



# New England Hillclimb Association (NEHA) 2021 Annual Awards Banquet and 2022 Season Rules Meeting

## General

**Submitted:** Michael Wilson

**Section:** 18

**Proposal:**

Add:

The timer will start from either a verbal countdown or the green light. A timing beam may be used at the start line to determine a jump start, but not for actual timing.

**Thoughts:** This is how we traditionally did start. I thought it was a rule, but I do not see it anywhere, even as far back as 2004.

**Submitted:** Michael Wilson

**Section:** 35

**Proposal:**

Change:

If an event is rained out both days, all drivers who have gone through registration will be awarded a score of 1.

To:

If an event is rained out both days, all drivers who have gone through registration will be awarded a score of 0.9.

**Thoughts:** This probably does not matter, but this means that someone who attends all events and does well can drop this rainout event, while someone who skips another event has to keep the .9 score. Thus the person who attends all events has an advantage over the person who skips one, or who has another bad day. .9 is not picked using any formal data analysis and a different number may be better if this idea is what the hillclimbers want. As a negative, this makes the rule even harder to understand intuitively.

If you want to give drivers a chance to drop an actual bad day, or to miss one event without any particular penalty, then don't vote in favor of this. If you want to reward the drivers who do not have as many bad days, then vote for this.

# Technical & Safety

**Submitted:** John Reed

**Section:** Multiple sections

**Proposal:**

*(This section is unchanged, included for reference only)*

These regulations are set forth to provide for the orderly conduct of hillclimb time trial events. Participants are cautioned that all motor sports have inherent risks; It is the participant's responsibility to take adequate precautions in light of these risks. No express or implied warranty of safety or freedom from risk shall result from publication of or compliance with these rules and regulations.

**1st motion**

The participant warrants that all articles presented for inspection are correctly marked, represented, or identified.

**2nd motion**

The entrant is responsible for the configuration, and safe operation of any "stability control" or similar device. Our conditions far exceed any situation these systems are designed for as OEM's, , as observed by several experienced competitors, regardless of make.

**3rd motion**

False activation of "OnStar" or any automated emergency system (i.e. E911) by the entrant is their full responsibility, as well.

*(Unchanged)*

The rules and regulations are intended as a guide for the conduct of this motor sport and are in no way a guarantee against property damage or injury to participants, spectators, or others.

a) Double-letter designation [AA, BB, etc.] refers only to Prepared cars.

**4th motion** Adding for clarity, will require some editing to implement.

b) Letter designation with # {i.e. Q#} Refers to U and SP entries requiring a rollcage per 4.\_.\_

**5th motion**

c) Certifications, tags, or similar identifiers are acceptable proof of spec. compliance. Condition and correct operation remain the primary criteria for acceptance.

d) Specifications are minimums, and given as references only.

**6th motion**

e) Expiration dates for "approvals" are extended as follows: FIA + 6 months, SFI + 36 months, Snell (helmets) + 2 "cycles".

**7th motion**

f)The Tech Committee is the review of record for decisions in Tech.

**8th motion**

## 1. CLOTHING

### A. Shoes

1. No exposed nylon, nylon mesh, or plastic. Natural fibers preferred.
2. Closed toe construction, flat sole, leather or canvas, no nylon.

### B. Clothing

1. No nylon or other thermoplastic synthetics. Natural fibers recommended.
2. Long sleeves, long pants, socks
3. Fire-retardant outer clothing and underwear recommended.
4. All gloves used must be flame-retardant, driving or flight type gloves (Nylon “mechanics” gloves, or full leather gloves are specifically banned)

### BB. Clothing

1. Fire-retardant outer clothing required, to meet or exceed SFI 32a/1.
2. Fire-retardant gloves required, to meet or exceed SFI 3.3/1
3. Fire-retardant hood / helmet skirt required in cars without sealed hood or full windshield, (i.e. SFI 3.3 or equivalent)
4. Strongly recommend SFI 3.2a/5 or FIA equivalent suits, SFI 3.3/5 or FIA equivalent gloves, fire retardant underwear, socks, and driving shoes

**Thoughts:** None

**Submitted:** Michael Wilson

**Section:** 4.E.2.b

**Proposal:**

Add:

To reiterate, if a driver is not warned about a first breakout before the start of a run, that run will not count as a second breakout.

**Thoughts:** At Ascotney long course it appeared that this rule was not followed. My memory of the drivers meeting is that it was explicitly stated that the rule was 2 breakouts and drivers should not count on warnings.

**Submitted:** Michael Wilson

**Section:** 4.E.2.c

**Proposal:**

Change:

Ascutney 3:20 (short course), 4:20 (long course)

to:

Ascutney Windsor Overlook finish 3:20 (normal course)

Ascutney finish just below top parking lot , 4:20 (long course)

Ascutney finish as used in 2019 , 4:18 (long course)

Ascutney finish just after the impossible left below check 6 , 1:58 (short course)

**Thoughts:**

The 2019 long course finish has its advantages over the finish just below the parking lot, but it is about 2 seconds shorter time, so there is logic in shortening the breakout that much. If I had better wording for describing the finish I would use it.

