

**Westhold
Sign Master
User Manual**

Version 1.0.0.8

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User Manual

1. Introduction

1.1 General Information

The Westhold Sign Master is used to control Westhold scoreboards either through a scoreboard controller or directly through a serial interface.

1.2 Requirements

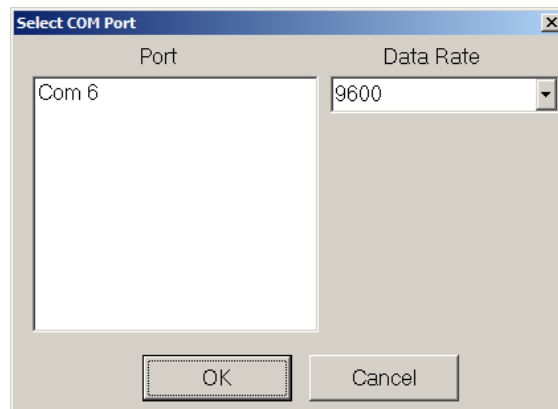
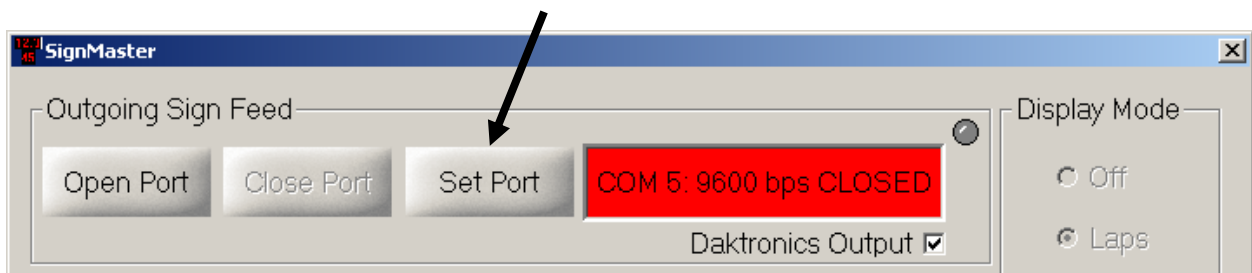
The software communicates via a serial port. Newer computers which do not have serial ports will require a USB to Serial adapter cable and the accompanying drivers. Any Windows operating system from Windows 98 and up is compatible with the software.

You may need administrative privilege if you plan on installing the software on Windows Vista or Windows 7 machines.

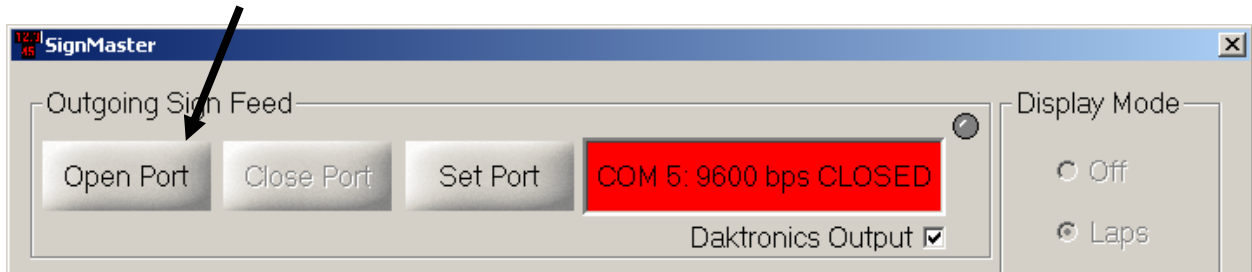
2. Operation

2.1 Select and Open Port

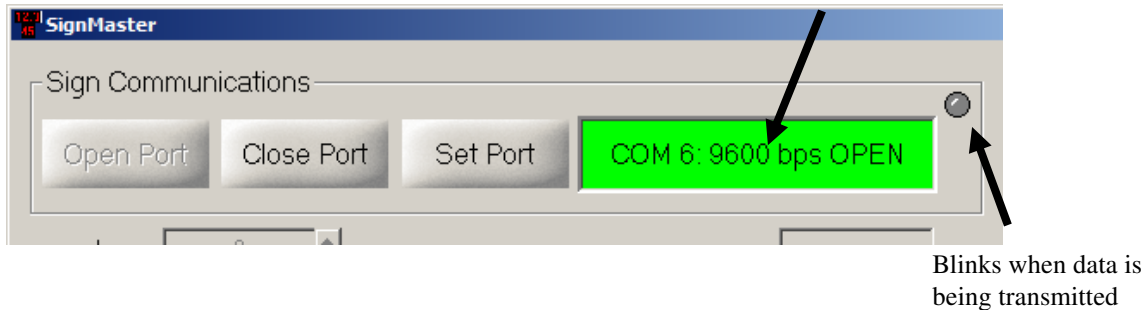
First click the Select Port button, and select the appropriate Com port.



