



Notice of Race & General Sailing Instructions

1.0 Organizing Authority

The Columbia Yacht Club is the Organizing Authority for the Columbia Beer Can Regatta.

2.0 Rules

- 2.1 The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2009-2012 (as amended), the LMPHRF Rules and Regulations, these General Sailing Instructions, and the Special Sailing Instructions of each participating yacht club.
- 2.2 Boats must be equipped for offshore racing at night, must comply with USCG safety regulations and must have a VHF radio capable of broadcasting on and receiving VHF channel 69.
- 2.3 LMPHRF and Tartan Ten Class Association crew limits do not apply.
- 2.4 A boat may protest another boat only if there was contact which causes damage. This modifies RRS 60.1 and 85.

The Race Committee may protest boats it observes violating the Racing Rules of Sailing 2009 – 2012 or these Rules (General Sailing Instructions).
- 2.5 Boats competing in a Jib and Main (JAM) section may only use a headsail as defined in RRS 50.4. A whisker or spinnaker pole of any length may be used. The Newbies class can use whatever sails they declare.

3.0 Eligibility

- 3.1 The Columbia Beer Can Regatta is open to monohull sailboats owned or chartered by regular members in good standing of Columbia Yacht Club, Chicago Yacht Club, MORF or Burnham Park Yacht Club.
- 3.2 The Columbia Beer Can Committee may, at its discretion, admit boats from other clubs.
- 3.3 The Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Chairperson or his or her designee has the right to disqualify any entry for violation of these rules or for un-sportsmanlike conduct at his or her discretion.
- 3.4 A member of the participating yacht club must be aboard the boat during each race.
- 3.5 Boats can enter Spin, JAM or the Newbies sections. The Newbies section is for boats and owners brand new to racing. The Beer Can Chairmen will approve entries and make sure they are new to racing Beer Cans.

4.0 Notices to Competitors

Any changes to these Sailing Instructions will be posted on Columbia Yacht Club's rail deck, e-mailed to each participating yacht club's representative and emailed or faxed to each participating yacht club no later than 5:00 pm on the day of the scheduled race for which the changes apply.

5.0 Schedule of Races -- 2012

Races	Dates
Tune Up Race	May 23 rd
Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Regatta	Wednesdays, May 30 through Sept. 12 **** Note: No Races July 4th & 25th ****
Columbia – Mount Gay Rum Yacht Club Challenge Regatta	June 20 th , July 11 th and August 15 th

6.0 Race Abandonment

- 6.1 Only the Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Chairperson or his or her designee has the authority to abandon a race.
- 6.2 If a race is abandoned prior to 5:30 p.m., the Club Office of each participating yacht club will be notified.
- 6.3 The Race Committee will make an announcement of race abandonment via VHF channel 69 every 10 minutes beginning at 6:00 p.m., or the time of abandonment if later, until the first scheduled warning signal.

7.0 Racing Area

- 7.1 The races will be held on the Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Regatta Race Course. This is a circle of marks southwest of the Four-Mile Crib. Marks 1 – 8 are located 1.25 statute miles from SA7 at 45-degree intervals in a circle starting at 000 degrees through 315 degrees true.
- 7.2 Mark Locations

Mark	Latitude	Longitude	Mark	Latitude	Longitude
SA7	N41° 51.17'	W87° 33.41'	5	N41° 50.08	W87 33.41'
1	N41° 52.26'	W87° 33.41'	6	N41° 50.40	W87 34.44'
2	N41° 51.94'	W87° 32.37'	7	N41° 51.17	W87 34.87'
3	N41° 51.17'	W87° 31.95'	8	N41° 51.94	W87 34.44'
4	N41° 50.40'	W87° 32.37'			

