



Chicago Beer Can Series Regatta
Wednesday Nights May 17 – Sept. 6, 2023
Organizing Authority (OA) - Columbia Yacht Club (COLYC) Chicago, Illinois (USA)

Sailing Instructions

The notation [DP] in a rule in the Sailing Instructions (SIs) means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

1. RULES

1. The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1800 on the day before it will take effect on <https://yachtscoring.com/emenue.cfm?eid=15852>

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

1. Notices to competitors will be posted online at the official notice board located at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenue.cfm?eid=15852>
2. Notices will also be posted on the unofficial notice board at COLYC on the Rail Deck.
3. On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on channel 69.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT

1. [DP] Competitors and support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the mast on the Columbia Yacht Club dock and as a courtesy announcement on the VHF race channel 69.

6. SCHEDULE OF RACES

a. 2023 Calendar:

Date	Event
May 3	Beer Can Orientation/Starting Gun Party
May 10	Tune-Up Race
May 17	Race Week 1
May 24	Race Week 2
May 31	Race Week 3
June 7	Race Week 4
June 14	Race Week 5
June 21	Race Week 6
June 28	Race Week 7
July 5	Race Week 8
July 12	Race Week 9
July 19	Break - Mac Race
July 26	Break - Mac Race
August 2	Race Week 10
August 9	Break - 100 boats on a Beer Can
August 16	Race Week 11
August 23	Race Week 12
August 30	Race Week 13
September 6	Race Week 14
October 4	Beer Can Awards Ceremony

7. CLASS FLAGS, SECTION BREAKS and STARTING TIMES

1. Competitors are advised that classes may be combined in the starting sequence, but shall be scored separately.
2. An amendment to the sailing instructions will follow indicating the Class breaks and starting times.

8. RACING AREA

1. The location of racing for all classes will be the Chicago Beer Can Race Course, a circle of 8 permanent marks located southwest of the Four-Mile Crib.
2. All races will start at SA7, the center mark of the racing circle

9. COURSES

1. The diagrams in Appendix A show the courses, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left, and approximate course length.
2. No later than the first warning signal, the Race Committee (RC) signal boat will display the course Letter and Number.
3. The Race Committee will give courtesy radio announcements of the course selected prior to the first start. Additional announcements may be given before each warning/starting signal.

a. Failure to receive courtesy emails, text messages, or broadcasts from the Race Committee is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.

10. MARKS

1. Mark(s) are listed in Appendix A.

11. OBSTRUCTIONS

1. Government buoys marking a security zone around the Chicago water cribs and the area which they define are considered as an obstruction. Boats shall not sail within the perimeter of established buoys marking the security zone.

12. THE START

1. Prior to the warning for the first race or during the four-minute period prior to their start, each boat shall check in with and be recognized by the Race Committee by passing close on starboard side of the Signal Boat and hailing their sail number or boat's name. Radio requests for confirmation of check in will not be acknowledged.
2. To alert the boats that the first sequence of races will begin soon, the Race Committee will make repetitive sound signals at least one minute before the warning signal is made.
 - a. Failure to receive courtesy emails, text messages, or broadcasts from the Race Committee is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.
3. The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat at the starboard end and SA7 at the port end of the line. The Race Committee may set a guard mark attached to the stern of the Signal Boat. Yachts shall not pass between the guard mark and the RC boat.
4. Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area, approximately 100 yards beyond the ends and leeward of the starting line, during the starting sequence for other races. [DP]
5. A boat that does not start within 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did

Not Start without a hearing. This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.

6. 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 race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
7. In the event of a General Recall, the recalled class will start five minutes after the last scheduled start. If more than one class has been recalled, the additional recalled classes will be restarted at five-minute intervals in the order recalled. This modifies RRS 29.2.

13. SHORTENING THE COURSE

1. To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will move the finishing line to a new position. Courtesy announcement will be made on the race channel.

14. THE FINISH

1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end finishing mark.
2. If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she should report her finishing time, using GPS CDT, and her position in relation to nearby boats, to the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity using the VHF Race Channel.