Use the default data rate of 9600. Once the port and data rate have been selected click the Ok button. Now click the Open Port button to establish a connection to the scoreboard controller or scoreboard.

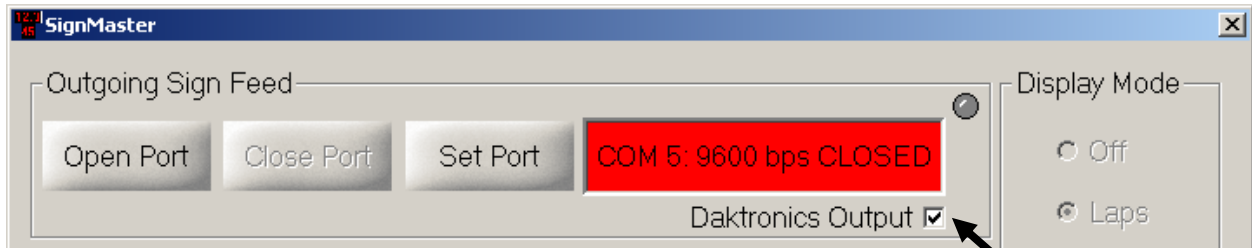


If the port is successfully opened the indicator window will turn green.



2.2 Daktronics Output

Check the Daktronics Output checkbox to output Daktronics data. This is ONLY useful for communications with Daktronics scoreboards. Do not use this with any other scoreboards. The only type of packet sent are \$SR packet. So be sure to set the Daktronics controller to Race mode. You will also need to set it up for transponder operation.

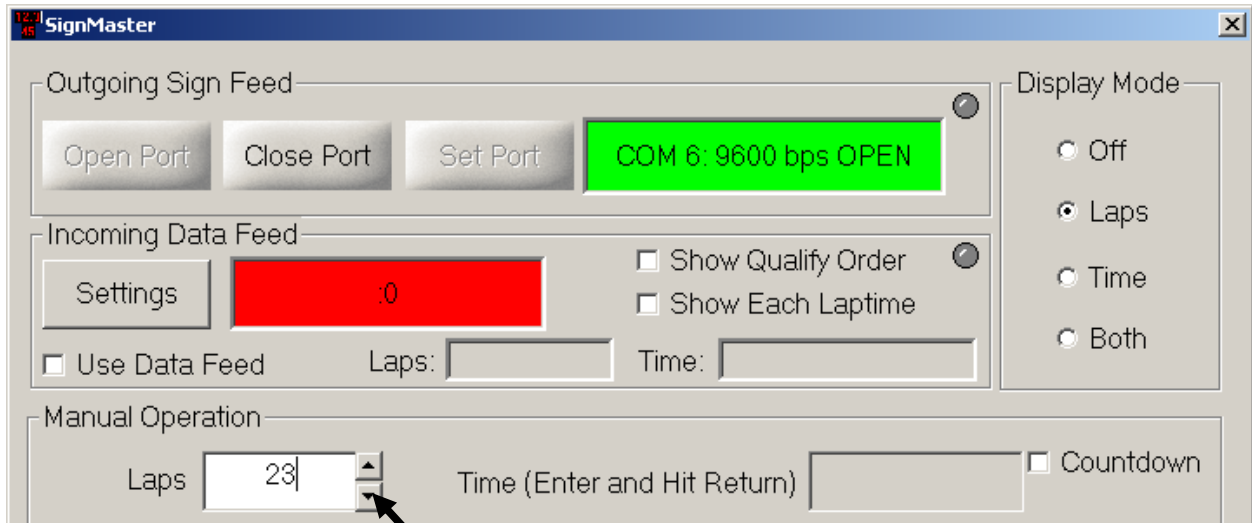


2.3 Display Mode

Click the display mode selection to determine whether to show laps or time or both. Note that not all scoreboards can show both.