1:58 appears to be the breakout time used in spring 2019 for the course that stopped well below the bridge. This "short course" is why I would change the label on the 3:20 breakout to "normal course" or "Windsor Overlook finish"

There have been rumblings from other drivers (who shall remain nameless) about the 4:20/4:18 long course breakout being too much time. While I think it is 5-10 seconds too large, I do not have data to back that up, so I will not propose such a change. I write this in case some enterprising meeting attendee decides to propose an amendment to this proposal. It would be nice to be able to drive a 4 cylinder non-turbo front drive luxury version (heated steering wheel) on the original tires without having to split the focus between the course and some stopwatch or equivalent.

**Submitted:** John Reed

**Section:** 3.B.1

**Proposal:**

*Original:*

Legible numbers both sides (i.e., 8” minimum with 1” stroke) with class designation (3” min.). Numbers will be no more than 3 numerals. Numbers may not have preceding zeros. Breakout cars need to include an “X” and Rally cars need to include an “R” after the number (3” min.).

*Changes:*

Legible numbers both sides (i.e., 8” minimum with 1” stroke) with class designation (3” min.). Numbers will be no more than 3 ~~(numerals)-characters: (Numbers may not have preceding zeros)-~~. When the timing system only accepts number input, the “phone dial equivalent” system will be used to translate letters to numerals. “Preceding zeros” will be translated as the letter “O”. Breakout cars need to include an “X” and Rally cars need to include an “R” as part of the class designation. (3” min, as above) ~~after the number.~~

*Result:*

Legible numbers both sides (i.e., 8” minimum with 1” stroke) with class designation (3” min.). Numbers will be no more than 3 characters. When the timing system only accepts number input, the “phone dial equivalent” system will be used to translate letters to numerals. “Preceding zeros” will be translated as the letter “O”. Breakout cars need to include an “X” and Rally cars need to include an “R” as part of the class designation. (3” min, as above).

## Classification Regulations

None submitted for 2022 season

## Classification and Technical and General

**Submitted:** Michael Wilson

Proposal that changes both the Technical and Classification sections

**Proposal:**

Technical 4.E.2.b, new Classification rule 9

To **Technical** 4.E.2.b add:

Entrants running under the "Thirteen" rule will not be subject to breakout.

To **Classifications** add:

9. Thirteen rule - crash and you may not drive an uncaged car for at least thirteen months.

## A. Class Requirements

1. Drivers of street-driven and street-registered car legal for any NEHA Unprepared or Street Prepared class may elect to run under a "Thirteen" rule at the entrant's request. This must be selected at registration, and the car number will have a T at the end. Entrants may not select this class after a breakout run at that event. Once selected, this lasts for the rest of the year.
2. Drivers must have at least a full season qualifying for King of the Hill points to be allowed to select this.
3. If an entrant running under the 13 rule crashes anywhere on course, either up or down, then that entrant may not drive an uncaged car at any NEHA event for 13 months, or until after the same event the following year, whichever is longer. Driving a caged car during that period multiplies the remaining time by 1.5, although the maximum no-uncaged-drive time remains capped at the original maximum length.
4. The breakout rule (Tech 3.E.2.b) will not apply

### Thoughts:

Thirteen is used for the name because the idea came from the vintage 13/13 rule, where the first crash is probation.

We already have the word "crash" in general regulation #11 with no particular definition, so I did not see the need for further definition. Remember that some crashes do not involve a wrecker roll, and some wrecker rolls are not crashes, for example high-centering when doing a 3 point turn, or transmission stuck in 2 gears at once (yes I have seen this but it was Bob Girvin's Allard Coupe at Equinox my first year there).

This is a way to let drivers drive a fast car relatively fast. The driver is taking on an additional no-crash incentive to be allowed to drive faster than the breakout.

Please do not waste meeting time by making or seconding this motion just to talk against it. If it is actually moved and seconded, speak as you wish.

Comments about me and this rule (there have been questions):

I have had 5 cars built with roll cages, costing me a lot of money and 50 or 100 weekends of my life, and nearly costing my "marriage". None of the results were what I wanted to drive on the street, and at this time I have no intention of bringing a car on a trailer. I have not seen any caged car that was not either a race car or a slagheap, and I do not want to convert nice cars to either nor drive either. It is possible that I would change my plans and build a race car, but my speed is diminishing and there are a LOT of other things to do with my life. There does not appear to be good return on time and money spent on building or buying a car with a cage.

**Submitted:** Michael Wilson

Proposal that changes the General, Technical, and Classification sections

**Sections:** General 16 and 19, Technical 4.E.2.b, new Classification rule 9

**Proposal:**

To **General** rule 16 add:

Entrants running just untimed familiarization runs will also get the same number of runs.

To **General** rule 19 add:

Entrants running just untimed familiarization runs will get reruns for course problems.

To **Technical** 4.E.2.b add:

The timer will not be running for entrants running just untimed familiarization runs, and they will not be subject to breakout.

To **Classifications** add:

9. Untimed Familiarizations

A. Class Requirements

1. Any car legal for any NEHA class may elect to run untimed fam runs at the entrant's request. This must be selected at registration, and the car number will have an F at the end. Entrants may not select this class after a timed run.

2. The runs are untimed so the breakout rule (Tech 3.E.2.b) will not apply

**Thoughts:**

This is a way to let drivers drive a fast car relatively fast. With no times the incentive to drive beyond the limit of the car or driver should be reduced.

Please do not waste meeting time by making or seconding this motion just to talk against it. If it is actually moved and seconded, speak as you wish.

Comments about me and this rule (there have been questions):

Same remarks as the other rule proposal.