7.3 The approximate locations of the marks in the SA7 Race Circle are shown in Figure 1.

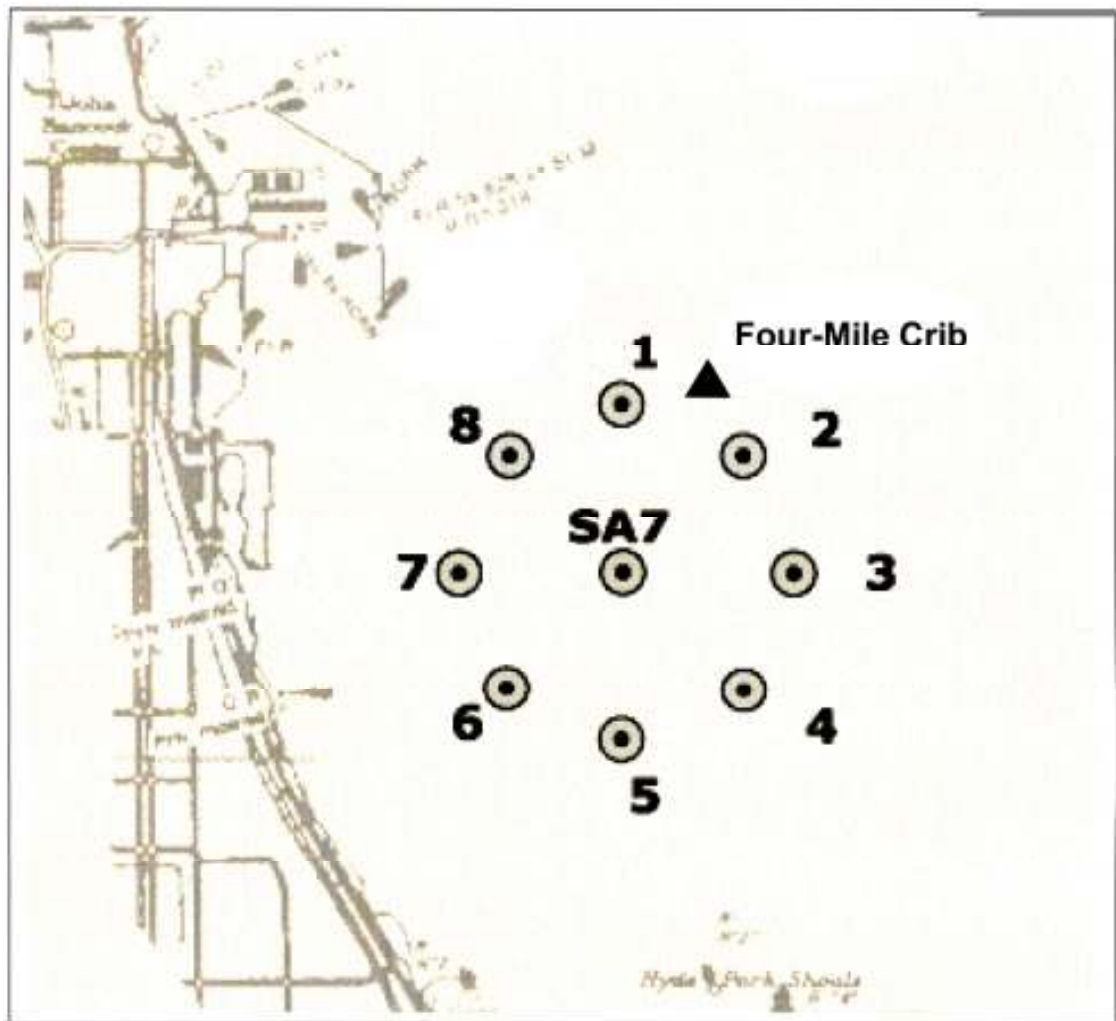


Figure 1

8.0 Courses

- 8.1 A course for each race will be selected by the Race Committee from those outlined in these instructions.
- 8.2 The Race Committee will post a placard on the starboard side of the committee boat showing the course. The Race Committee may give a courtesy announcement of the chosen course over VHF channel 69 prior to the first start. Additional announcements may be given approximately two and one half minutes before each warning/starting signal.

8.2.1 Course Descriptions

Course	Marks	Distance in
		Nautical Miles
1	SA7 – 1 – 8 – 6 – 5 – SA7	5.37
2	SA7 – 2 – 1 – 7 – 6 – SA7	5.37
3	SA7 – 3 – 2 – 8 – 7 – SA7	5.37
4	SA7 – 4 – 3 – 1 – 8 – SA7	5.37
5	SA7 – 5 – 4 – 2 – 1 – SA7	5.37
6	SA7 – 6 – 5 – 3 – 2 – SA7	5.37
7	SA7 – 7 – 6 – 4 – 3 – SA7	5.37
8	SA7 – 8 – 7 – 5 – 4 – SA7	5.37

All marks of the course are to be left to port.

- 8.4 The Newbies class will go to the 1st mark and return to the starting area to finish. They will leave the 1st mark to port and the committee boat to starboard at the finish. The finish line will be an extension of the line formed by SA7 and the committee boat. If the committee boat has shortened course this section should go directly from the 1st mark to the new finish mark. This modifies RRS 32.2. This finish line will be the committee boat and the mark to port.

9.0 Class Assignment

- 9.1 Boats will race in the following classes as determined by their LMPHRF handicap ratings – NSHCPs for Jib and Main boats and HCPs for Spinnaker boats.