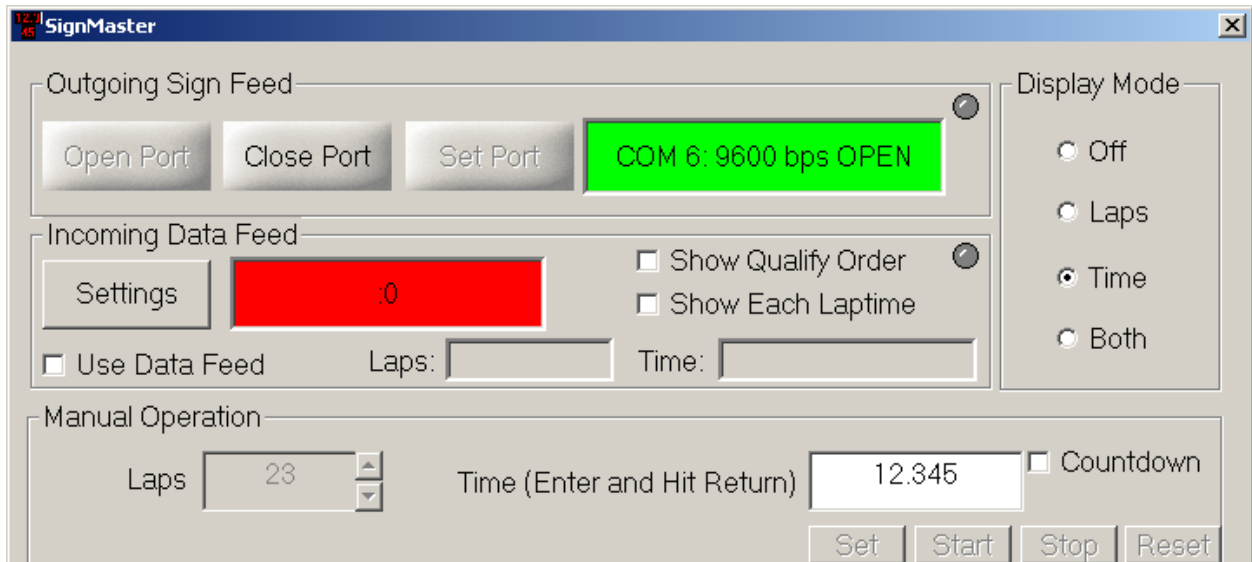
2.4 Laps

In Laps or Both display mode you can either use the up and down arrows to increase or decrease the lap count. Or you can type in the lap count. To send the lap data to the scoreboard press the Enter key on your keyboard.



2.5 Time

In the Time or Both display mode type in the time and hit the Enter key on your keyboard.



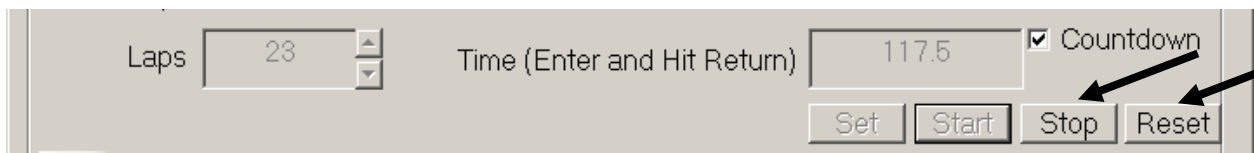
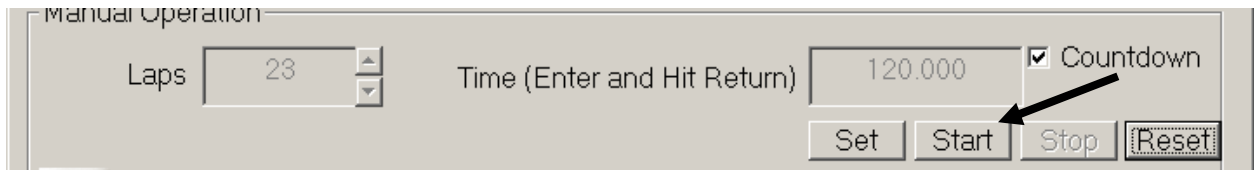
2.6 Countdown

In the Time or Both display mode you can set a countdown timer. Check the Countdown checkbox to activate this feature. Click the Set button to set the amount of time to count down.



Enter the time in hours, minutes and seconds. Note: you do not have to enter all fields. Click the OK button when done.

