

Canoeing Victoria 2014 Marathon Points System

What's changed?: We have revised the points system for 2014 to adjust for craft type and race distance in addition to the age and gender handicap factors introduced in 2013.

Why?: The purpose of the points system is to provide an equitable basis for comparing paddlers. This year we can now account for the differences in craft type and race distance paddled in addition to age and gender. This means that if you are a capable paddler in a range of craft (such as TKs or TCs or Ks) you should receive the same race points regardless of which type of craft or distance you paddle. You can also compare your performance with other paddlers in other types of craft and other age groups for example.

Method: We compare performance based on the handicap adjusted speed for each race. The fastest paddler on handicap receives 100 points and the slowest paddler on handicap receives 1 point. Everyone else is ranked in between. The handicap is based on each paddler's age, gender, craft type and distance paddled. The individual factors for age, gender, craft type and distance are based on actual performance data.

- Age and gender factors are based on data from Marathon World Championships (for U18, U23, Open and Vet categories) and Australian National Championships (for U14 to U16).
- Craft factors are based on Marathon World Championship data for international class C and K boats and Hawkesbury Canoe Classic and Murray Marathon factors for touring and outrigger canoes, touring kayaks and stand-up paddleboards.
- Distance factors are based on kayaking world record data for various race distances.

Philosophy: The handicap factors reflect the performance that can be achieved by paddlers, based on their age and gender, in a given craft and for the distance paddled. It is not about giving every paddler equal first place. It is about providing a reasonable basis for comparing who is paddling well given their circumstances.

Points: The points for every paddler will be tracked for each race in the series. Paddlers will earn individual points for each race, regardless of "singles" or "doubles" race designation. The paddler's score for the series will be based on his or her best five races out of the annual race series.

Age, gender, craft type and distance handicap factors are summarized on the following page.

Examples: The handicap factor for a V40 female paddler competing in a TK1 over 12 km would be: Age (0.939) * Gender (0.835) * Craft (0.895) * Distance (0.972) = 0.682.

The handicap factor for an Open male paddler competing in a K1 over 24 km would be: Age (1.000) * Gender (1.000) * Craft (1.000) * Distance (0.926) = 0.926.

Handicap factors for doubles boats reflect the average of the handicap factors for the crew.

More information: See the reports explaining the handicapping factors in more detail on the Canoeing Victoria website or contact Joe Alia or John Young.

Go to www.vic.canoe.org.au for more information

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Combined age and gender factors

Age category	Male factor	Female factor
U12	0.867	0.779
U14	0.903	0.811
U16	0.931	0.836
U18	0.962	0.864
U23	0.990	0.889
Open	1.000	0.898
V35	0.963	0.804
V40	0.939	0.784
V45	0.917	0.766
V50	0.894	0.746
V55	0.851	0.711
V60	0.823	0.687
V65	0.792	0.661
V70	0.755	0.630
V75	0.707	0.590
V80	0.604	0.504

The combined age and gender factors represent the average speed achievable for men and women of various age groups, expressed relative to Open Men, based on a constant race distance.

The female factors incorporate a gender factor of 0.898 for U12 to Open age groups and 0.835 for Vet age groups.

Age and gender factors have been updated from last year to reflect 2013 championship data.

Craft factors

Craft type	Craft factor
K1	1.000
K2	1.067
C1	0.890
C2	0.947
TK1	0.895
TK2	0.973
TC1	0.856
TC2	0.846
OC1	0.939
OC2	1.001
OC6	1.117
SUP	0.687
Other single	1.000
Other double	1.067

Craft factors represent the speed achievable, expressed relative to an international class K1.

International class factors are sourced from Marathon World Championship data; factors for touring kayaks, touring canoes, outrigger canoes and stand-up paddleboards are sourced from Hawkesbury Canoe Classic data.

To keep things simple all other craft types (short rec, medium rec, long rec, sea kayak, surf ski, ocean ski, unrestricted, downriver, sit-on top, singles, doubles, etc, etc, etc) are assumed equal to K1 or K2. Craft factors for specific classes can be introduced if we have meaningful participant numbers.

Distance factors

Distance (km)	Distance factor
2	1.102
4	1.050
8	1.000
12	0.972
16	0.952
20	0.938
24	0.926
30	0.912

The distance factors represent the ratio of the average speed over various race distances to 8 km, which is the standard Victorian short course race distance (for Divisions 7, 8 and 9).

The performance of males and females based on world record data are similar (as, interestingly, are the distance factors for kayaking, running and indoor rowing).