15. PENALTY SYSTEM

1. RRS 44.1: The first two sentences are replaced with: "A boat may take a One-Turn penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while racing." This changes RRS 44.1.

16. TIME LIMITS

1. The time limit for all classes is 2100.
2. The time limit will not be changed as a result of postponements, general recalls or for any other reason.
3. Any boats not finishing within the time designated will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). This changes RRS 35.

17. HEARING REQUESTS

1. Protest forms are available at www.yachtscoring.com.
2. Boats intending to protest are required to inform the Race Committee upon finishing or retiring from the race of the protest and the name and/or sail number of the protested yacht.
3. For each class, the protest time limit is 2100 on the Thursday immediately following each race. Boats must submit their protest form electronically via www.yachtscoring.com within the time limit.
4. Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee or protest committee will be posted on www.yachtscoring.com.
5. The Protest Committee will hear all protests on the Tuesday following the race at 1900 at Columbia Yacht Club, unless otherwise scheduled by the Protest Committee.

18. SCORING

1. One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.
2. The Scoring system is as follows:
 - a. Sections will be scored using Time-on-Distance, with the Beer Can Handicap Rating.
 - b. The Beer Can Handicap Rating for a boat will be assigned by COLYC considering the boat’s MWPHRF handicap and/or rating application.
 - c. The Low Point Scoring System, RRS Appendix A4, will apply with the following changes:
 - i. Boats failing to finish by 2100 on the day of race will be scored TLE (Time Limit Exceeded) and scored points equal to the number of finishers within their section in that race plus four, but in no case will be scored more than the number of starters plus one within their section. This changes RRS 35.
 - ii. Race Committee Boat Points: When a boat serves as Race Committee boat for a race she shall be awarded series points for one race equal to the average points she earned for her best N-1 finishes in other races in that series, rounding up, where N is the number of races counted, pursuant to Section 18.3, to determine series placement. The average points she earned for the one race credit shall be added to the total summation of points making up her N-1 finishes.
3. RRS Appendix A2 will be changed as follows:

Races Completed in Series	Worst Scores Excluded
< 4	0
4-6	1
7-9	2
10-11	3
>12	4

19. SAFETY REGULATIONS

1. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as possible, using the VHF Race Channel or calling Columbia Yacht Club at (312) 938-3625, or reporting in person to the Race Committee after docking. [DP]

20. OFFICIAL VESSELS

1. Official boats will be marked as follows: flying an RC flag, blue background.

21. PRIZES

1. Prizes will be given as follows:
 - a. Weekly prizes will be given at the discretion of the organizing authority to maximize fun and reward participation, which may not be prizes for top finishers.
 - b. Prizes will be awarded to top finishers for the series at the Beer Can Bash on October 4, 2023 as follows:

Average Number of Starters in Section*	Number of Awards per Section
< 1	0
≥1 - <3	1
≥ 3 - < 5	2
≥ 5 - < 15	3
≥ 15	4

* The “average number of starters” in a section is defined as [total number of boats that started in completed races in the series] divided by [number of completed races in the series].

22. RISK STATEMENT

1. 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.
2. The race organizers (Organizing Authority, Race Committee, Protest Committee, sponsors or any other organization or official) will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
3. By participating in this race, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from any all liability associated with such competitor’s participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

23. INSURANCE

1. Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000 per event or the equivalent.

24. FURTHER INFORMATION

1. The Beer Can Series is intended as a casual race for recreation and crew development.
1. For further information please contact: **Organizing Authority:** Columbia Yacht Club, 111 N. Lake Shore Drive Chicago, IL 60601. **Regatta Chair:** Dom Merritt & Holly Kawula, beercan@colyc.org. **Dockmaster:** Kurt Thomsen, kurt@colyc.org.

Appendix A – COURSE INFORMATION

The Race Committee (RC) will select a course, by class from the below list. There are 24 possible courses. The course will be displayed on a course board on the RC boat no later than 5 minutes prior to the first warning signal.