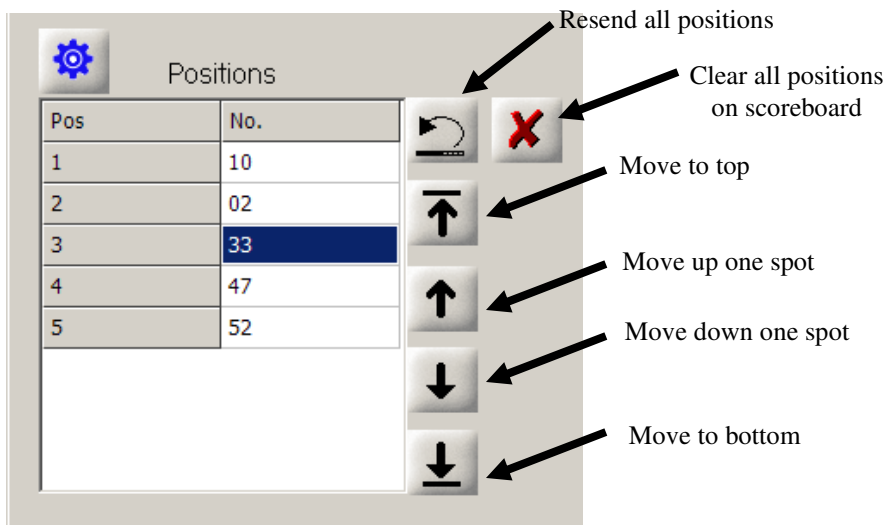
Now click the Start button to start the timer.



Click the Stop button to stop the countdown. Click the Reset to reset the clock to the the start of the countdown.

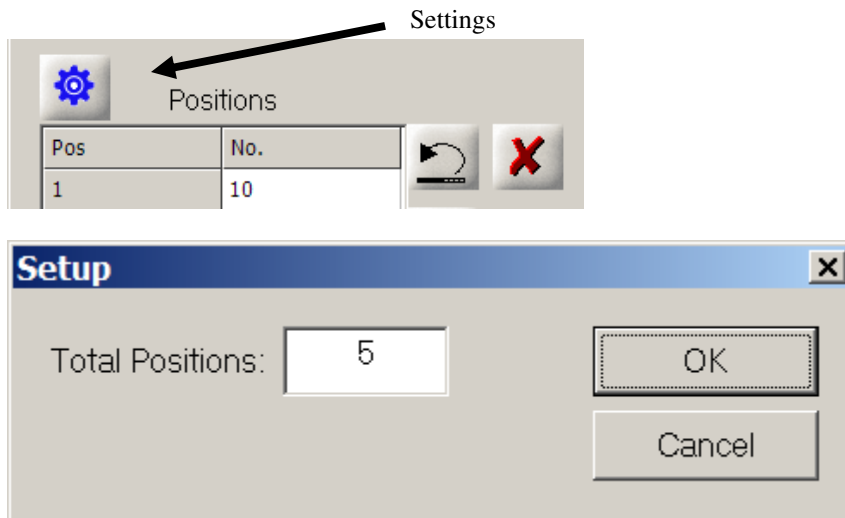
2.7 Positions

To enter positions simply type in the racer number next to the position number. Press the Enter key twice to move to the next line or use the arrow key. You may drag positions up and down with the mouse or use the buttons.



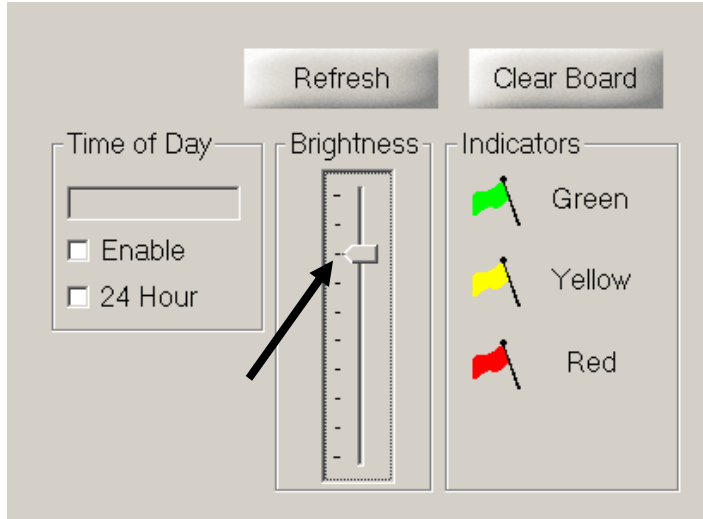
2.8 Settings

Click the settings button to open the settings dialog box.



