

Handicap Competition 2014

Beacon RCC runs a season long handicap competition for members competing in time trials. Handicapping involves giving each rider in an event a time allowance, which is deducted from the actual time it takes him or her to complete the course. The idea of the handicap competition is to give everyone a chance of winning and to reward the rider who improves the most. The rules of the competition are set out below. A handsome trophy is awarded to the winner of the series.

Beacon RCC Time Trial Handicap Competition Rules

1. The competition is open to all Beacon 1st claim members.
2. For the 2014 season there are 20 qualifying events . These are the Beacon's club solo time trials, the Beacon's open time trial, Little Mountain TT, and the non-Beacon open time trial designated as the 50-mile championships. [See the club TT calendar](#) for dates and course details.
3. The Handicaps given reflect the riders PB times achieved on the courses and distances used during the championships from 2011, 2012 and 2013.
4. Each qualifying event is handicapped and points awarded on the basis of the handicap finishing order. There are 40 points awarded to the fastest rider on handicap, 39 to the second and so on down to the fortieth rider, or down to the slowest rider on handicap if there are fewer than forty.
5. The competition is won by the rider with the highest aggregate points score from his or her ten best scoring events.
6. It is not necessary to compete in ten events. If a rider competes in fewer than ten events, his/her points score in each missed event will be treated as zero.
7. Each rider's handicap is a time allowance relative to a base time for the course in question. The handicap reflects the rider's best time on the course in the current and last three seasons. If a rider has not ridden a course in the current and last three seasons, his or her handicap may reflect earlier performances and/or times on other courses, if the handicapper considers them relevant.
8. A rider with no previous experience on a course or at a distance will be given a NOVICE HANDICAP for his/her first 4 events. When a rider has competed in 4 races during the current or previous season the rider is then given a handicap based on these first 4 performances for the remainder of the current season. There is some subjectivity in this process. Please let the Current Handicapper know of any obvious errors but be aware that providing the handicap is an estimate not an exact science in cases where the course has not been recently ridden by the rider.

9. If a rider has no previous experience on a course or at a distance, his or her time on handicap, can never be less than the base time for the course or distance in question if the rider has completed less than 4 events during the current and previous season. After a rider has completed 4 events during the current and previous season an estimated time will be given based on the riders first 4 previous performances. So, for example during the riders first 4 performances , if a male vet with no previous experience records an actual time of 25.45 on the K33/10S, his handicap time is 20.00 (the course base time), not 19.45 (his actual time minus the novice's handicap of 6.00). This rule is designed to prevent the system being unreasonably generous to a talented rider with no relevant experience.

10. The handicap awarded to a rider aged sixty or more will be adjusted to allow for the difficulty older riders often have in matching previous performances. The adjustment will take the form of an additional allowance of 1 per cent of the rider's time. Any rider wishing to take advantage of this extra allowance must let the Current Handicapper know preferably before but if not within 4 days of the ride.

12. The Current Handicapper is Simon Dighton. The Current Handicapper arranges for the points scored for each race and the cumulative position to be posted to the message board as soon as practical after each race. A link to the calculating spreadsheet, which also shows future handicaps, is uploaded regularly.

13. The Time Trial Secretary will decide any matters not provided for in these rules, in consultation with the club committee where appropriate.

Base times and novice handicaps

Base time		Novice handicap		
Course	Mins	Sen Mins	J/V Mins	Lady Mins
KH/12	3	1.3	2	3
K20/5	10	2.3	3	3.3
K20/8.5	18	5	5.3	6
K36/4.5C*2	20	4.3	5	5.3
K35/6G	15	3	3.3	4
K35/6G*2	30	6.3	7.15	8.3
K33/10D	21	5.3	6	7
K33/10S	20	5.3	6	7
K34/10D	21	5.3	6	7
K32/20	47	8.3	10	12.3
K22/39	100	40	45	50
Champ 25	54	12.3	15	17.3
Champ 50	110	30	35	40