MARK LIST

Marks 1-8 are located 1.25 statute miles from SA7 at 45-degree intervals, in a permanent circle.

Course Marks	Approximate Latitude/Longitude		Description
STARTING AREA (SA7)	41 51.17 N	87 33.41 W	White cylinder, Center Mark
1	41 52.26 N	87 33.41 W	White cylinder, with race # 1
2	41 51.94 N	87 32.37 W	White cylinder, with race # 2
3	41 51.17 N	87 31.95 W	White cylinder, with race # 3
4	41 50.40 N	87 32.37 W	White cylinder, with race # 4
5	41 50.08 N	87 33.41 W	White cylinder, with race # 5
6	41 50.40 N	87 34.44 W	White cylinder, with race # 6
7	41 51.17 N	87 34.87 W	White cylinder, with race # 7
8	41 51.94 N	87 34.44 W	White cylinder, with race # 8
FINISH AREA (SA7)	41 51.17 N	87 33.41 W	White cylinder, Center Mark

Courses

Long Course – All Classes, except the GREEN class

		HEADINGS to each MARK, round all marks to PORT				
Course Name	Marks	1st Mark	2nd Mark	3rd Mark	4th Mark	5th Mark
L1	SA7-1-8-6-5-SA7	0	245	180	110	0
L2	SA7-2-1-7-6-SA7	45	290	225	160	45
L3	SA7-3-2-8-7-SA7	90	335	270	200	90
L4	SA7-4-3-1-8-SA7	135	20	315	245	135
L5	SA7-5-4-2-1-SA7	180	65	0	290	180
L6	SA7-6-5-3-2-SA7	225	110	45	335	225
L7	SA7-7-6-4-3-SA7	270	155	90	20	270
L8	SA7-8-7-5-4-SA7	315	200	135	65	315
Approximate Course Length = 5.37nm						

Short Course – All Classes EXCEPT the Green Class

HEADINGS to each MARK, round all marks to PORT					
Course Name	Marks	1st Mark	2nd Mark	3rd Mark	4th Mark
S1	SA7-1-8-6-SA7	0	245	180	45
S2	SA7-2-1-7-SA7	45	290	225	90
S3	SA7-3-2-8-SA7	90	335	270	135
S4	SA7-4-3-1-SA7	135	20	315	180
S5	SA7-5-4-2-SA7	180	65	0	225
S6	SA7-6-5-3-SA7	225	110	45	270
S7	SA7-7-6-4-SA7	270	155	90	315
S8	SA7-8-7-5-SA7	315	200	135	360
Approximate Course Length = 4.55nm					

Green Class Only

HEADINGS to each MARK, round all marks to PORT				
Course Name	Marks	1st Mark	2nd Mark	3rd Mark
1	SA7-8-6-SA7	315	180	45
2	SA7-1-7-SA7	0	225	90
3	SA7-2-8-SA7	45	270	135
4	SA7-3-1-SA7	90	315	180
5	SA7-4-2-SA7	135	0	225
6	SA7-5-3-SA7	180	45	270
7	SA7-6-4-SA7	225	90	315
8	SA7-7-5-SA7	270	135	0
Approximate Course Length = 3.71nm				

W/L course – All Classes*

HEADINGS to each MARK, round all marks to PORT			
Course Name	Marks	1st Mark	3rd Mark
WL1	SA7-1--SA7	0	180
WL2	SA7-2-SA7	45	225
WL3	SA7-3-SA7	90	270
WL4	SA7-4-SA7	135	315
WL5	SA7-5-SA7	180	0
WL6	SA7-6-SA7	225	45
WL7	SA7-7-SA7	270	90
WL8	SA7-8-SA7	315	135
Approximate Course Length = 2.17nm			

*GREEN CLASS ONLY - WL course will be shifted one mark counterclockwise. Example: if WL4 is called, Green fleet will go to mark 3 and return to SA7.