



The 101st Annual Hayward Cup
August 16th, 2026
Northeast Harbor Fleet
SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SIs)

The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

The notation '[DP]' in a rule means that a protest committee has discretion in assessing a penalty for a boat which breaks this rule.

1. RULES

1.1 All events are governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing For 2025-2028.

1.2 Only former one-design fleets at Northeast Harbor Fleet are allowed to compete in The Hayward Cup.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1000 on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1900 on the day before it will take effect. Changes will be posted on each [NEHF Clubspot Event or Series Page](#).

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

3.1 The official online notice board is located on each [NEHF Clubspot Event or Series Page](#). Race scheduling, postponement and series score information shall also be communicated electronically by all of our NEHF Class Google Groups, which can be found on our [Fleet Information & Resources](#) page online at nehfleet.org

3.2 On the water, the Race Committee "RC" intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on channel 65.

3.3 *[DP]* While racing until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

[DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from Race Officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed on or at The Northeast Harbor Fleet flagpole.

5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes' in race signals AP.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

One Race is Scheduled

7. CLASS FLAGS

The flag flown for the first scheduled pursuit signal until the last scheduled pursuit signal is a yellow field.

8. RACING AREA

Racing will be conducted in the waters of the Great Harbor, the Western Way, the Eastern Way, Somes Sound, and waters surrounding Mount Desert Island. The RC Signal Boat will set the start in the vicinity of Mark W between Bear Island and Sutton Island.

9. COURSES

The course will be displayed on a rack located on the RC Signal Boat prior to the Warning signal of the first class to start and will remain posted through all starts. The Hayward Cup course follows its famous triangle formation twice around marks W, D, C with the finish at W. The direction around the course will be indicated as below:

Letter Displayed:	Course
A	D C W D C W (all marks to PORT)
B	C D W C D W (all marks to STARBOARD)

10. MARKS

Marks of the course will be Northeast Harbor Fleet letter designated buoys (white and orange torpedo with flag atop), portable tetrahedrons, government navigational buoys, a portable pole buoy, inflatable buoys, islands, or combinations thereof. The [Description of Marks](#) and a [Race Mark Chart](#) may be found at the Fleet House and/or at [Fleet Information & Resources](#) online.

11. OBSTRUCTIONS

All government navigational buoys except those shown as racing marks E, P, I, R and Q must be observed.

12. THE START

12.1 The RC signal vessel will announce a competitor's start time in GPS time after a competitor checks in and declares whether or not they will sail with or without a spinnaker.

12.2 The starting line is between an orange flag displayed on the Signal Boat and the course side of the starting mark W.

12.3 Boats shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other slower boats.

12.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the RC will attempt to hail its boat name or sail number. Failure to hail the name or number, failure of the competitor to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for a redress for request. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

12.5 A boat that does not start within ten minutes of her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

13. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

13.1 The course will not be changed under any circumstance.

13.2 A course may be shortened if the slowest boat has been racing for more than 150 minutes.

14. THE FINISH

14.1 The finishing line is a blue flag displayed on the Signal Boat and the course side of

the finishing mark.

14.2 If the RC is absent when a boat finishes, a competitor shall report her finishing time, her position in relation to other racing boats and to the RC at the first reasonable opportunity. .

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

15.1 *APPENDIX V1 PENALTY AT THE TIME OF AN INCIDENT*

The first two sentences of RRs 44.1 are changed to: ‘A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.’

15.2 *APPENDIX V2 POST-RACE PENALTIES*

(a) Provided that RRS 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident.

(b) A Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c). However, RRS 44.1(a) applies.

(c) A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to the Principal Race Officer a written statement that she accepts the penalty, identifies the race number, where and when the incident occurred.

16. TIME LIMITS

16.1 The Time Limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish shall be by 1700.

16.2 The Finishing Window is 55 minutes for boats to finish after the first boat finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently, retiring, penalized or given redress, will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.

17. HEARING REQUESTS

17.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the last boat finishes.. If the protest filing is received after the protest time limit, then its acceptance is at the discretion of the Principal Race Officer.

17.2 Hearing request forms are available in the race office at The Fleet House.

17.3 Notices will be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will attempt to be held in the Fleet House within 24 hours.

18. SCORING

18.1 Race scores shall be the order in which boats finish.

18.2 RRS A5.3 is modified and will apply as follows:

SCORES DETERMINED BY THE RC

A5.1 A boat that did not start, sail the course or finish, or comply with RRS 30.2, 30.3, 30.4 or 78.2, or that retires or takes a penalty under RRS 44.3(a), shall be scored accordingly by the RC without a hearing. Only the Protest Committee may take other scoring actions that worsen a boat's score.

A5.2 A boat that did not start or was disqualified shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats entered in that race. A boat that is penalized under RRS 30.2 or that takes a penalty under RRS 44.3(a) shall be scored points as provided in RRS 44.3(c).

A5.3 If the notice of race or sailing instructions state that RRS A5.3 will apply, RRS A5.2 is changed so that a boat that came to the starting area but did not finish or retired shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats that finished the race.

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

19.1 [DP] Prior to the first race of the day a boat shall check in with the RC signal boat with a hail of boat name and helmsperson's name. A boat leaving the race course prior to the finish of the race shall notify the RC on VHF 65.

19.2 [DP] A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC at the first reasonable opportunity.

19.3 [DP] All competitors shall wear personal floatation devices while racing.

19.4 [NP] If an entry has only one person aboard, they shall have an operable VHF radio attached on their clothing.

20. REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

20.1 *[NP]* All competitors are required to carry on board a means of retrieval for a person overboard.

20.2 *[NP]* All entries must carry an operable VHF radio at all times and monitor VHF 65.

21. TRASH DISPOSAL

Trash may be placed aboard official or support vessels.

22. PRIZES

Each of the Northeast Harbor Fleet Pursuit Races has a separate perpetual trophy for the winners. Each trophy will be awarded at the Fleet House after each race is completed.

23. RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia, or other causes.