




Stop Watch: Handling Duplicates

Background:

Prior to Using the TopYacht StopWatch data, it is wise to validate the data.

Apart from sail number entries without a match¹ duplicate entries need to be reviewed prior to using the data.

To highlight duplicates, press the  button.

Boats with identical sail numbers **or** time-stamps will be highlighted with **red text**.

There are different scenarios which require different measures.

Duplicate Sail Numbers

Scenario 1: The Boat Crossed the Finish Line Twice

The boat may have fouled at the finish line, done a penalty turn, then finished a second time. This provides an audit trail which can be used at a hearing as evidence that the boat did finish twice.

The internal logic of TopYacht will select the **last** time stamp for its calculations to determine the order of finishes. The TopYacht operator need take no further action.

Scenario 2: Someone has borrowed a Mate's Sail for the day

In a perfect world the competitor will have handed a completed [Request to Change Sail Number form](#) to the RO prior to leaving the beach.

The RO will need to keep this in mind when calling the finish. The sail number will require manually changing prior to processing the results. Insert the called sail number into the "Orig Sail No" cell to provide an audit trail.

If there is no form presented, the culprit deserves a DNC. However, the ultimate outcome is determined by Club policy and must be written into the Sailing Instructions.

Duplicate Time Stamps

Scenario 1: One Design Racing

TopYacht can **only** resolve time stamps to the nearest second. In close racing, two (or more) boats may finish within a single second window.

Unless a dead-heat is called by the Race Officer, the TopYacht operator will need to adjust the time stamps to ensure that there is at least a one-second difference between the recorded places.

Scenario 2: Handicap Racing in Different Divisions

It two boats in different divisions cross in the same second, and receive the same time stamp, it is of no consequence and the TopYacht operator need take no further action.

¹ After the enter key is pressed, the background of the row of cells turns yellow when a TopYacht matches the entered sail number matches a corresponding sail number in the right-hand pane.

Scenario 3: Handicap Racing Same Divisions

If two boats in the same division cross in the same second, and receive the same time stamp, the mathematics of computing corrected times will more than likely produce different corrected times. It is of no consequence and the TopYacht operator need take no further action.

However, if the boats have identical handicaps, and because of the vagaries of computing those handicaps, the final result should be called a tie.

Amending Sail Numbers in StopWatch

.	Sail No	HR	MN	SC	DIDNOT	Org Sail No	Boat
▶ 34	G8	19	23	38			EXIL
	33 72	19	23	05			
	32 G18	19	22	53			THE
	31 G30	19	22	18			MAA
	30 G9	19	21	46			FREI
	29 G212	19	21	44			RAZ
	28 99	19	19	43			
	27 G120	19	19	41			BAL
	26 360	19	17	56			
	25 G5901	19	17	41			SPIF
	24 G296	19	17	27			INCH
	23 G59	19	17	07			MUS
	22 045	19	16	08			
	21 2323	19	15	40			Scra
	20 133	19	14	59			
	19 4474	19	14	53			
	18 AUS5585	19	14	41			LOC

It is best practice to

- Amend the entry in the **Sail No.** column to reflect the true number registered with the boat.
- Transfer the called number to the **Org Sail No.** column. (This gives an audit trail)

Further Reading:

[Accuracy of Quoting Times and Handicap Values](#)

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