**NMSC MODIFIED SAILING RULES (with explanations)**

**1. Port keeps clear of starboard**

**A Yacht with the wind coming over the PORT SIDE (left) MUST GIVE WAY to a yacht with the wind coming over its STARBOARD SIDE (right) whether being called “Starboard” or not and must do so without colliding or causing any interference to the starboard tack yachts course (Penalty: a 360deg turn on that leg)**

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2. **Windward keeps clear of leeward**

**Whether sailing up or down wind the yacht to weather (up wind) must stay clear of the leeward yacht if any part of its hull is overlapping the windward boat (on the same course)**

**A leeward yacht has the right to LUFF a windward yacht to weather by calling “UP, UP”.**

**E.g.: If a yacht is sailing up the start line on a starboard tack an overlapped leeward yacht on the same tack can luff it over the line causing it to have to restart (good match racing tactics).**

**A windward Yacht CANNOT sail down on a leeward yacht, and either sails higher or tacks away, without touching.**

**(Penalty: If a collision occurs the windward yacht must do a 360deg turn on that leg)**

**EXCEPTION See rule # 6 re- 4 boat length overlap at leeward mark**.

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**3. Astern keeps clear of a boat ahead**

**Whether sailing up, or down wind the yacht astern must keep clear of the boat ahead.**

**If any touch occurs (Penalty: 360deg turn on that leg**)

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**4. Keep clear while tacking or gybing**

**When tacking, or gybing you must allow time and room for the other boat to react. If in doubt call your intentions**

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**5. When you gain right of way, or when you change course, give other boats time to keep clear.**

**This is at times such as: for buoy room; at an obstruction (dead boat); or for shallow water.**

**Allow time and room for the other boat to react to you actions. If in doubt call your intentions**

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**6. Give room to (all) the inside boat(s) to round the mark.**

**(Buoy room can be called FOUR boat lengths from the mark)**

**At a “Wing” or “Leeward” Mark the “inside” yacht (if it has overlap) has right of way when within FOUR boat lengths of the mark. Exiting the mark, at the four boat length distance all rules apply**

**NOTE: At the weather mark RULE1 Port and Starboard rules apply (no overlap rule)**

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**7. Give water to a boat avoiding an obstruction (if requested)**

**If requested you must give way to a yacht which is in danger of running aground or colliding with any fixed object (or dead boat). If a yacht “Calls for Water” they must be given room and opportunity to manoeuvre out of danger**

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**8. Do not barge**

Barging occurs at start lines and it applies to yachts forcing their way into positions they may legally be entitled to enter but don’t allow other yachts time or room to manoeuvre. Barging boats have NO rights before the start.

**9. Where possible, at one minute before scratch start time, all yachts should be on start side of line.**

**The Start Line is the space between the two designated buoys and the extensions of that line**

**No penalty if crossing the extensions, outside the start buoys.**

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**10. Any yacht “starting early” shall go round a start mark and restart race (whether called or not).**

**Any Yacht crossing the Start Line after the 1-minute signal will be classed as a starter and must return around the end of the start line buoy**

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**Penalties**

**Touching a course mark will incur a 360-degree penalty on the next leg, clear of all boats.**

**A Yacht missing a mark shall return and round the mark correctly.**

**A penalty shall be a 360-degree turn at the earliest possible opportunity on that leg or extension thereof, and clear of other boats.**

**When finishing each yacht will call out their number on passing the finish line, return to shore or stay on finished side of line until all yachts have finished.**

**Start line is the front edge of buoys, finish is the rear edge of the buoys.**

**The Unwritten Rules**.

**Don`t wait to see if any other sailor is going to call you for breaking a sailing rule.?? Do your penalty, even if no one noticed your breach (let your fellow sailors know)**

**Just because No other sailor called you for a rule breach, or you think nobody saw you break the rule DONT just sail on and hope no one noticed you?**

**That type of behaviour is Cheating and you will be disqualified or given a DNF**

**If in doubt ask a fellow sailor or the OOD**

**If you call another sailor on a rule breach explain why (especially to novice sailors) with a Blue Pennant**

**The above rules are a very simplified version of the AYF (Blue Book) rules and as we don’t want to have Protest hearings and Juries interpreting rules etc in our model boat racing**

**At NMSC we are a social group and race model yachts for fun with like minded friends who like building and racing model sailing yachts**

**If we ever get really serious and Race for Sheep Stations your committee will let you know in advance**