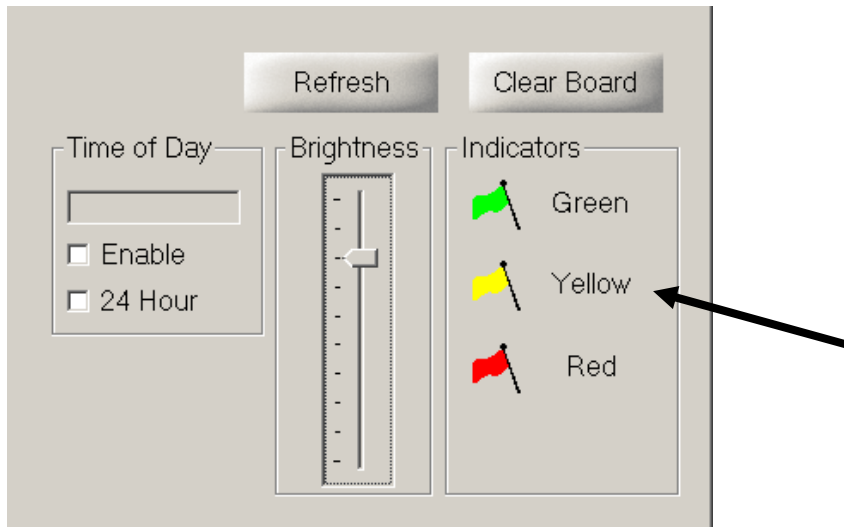
2.9 Brightness

Use the scroll bar to manually control the brightness of the scoreboard. The scoreboard normally uses a light sensor to automatically control brightness.



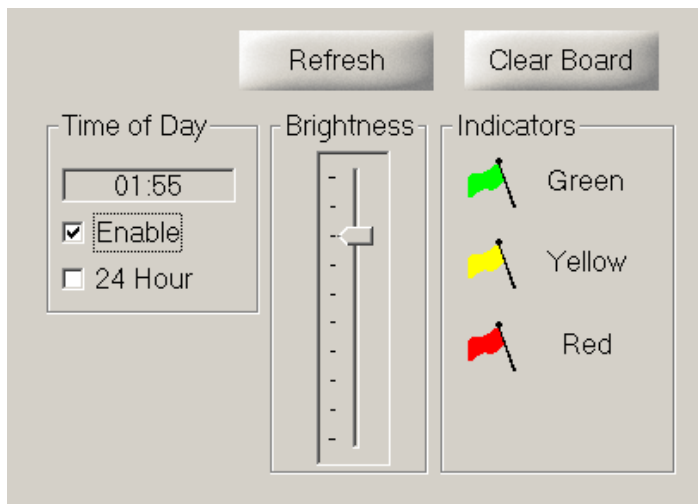
2.10 Status Indicators

Click the Green, Yellow and Red flags to change the indicator lights on the scoreboard. Note that not all scoreboards have indicator lights. To change which indicator is on simply click another indicator. You may also click an indicator a second time to turn it off.



2.11 Time of Day

To show the time of day click on the Enable checkbox. The format may be changed to 24 hour mode by clicking the 24 Hour checkbox. Note that when the Time of Day is on it will overwrite the Time position of the scoreboard. The time of day shown is the time of day shown on your computer.



2.12 Refresh and Clear Board

Click Refresh to resend all the data to the scoreboard. Click Clear Board to clear the entire scoreboard.



