

New to Racing – Am I improving?!!

So, you've taken the plunge and joined in a few races – that's great!! Hopefully you've had a few moments of adrenalin, and the lessons you had when you first learnt to sail are paying off. However, sometimes it can feel like everyone else is better and it'll be ages before you move up the results sheet. Don't worry – we've all been there!! What follows is my personal view on how to take it one or two small steps at a time. There are loads of personal achievements along the way – major and minor. Try playing these bingo cards!

A novice racer

Completed a lap		Did a gybe in a force 3 without capsizing	
	Completed a race without capsizing	Completed the same number of laps as the winner	Not last on the results sheet
Not last at the first mark	Overtook another boat		Crossed the start line within 10 seconds of the start signal

Getting better!

	Called starboard on another racer		Won a glass for 3 rd place in a series
First to the windward mark		Won a race!	
	Finished ahead of that really good helm	Called 'water at the mark'	Remembered to play some of the controls – outhaul, kicker

Advanced 😊

Controlled a death roll and didn't capsize		Won a series	Pushed another helm over the start line
	Did a port start – and it paid off		Raced in force 4-5 and didn't capsize
Won a club championship series		Crossed the start line exactly on the sound signal	

And finally.....

Won the club championship!!

Whatever your achievements each week, I hope you enjoy your racing. If you do have any questions, please drop me an email.

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