



Paddle Victoria Marathon Divisional Racing System

The aim of the divisional system is to enable paddlers to race others of similar ability and to provide a graduated system to prepare paddlers for national and international competition.

There are 11 divisions within this system, six (Divisions 1 to 6) of which are performance based, two (Division 7a and 7b) which are non-performance based and three (Divisions 8 to 10) which are age based for juniors.

Typical race distances, portage requirements and speed ranges for each division are noted in the table below.

Paddlers should race in a division that matches their average speed over that distance. This is for the safety of the paddlers and to ensure that the events finish within a reasonable time and on schedule.

| Division | Distance | Speed | Pace | Time | Portage | Notes |
|----------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------|-----------|
| Div 1 | 25 km | > 12.5 km/hr | < 4:48 min/km | < 2:00 hrs | Yes | |
| Div 2 | 25 km | 12.0 - 12.5 km/hr | 4:48 - 5:00 min/km | 2:00 - 2:05 hrs | Yes | |
| Div 3 | 20 km | 11.5 - 12.0 km/hr | 5:00 - 5:13 min/km | 1:40 - 1:45 hrs | Yes | |
| Div 4 | 20 km | 11.0 - 11.5 km/hr | 5:13 - 5:27 min/km | 1:45 - 1:50 hrs | Yes | |
| Div 5 | 15 km | 10.0 - 11.0 km/hr | 5:27 - 6:00 min/km | 1:20 - 1:30 hrs | Yes | |
| Div 6 | 15 km | 9.0 - 10.0 km/hr | 6:00 - 6:40 min/km | 1:30 - 1:40 hrs | No | |
| Div 7a | 10 km | - | - | - | No | |
| Div 7b | 5 km | - | - | - | No | |
| Div 8 | 10 km | - | - | - | No | U16 / U18 |
| Div 9 | 5 - 10 km | - | - | - | No | U14 |
| Div 10 | 2 - 5 km | - | - | - | No | U10 / U12 |

Notes

1. The time to paddle is over the race distance (i.e. Div 1 needs to be able to paddle 25km in less than 2:00hrs, at an average speed of >12.5 km/hr).
2. Portage may be scheduled at specified events for ICF class boats (K1, K2, C1, C2, including masters K boats) in Div 1-5. Paddlers in these divisions who cannot portage due to age or injury can request a time penalty from the Chief Umpire before the race. Paddlers in other divisions may portage if they wish.
3. Div 1-7 are open for all ages. Div 8-10 are for juniors only.
4. Junior paddlers can paddle in higher divisions (Div 7 and above) if they wish as long as they can meet the average speed requirement.
5. The number of laps, lap distance and total race length may change depending on the event and the weather and river conditions.
6. In addition to the divisional system, class-based racing can be offered for canoes, SUP, rec, para etc when there are sufficient paddler numbers.