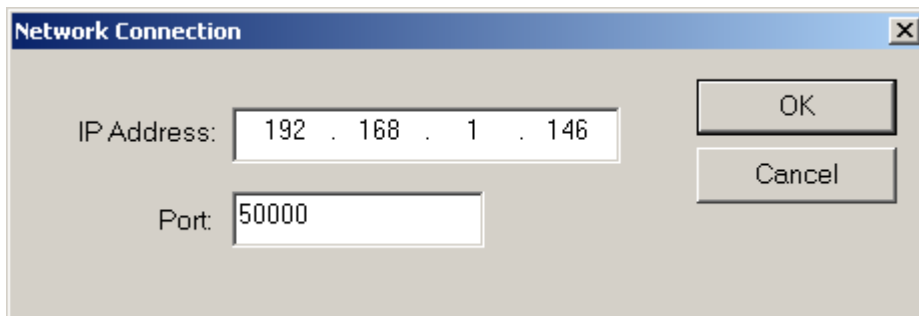
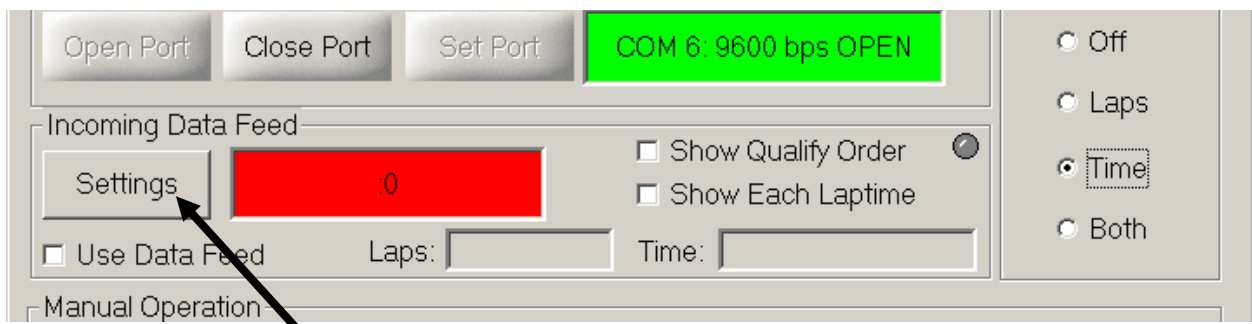
2.13 Incoming Data Feed

This section is used in conjunction with a scoreboard feed from transponder timing software which do not support Westhold scoreboards. You can go back and forth between manual scoreboard control and automatic control by enabling and disabling the Incoming Data Feed section. See Use Data Feed section below.

Note that the transponder scoring software must have its scoreboard feed enabled and sending both Qualify Results and Race Results at the same time.

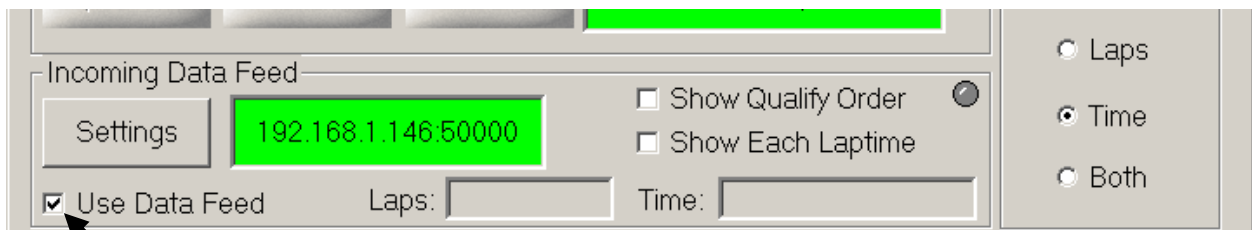
2.13.1 Settings

Click on the Settings button to set the Network Connection information where the feed will be coming from. The transponder scoring software can be on the same computer as Sign Master or a different computer.



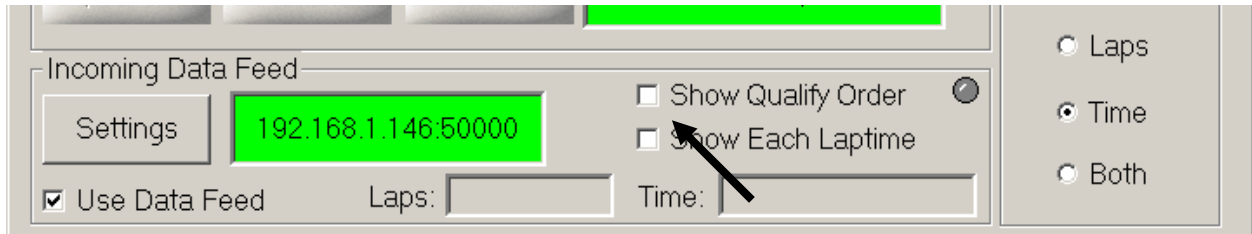
Enter the IP Address and Port number which corresponds to the transponder scoring software IP address and port number.

