurred for a blatant change of course or speed and penalties of ten points for change of speed within fifty metres of a mark can also be incurred.

Winner The winner of the Time Trial event is the boat that incurs the least number of points lost. Handicap results are also incorporated in the time trialling events run by the Club.

