1 RULES
Races will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

2 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS
2.1 All Notices will be posted on the NEHF web sites.
2.2 The Race Committee shall communicate with competitors on VHF CH 65.

3 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS
Any change to the sailing instructions shall be made prior to 1000 on the day of a race. Any change in the schedule of races shall be made prior to 1800 on the day before it will take effect.

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE
On the day of a race, cancellations, postponements and changes to the starting area will be announced on VHF channel 65 between 1210 & 1230. Unless notified, all races will be started on schedule.

5 SCHEDULE OF RACES
The schedule of races shall be as set forth in the Fleet Racing Schedule posted on the NEH Fleet calendar pages.

6 RACE AREAS
6.1 Racing will be conducted in the waters of the Great Harbor, the Western Way, the Eastern Way, Somes Sound, and the waters surrounding Mount Desert Island.
6.2 Races will normally start in the navigable waters of the Great Harbor.
6.3 On race days with very limited visibility competitors should anticipate a rendezvous in Norwood Cove or Somes Sound and use all means to get to the starting area as quickly as possible by flying spinnakers or co-opting a tow.

7 COURSES
Courses will be displayed on a rack located on the Race Committee Signal Boat prior to the Warning signal, with the first mark to be rounded on the top of the rack and the remaining marks in descending order. Marks shall be rounded to port, unless the letter “S”, indicating “Round this specific mark to Starboard” is placed beside the mark letter. Courses may include turns around islands and shoals as well as government marks and/or NEH Fleet marks. See Mark Descriptions for Racing.

8 MARKS
8.1 Marks of the course may be Northeast Harbor Fleet letter designated buoys (orange torpedo shaped cylinders), portable yellow or orange inflatable buoys, government navigational buoys, islands, or combinations thereof. The description of Marks and a Race Chart may also be found at the Northeast Harbor Fleet web site.
9 GOVERNMENT BUOYS AND AREAS THAT ARE OBSTRUCTIONS
All government navigational buoys except those shown as racing marks E, I, P, Q, and R must be observed unless they are posted as rounding marks of the course. EVERY PORSCHE IS REALLY QUICK

10 THE START
10.1 Races will be started using US Sailing Appendix U Audible-System Racing System with an attention tone made one minute prior to the 3 minute warning signal.
10.2 The starting line will be between the Race Committee Signal Boat mast displaying an orange flag and the course side of the starting mark.
10.3 A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A4 and A5.
10.4 All boats shall check in with the RC prior to the warning signal by hailing boat name and helmsperson for each of the day's races.
10.5 The Race Committee shall not fly an Individual recall flag and shall attempt to hail boat names or sail numbers which were on the course side of the starting line on VHF CH 65. Failure to hear the audible hail shall not be grounds for redress.

11 CHANGE OF COURSE
A change of course will be signaled by a Race Committee boat before the first boat begins the next leg of the course. The new course may be displayed by the RC and broadcast on VHF CH 65. No Flags will be flown.

12 THE FINISH
The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee Boat and the course side of the nearby finishing mark.

13 PENALTY SYSTEM
US Sailing Appendix V Alternative Penalties shall apply.

14 TIME LIMITS
14.1 The time limit for the first IOD Class boat to sail the course and finish shall be 2 hours from the starting signal. The time limit for the first Luders 16 Class boat to sail the course and finish shall be 1.5 hours.
14.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes shall be scored Did not Finish without a hearing. This changes RRS 35, A4 and A5.

15 PROTESTS AND REDRESS REQUESTS
15.1 Protest forms are available online and may be emailed to the Race Committee PRO.
15.2 The protest time limit is 90 minutes after the RC boat is placed on the mooring.
15.3 Notices will be posted by email to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Arbitration hearings and protest hearings will be held as soon as possible by video conferencing.
15.4 Appendix T which allows for a 20% scoring penalty before the protest time limit expires or a 30% scoring penalty before the protest hearing is called to order shall be in effect for all races.

16 SCORING
16.1 The Low Point System of Appendix A will apply.
When fewer than four races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores. When four or more races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score. When seven or more races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her two worst scores. When ten or more races have
been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her three worst scores. When thirteen or more races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her four worst scores.

16.2 A boat that did not start, retired after finishing or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in the race. This changes RRS A4.2

16.3 A boat that started but did not finish and is not being protested shall be scored one point more than the number of finishers. This modifies RRS A9.

17 REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

17.1 All competitors are required to carry on board a means of retrieval for a person overboard.

17.2 Only the Race Committee may initiate a protest for violation of SI 17.1

17.3 All entries must carry and monitor an operable VHF radio at all times.

18 SAFETY

18.1 All entries shall monitor US Channel VHF 65 throughout the race and while on the water during the race day.

18.2 All competitors shall wear a Type III or Type V PFD while racing.

18.3 A competitor shall not fly a spinnaker on the next leg of the course whenever the RC announces on VHF 65.

18.4 Crew limitations and face coverings as required in the Notice of Race shall be in effect.

19 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Boats are advised that any RC radio communications are official and are made either for race management purposes or as a courtesy to the competitors.

20 PRIZES

Perpetual Trophies and Daily Prizes will be awarded as described in the notice of race.