Then enable the data feed by clicking on the Use Data Feed checkbox. If Sign Master successfully connects to the transponder scoring software, the window next to the Settings button will turn green.



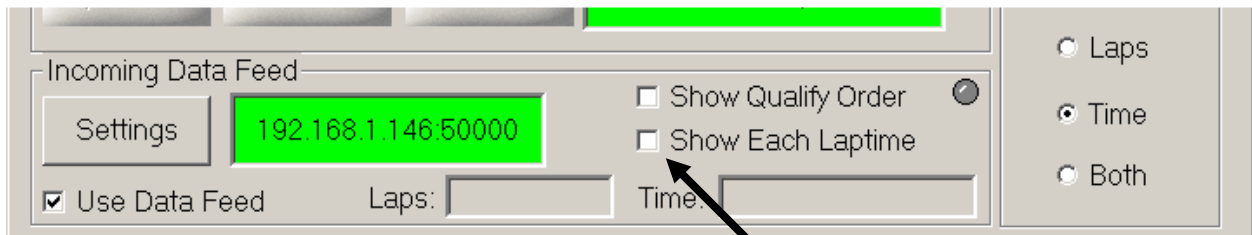
2.13.2 Show Qualify Order

If this is enabled, the scoreboard will show the qualifying order information sent by the transponder software.

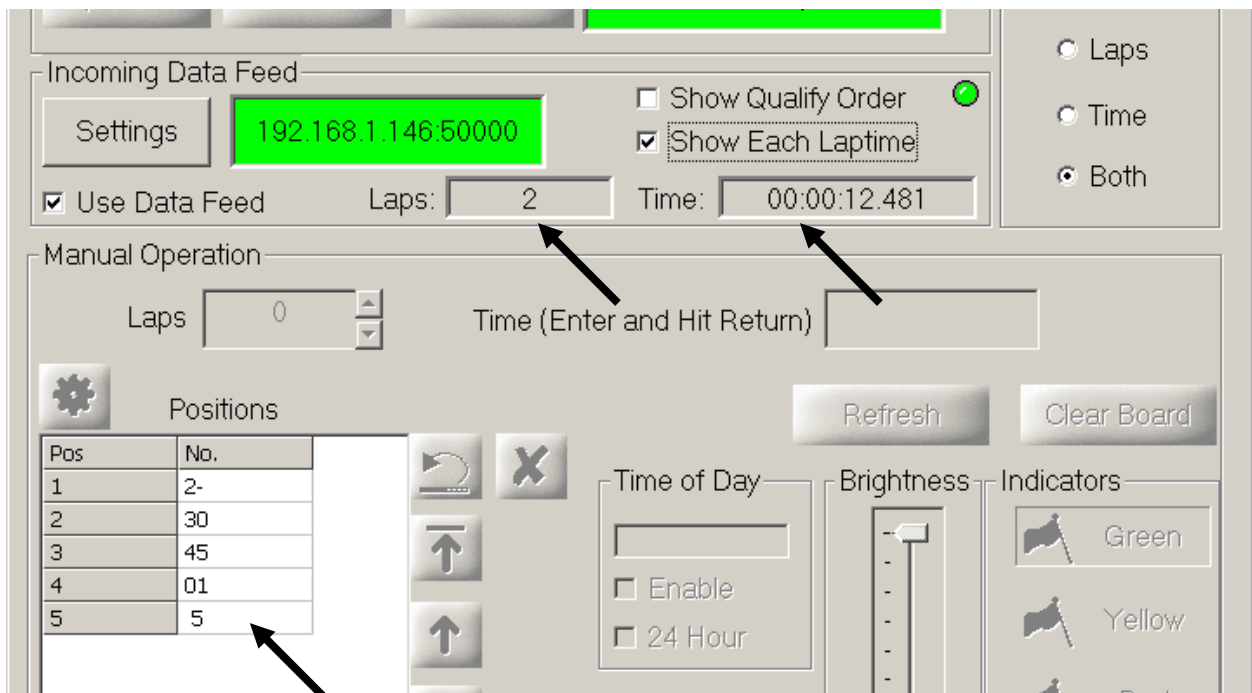


2.13.3 Show Each Laptime

If this is enabled the scoreboard will show each competitor's laptime as they make a lap. If this is not enabled then the fast time for each competitor is shown.



When the Use Data Feed mode is used, lap information and time information will be shown in Laps and Time window.



The running order or qualifying order is reflected in the Positions area of the screen.