



Wind Speed Selection Guide

The wind ranges are well defined. The challenge for race committees is to measure the wind accurately and determine an appropriate average wind speed. Below are the best fit wind ranges.

Very Light – Under 5 knots.

Light – Between 5 and 10 knots.

Medium – Between 10 and 16 knots.

Heavy – Above 16 knots.

The height of the anemometer above the water directly affects the accuracy of the wind readings. The rated wind speeds are always referenced at 10 meters (33 feet) above the water. This table corrects for measurement height.

Vertical Wind Shear Quick Reference											
	Height of anemometer above water (feet)										
Observed WS:	↓	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Actual WS: (at 10m height)	6	2.5	3.7	4.9	6.1	7.4	8.6	9.8	11.0	12.3	13.5
	8	2.4	3.5	4.7	5.9	7.1	8.3	9.4	10.6	11.8	13.0
	12	2.2	3.4	4.5	5.6	6.7	7.9	9.0	10.1	11.2	12.3
	23	2.1	3.1	4.2	5.2	6.2	7.3	8.3	9.4	10.4	11.4
	33	2.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	11.0
		Very Light			Light					Medium	
Observed WS:		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Actual WS: (at 10m height)	6	13.5	14.7	15.9	17.2	18.4	19.6	20.8	22.1	23.3	24.5
	8	13.0	14.2	15.3	16.5	17.7	18.9	20.1	21.3	22.4	23.6
	12	12.3	13.5	14.6	15.7	16.8	18.0	19.1	20.2	21.3	22.4
	23	11.4	12.5	13.5	14.6	15.6	16.6	17.7	18.7	19.8	20.8
	33	11.0	12.0	13.0	14.0	15.0	16.0	17.0	18.0	19.0	20.0
		Medium					Heavy				