

N.E.M.A. RACE RULES (REV. 2011)

1.0 CLASSES

- 1.1 The HANDICAP CLASS is open to sailing multihulls of good design and construction.

2.0 RULES

- 2.1 NEMA Racers will be governed by 2009-2012 Racing Rules of Sailing except as modified by N.E.M.A. Race Rules in this document.
- 2.2 A yacht must have a current N.E.M.A. rating certificate to be eligible to race.
- 2.3 A racing yacht must display the sail numbers carried in the N.E.M.A. rating list.
- 2.4 All events are open to amateurs and professionals unless the event organizer stipulates against it. (See 2.7).
- 2.5 Sponsorship of racing yachts is allowed unless the event organizer stipulates against it. (See 2.7).
- 2.6 There are no material restrictions.
- 2.7 It shall be the authority of the local event organizer to decide the eligibility of an entrant.
- 2.8 Yachts of a class may race as a class at the discretion of the event race committee. Other yachts may race in an open multihull class.
- 2.9 Yachts racing in the HANDICAP multihull division shall be equipped with N.E.M.A. required safety gear at a minimum. O.R.C. Category V safety equipment or better may be required as determined by the regulations for a specific event.
- 2.10 Yachts must race with the same equipment listed on their rating certificates and engines must be in their normal positions ready for use.

3.0 RACE COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- 3.1 Maintain a current list of multihull racers and administer the N.E.M.A. rating rule.
- 3.2 Establish the N.E.M.A. race schedule for the year.
- 3.3 Act as liaison with the event committees conducting the various races and make suggestions and recommendations regarding multihull races.
- 3.4 Maintain and update a list of N.E.M.A. results and corrected season standings.
- 3.5 Maintain rules for the N.E.M.A. Season trophy and establish various class winners
- 3.6 Establish and maintain all pertinent information for each rated yacht including all rating certificates.
- 3.7 A list of ratings for paid racers will be posted on the N.E.M.A. website.

- 3.8 Require a HANDICAP CLASS rating fee to entitle each yacht to participate in N.E.M.A. racing and to issue a N.E.M.A. rating certificate. There will be one fee for the season and one lesser fee for a single race. Membership in N.E.M.A. is encouraged, but not required to obtain a rating.

4.0 RULES FOR ESTABLISHING NEMA RATINGS

- 4.1 Ratings for all participating N.E.M.A. yachts shall be established by the N.E.M.A. Race Committee. Rating certificates shall be issued to paid applicants prior to the start of the season and shall be valid through the end of the year of issue. Applications must be received at least two weeks before an event to guarantee processing. All ratings are subject to review at any time.
- 4.2 Ratings are determined according to the N.E.M.A. rating rule. They are based on information provided by the Owner on the rating application. The Owner must notify the Race Committee in writing at least two weeks prior to an event if this information becomes incorrect due to any modification to the hull or rig or change in Principal Helmsman. Failure to do so may result in disqualification or rating adjustment.
- 4.3 Handicap skippers are required to list a principal helmsman on their rating certificates. While it may not be possible for any one person to steer a boat throughout a race, the principal helmsman should be that person who is steering at the start of the race and on upwind legs. In a day race, any yacht which is started or steered upwind by someone other than the principal helmsman for more than a brief period is in violation of the rules and subject to disqualification. In a distance race, the principle helmsman must take a regular turn at the helm. Any alternate principle helmsman must be declared on the rating application. The rating will reflect the most skilled helmsman.
- 4.4 The rating in effect at the start of a series or event shall be used to determine the corrected time finishes in that series or event unless a protest is filed.
- 4.5 A rating can be changed only by the Race Committee. If at least two Race Committee members are not present at a protest meeting, a Race Committee member may choose up to two alternates to resolve a rating dispute.
- 4.6 At the end of each event or series, the N.E.M.A. event contact shall furnish the results to a Race Committee member designated by the RC Chairman. The Committee shall establish the corrected results and mail this information and fleet standings to those on the current rating certificate list.

5.0 PROTESTS

- 5.1 Protests shall be filed with the event protest committee under the Racing Rules of Sailing Part 5.
- 5.2 Protests concerning N.E.M.A. Ratings, Certificates, Sponsorship, Principal Helmsman, or any other N.E.M.A. related issue shall be made to the event Race Committee, which shall refer the protest to the N.E.M.A. R.C. under Rule 64.3 Paragraph (b).
- 5.3 Any yacht found to be in violation of the rules shall be disqualified.

