

SAILONLINE SYC MEMBERSHIP

RACE VALIDITY FOR SYC AND SERIES RANKINGS

SYSTEM CHANGED

Hello SOLers !!

When the SOL Management Team brainstormed after Summer about the need of some changes and improvements before starting 2015 and its racing ,the main subject was undoubtedly the revision of the mechanicals whereby races are considered valid for SYC and series rankings .

Up until the end of 2014 the server was crediting ALL the past racing and its actual position related points to a NEW SYC member , as well as to RENEWING ones. On top of some advantages (encouragement to new members , possibility to avoid renewal for a period of time without any consequence etc.) there has always been also one major unacceptable (to say the least) drawback :

Anyone could be out of a series ranking for as long as a full Championship year , and magically appear with all his/her races at the end of a long Tournament , or even sometimes after the actual closure of a series , and be ranked as if he/she had been SYC member continuously during the duration of the series .

This became even more unacceptable since some of the series (Championships) started to assign prizes ! . We had cases of embarrassment in that respect.

Another bad aspect of the existing mechanicals was that when SYC membership expired , all the results of that member as to series rankings just disappeared from those rankings , and re-appeared only when the membership renewal had been processed , provided the series was not already "frozen" in the server (one month after closure of last accruing race).

Whilst we want to RE-CONFIRM that the game is open and FREE for everyone , we decided to adopt a new , more logical and sensible system:

Individual races run as NON member would NOT accrue to a series the same way as they would in the presence of active membership . This way the end position and the result are both still very valid and logged by server, but the points accrued in that race would reflect the NON Membership status in that same race.

We believe this is fair to all competing SOLers , and clean for the purpose of having constantly a TRUE ranking situation in a series (Championship) as well as the SYC rankings.

The following new rules have been implemented :

--- When a boat **finishes** a race the server looks at SYC membership and applies the following scores :

SYC MEMBER = low points score corresponding to position as usual.

NON SYC MEMBER = low points score corresponding to DNC (same as DNS)

(the points credited to NON member boat when crossing the finish line will be "frozen in stone" and will be used by server for compilation of any series ranking, as well as SYC rankings.)

--- In case of **TIMED** races the server will look for SYNC membership when the **race closes** , rather than at the moment a boat crosses the line , for obvious practical reasons.

As consequence of this, the first time subscriber will see ALL his last 30 races as DNS or DNC , and not be credited with the results he/she already logged before subscribing.

A NON SYNC member boat will appear in an SYNC series ranking if at least one of the races belonging to the series has been raced while SYNC membership is active (there would be no practical meaning otherwise)

A NON SYNC member boat will therefore continue to appear in a series ranking if at least one of the races has been raced membership is active , even AFTER expiry of membership , whether or not it is eventually renewed .

Another major change that has been implemented alongside with the ranking changes , is that from now on a series will start showing the results of any single race accruing to that series **ONLY** from the moment the first boat cuts the finish line. It was nonsense to include in the dynamic ranking of a series all those DNFs whilst the race was taking place .

To anticipate response to the most logical question that may be raised , we can say that some have suggested that a “grace period” be allowed between expiry and renewal , whereby all races could be credited as valid for series rankings if renewal would actually take place within grace period . This had not been possible for two reasons :

- 1) Actual difficulty in coding
- 2) Persistence of situation whereby a series have been closed and prizes delivered and single race results still be able to change (not acceptable)

Credit must be given to Markku (hmm) for bravely building these changes into the server . The next few weeks will tell if there is any fine tuning or debugging needed . We are sure that the SOL Community will cooperate in testing , and that patience will be the main driver in case of need. ;))

Please let us know if any of this is unclear.

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