



**The 2026 August Cruise
Northeast Harbor Fleet
NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)**

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 [NP] Competitors shall have a personal floatation device per soul aboard while racing.

1.3 [NP] Each entry shall have a device easily accessible to retrieve a person overboard.

1.4 [NP] If an entry has only two or fewer persons aboard, they shall have an operable VHF radio attached or on their clothing.

1.5 Starting Times shall be communicated orally by the Race Committee Signal Boat over VHF Channel 65 for each competitor in the race area.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 The SIs will be available before July 17, 2026 at The Northeast Harbor Fleet House or online at nehfleet.org.

2.2 The SIs will consist of the instructions as required by RRS Appendix J2 and additional instructions provided by the Race Committee Signal Boat, The Shearwater, or a substitute as specified to the competitors from the Race Committee.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 The official online notice board is located at <https://www.nehfleet.org/regatta/8UZk9nOokK>. Race scheduling, postponement and series score information shall also be communicated electronically by the NEHF August Cruise Whatsapp Group.

3.2 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on Channel 65 and monitor that channel while racing.

3.3 On the water, the Race Committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio.

3.4 [DP] While racing from the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency in accordance with RRS 41, a boat shall neither make voice or data transmissions nor receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

The August Cruise is open to all keelboats of 15 feet or longer. Our Fleet Manager Nick Johnstone at nehfgeneralmanager@gmail.com and the Fleet Race Office will determine PHRF ratings via boats that have already submitted valid PHRF certificates through the Haaland Series or based on PHRF New England ratings to similar vessels of the same make & model. The Fleet Race Office may adjust ratings at their discretion to ensure fair racing.

5. SERIES

The August Cruise shall consist of a two race series: One pursuit from NEH to Seal Cove on Saturday afternoon, August 8, 2026 and class races from Seal Cove to NEH on Sunday morning, August 9, 2026.

6. VENUE

Racing will be conducted in the waters between Northeast Harbor and Seal Cove

7. COURSES AND MARKS

Courses and marks will be as described in the Sailing Instructions.

8. PENALTY SYSTEM

8.1 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.'

8.2 APPENDIX V2 PENALTY TAKEN AFTER A RACE

After a race, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 in an incident while racing may take a Post-Race Penalty for that incident. A boat takes the penalty by delivering a written notice to the race office that identifies the race number and when and where the incident occurred. The penalty shall be a 30% Scoring Penalty, calculated as stated in RRS 44.3(c). However, RRS 44.1(a)

and (b) apply, and the penalty shall not be taken after a protest hearing involving the incident has begun.

9. SCORING

9.1 A boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores. There shall be no drops.

9.2 Rule A5.3 is modified and will apply as follows:

SCORES DETERMINED BY THE RACE COMMITTEE

A5.1 A boat that did not start, sail the course or finish, or comply with rule 30.2, 30.3, 30.4 or 78.2, or that retires or takes a penalty under rule 44.3(a), shall be scored accordingly by the Race Committee 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 sail the course, 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 rule A5.3 will apply, rule 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.

9.3 The August Cruise shall consist of four sailboat classes competing: N Class (69 or lower PHRF Rating), E Class (70 or higher PHRF Rating), H Class (International One Design) and F Class (Luders 16). There is also our Power Fleet Class who will be following along to watch the action up close from the water.

9.4 The Race from NEH to Seal Cove on Saturday, August 8 will be an all Fleet pursuit race on Course 0, which is posted on the online Notice Board, where all classes sail the same course, but are scored separately by their class for that race. The highest rated PHRF sailboat will start at exactly 1:00 PM on Saturday. Courtesy one-minute countdowns will be given out over VHF Channel 65, unless a boat starts within one minute of the next, in which case the RC will tell the boat on deck to start to set a specific time at the gun of the sailboat before them. There shall also be an overall winner of the Race from NEH to Seal Cove on Saturday awarded for class bragging rights at the BBQ/BYO Cocktail Party over at Dow Point Farm after racing.

9.5 The Race from Seal Cove to NEH on Sunday, August 9 will have two separate starts, the first start being for H & F Classes starting together at 11:00 AM on what may be the same or different course(s) followed by N & E Classes starting together at 11:15 AM on what may be the same or different course(s) based on conditions. Competitors will see their class letter to the aft of the RC Signal Vessel 'Shearwater' Course Rack and course letter beside it for the course

that competitor may be sailing i.e. 'H' to the left of '2' on the Course Rack signifies the IODs sailing Course 2. All classes courses will be posted on the Course Rack throughout all start sequences.

10. 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.

11. PRIZES

Prizes to be determined in the Sailing Instructions.

12. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact Principal Race Officer Nick Johnstone via email at nehfgeneralmanager@gmail.com.