- 5.4 A yacht which is disqualified from a race in a series under Rule 64.3 may be re-rated by the N.E.M.A. R.C. and allowed to continue a regatta under Paragraph 4.5.
- 5.5 The N.E.M.A. RC will hear any protest regarding rule 4.0 if the protest is received within seven days of the last race of the regatta. The RC must rule on the protest in a timely manner.

6.0 RULES FOR ESTABLISHING SEASON TROPHY WINNERS

- 6.1 A skipper must be a N.E.M.A. member to be eligible for the season trophy.
- 6.2 Season trophies shall be awarded for first, second and third place in the N.E.M.A. HANDICAP CLASS as described below. In the event of a tie the yacht with the highest number of the highest places shall be declared the winner. The Race Committee shall be the final judge of all trophy winners.
- 6.3 The finishing places in each event shall be determined by the corrected time of each yacht.
- 6.4 All scoring will be done using Time On Time Ratings except for the Black Dog Dash which will use Time on Distance Ratings to determine start times. Time on Time ratings will be determined using the formula $650/(550+TOD\ Rtg.)$
- 6.5 Each day of racing will be scored for the Season Trophy according to the Rinderle B scoring system.
- 6.6 A minimum of three yachts must start a race to be scored in the HANDICAP CLASS.
- 6.7 A yacht's season score shall be established by adding the scores of its best seven days racing.
- 6.8 A racing day shall be defined as a race, or a series of races that take place during a single calendar day. If there is more than one race in a day, finishing places for that day shall be determined using the low-point scoring system as described in the RRS Appendix A. Rinderle points will then be awarded based on these places and the number of starters for that day.
- 6.9 In the case of races that are customarily longer than one day the score shall count as follows: N.E.M.A. Newport/Bermuda 3 days, Marblehead/Halifax 3 days, all other NEMORC events 2 days.
- 6.10 An Elapsed Time trophy will be awarded to the yacht with the highest seven day score based on elapsed time finish. Points will be awarded according to the Rinderle B scoring system.
- 6.11 A Mileage Trophy may be awarded to the yacht with the most miles races in a season.

7.0 N.E.M.A. NORTH TROPHY RULES

- 7.1 A skipper must be a N.E.M.A. member to be eligible for the N.E.M.A. North trophy.
- 7.2 Season trophies shall be awarded for first and second place in the N.E.M.A. HANDICAP CLASS as described below. In the event of a tie the yacht with

the highest number of the highest places shall be declared the winner. The Race Committee shall be the final judge of all trophy winners.

- 7.3 The finishing places in each event shall be determined by the corrected time of each yacht.
- 7.4 Each day of racing will be scored for the Season Trophy according to the Rinderle B scoring system.
- 7.5 A minimum of three yachts must start a race to be scored in the HANDICAP CLASS.
- 7.6 A yacht's season score shall be established by adding the scores of all qualifying events.
- 7.7 A racing day shall be defined as a race, or a series of races that take place during a single calendar day. If there is more than one race in a day, finishing places for that day shall be determined using the low-point scoring system as described in the RRS Appendix A. Rinderle points will then be awarded

8.0 N.E.M.A. OFFSHORE TROPHY RULES

- 8.1 The Race Committee is to designate six races to be called the N.E.M.A. Offshore Racing Circuit. A perpetual trophy called the NEMORC Trophy will be awarded to the winner.
- 8.2 The intent of the circuit is to be regional in nature including races all along the New England Coast.
- 8.3 The Offshore schedule will be reviewed annually by the N.E.M.A. Race Committee. The finishing places in each event shall be determined by the corrected time of each yacht.
- 8.4 Each race result will be scored for the NEMORC Trophy according to the Rinderle B scoring system.
- 8.5 A minimum of three yachts must start a race to be scored in the HANDICAP CLASS.
- 8.6 A yacht must compete in at least three events to be eligible to win the award. The winning yacht will be that yacht which has the highest score based on the sum of its best three finishes.

Don Watson
NEMA RC Chairman
April 2011

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

The following safety equipment is required at all N.E.M.A. organized events. ORC Category IV or higher may be required at other events. Skippers entering these events should consult the 2002-2003 Special Regulations of the International Sailing Federation.

N.E.M.A. REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT

REQUIRED

Magnetic Compass

VHF radio

2 Buckets with lanyard or bilge pump and one bucket with lanyard

Sail number on mainsail

One anchor with rode

One fire extinguisher

Coast Guard flare kit (3 red flares rated for day and night; or 1 handheld orange smoke signal, 2 floating orange smoke signals and 1 electric distress light.

First Aid kit

Foghorn

Lifesling and/or Horseshoe life ring

Coast Guard approved life jackets for each crew member.

RECOMMENDED

Navigation lights

GPS

Tool Kit

Radar Reflector