Class	Class Identification	LMPHRF Range
JAM 2	YC Burgee & # 2 Code Flag	NSHCPs \geq 140
JAM 1	YC Burgee & # 1 Code Flag	NSHCPs \leq 139
Tartan Ten	# 0 Code Flag	126
Spin 3	YC Burgee & # 3 Code Flag	HCPs \geq 88
Spin 2	YC Burgee & # 2 Code Flag	HCPs 71-87
Spin 1	YC Burgee & # 1 Code Flag	\leq 70
Newbies	YC Burgee & # 4 Code Flag	ALL

The Newbies class is for novice skippers and entry is at the discretion of the Yacht Club's Beer Can Chairmen.

- 9.2 The June 20th, July 11th and August 15th races will be called the Columbia – Mount Gay Rum Yacht Club Challenge Regatta. Boats (Columbia, Burnham Park, Chicago Yacht Club and MORF) will be scored in the following classes. Tartan Tens will be scored with the Spinnaker 2 class. These classes are for scoring purposes only – they do not affect the starting sequence which is described in subsection 9.1.

Class	Class Identification	LMPHRF Range
Jib and Main	See GSI 9.1	ALL
Spinnaker 2	See GSI 9.1	\geq 90
Spinnaker 1	See GSI 9.1	\leq 87

- 9.3 Boats competing in all classes shall display their yacht club/sailing association burgees and the number 0 through 4 International Code flag on their backstay as appropriate for the class to which they are assigned as defined in subsection 9.1.

10.0 The Start

- 10.1 All boats shall identify themselves to the Race Committee before starting by sailing by the committee boat prior to 6:40 p.m. or during the four-minute period prior to their start. No race committee acknowledgment is required.

- 10.1.1 Boats unable to identify themselves to the Race Committee prior to 6:40 may sail in the area reserved for boats checking in.
- 10.1.2 Radio confirmation with the Race Committee is not required. Radio requests for confirmation of check in will not be acknowledged except as noted in Rule 10.2.
- 10.2 A boat starting more than four minutes after her class' starting signal shall inform the Race Committee on VHF channel 69 as she is starting.
- 10.3 The Starting Area will extend 100 yards beyond the ends and to windward and leeward of the starting line. Boats whose prep signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose prep signal has been made from the first warning signal until their own prep signal
- 10.4 The Starting Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and SA7.
- 10.5 The Race Committee may deploy a guard mark. If so, the guard mark is considered a part of the Race Committee Boat. A boat that touches the guard mark or crosses between the guard mark and the Race Committee Boat will be treated as if she had touched a starting mark.
- 10.6 Races will be started in accordance with RRS 26.
 - 10.6.1 A multiple horn sound signal will be made one minute before the first warning signal
 - 10.6.2 The prep signal will be raised four minutes before and lowered one minute before the starting signal. A sound signal will be made when the prep signal is raised and lowered.
 - 10.6.3 The intervals between starts will be five minutes. The start for each class will be signaled by a sound signal and lowering the International Code Flag for the class starting.

10.7 The starting sequence is:

Time	Flag Up	Flag Down	Warning	Start
18:40	2		JAM 2	
18:45	1	2	JAM 1	JAM 2
18:50	0	1	Tartan Ten	JAM 1
18:55	3	0	Spin 3	Tartan Ten
19:00	2	3	Spin 2	Spin 3
19:05	1	2	Spin 1	Spin 2
19:10	4	1	Newbies	Spin 1
19:15		4		Newbies

11. Recalls

- 11.1 Individual recalls will be signaled with one sound signal and the International Code Flag “X” in accordance with RRS 29.1.
- 11.2 The Race Committee will attempt to identify recalled boats by broadcast over VHF channel 69 and/or by hailing. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification shall not be grounds for redress.
- 11.3 The Race Committee may signal a general recall with two sound signals and the First Substitute International Code Flag in accordance with RRS 29.2. The recalled class will start five minutes after the last scheduled start. If more than one class has a general recall, the additional recalled classes will be restarted at five-minute intervals in the order recalled. This modifies RRS 29.2.

12. The Finish

- 12.1 The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Boat and SA7, or, in the event the course is shortened, the Finish Line will be between a staff displaying the code Flag “S” on the Race Committee boat and the nearby mark.
- 12.2 The Race Committee may deploy a guard mark. If so, the guard mark is considered a part of the Race Committee Boat. A boat that touches the guard mark or crosses between the guard mark and the Race Committee Boat shall be treated as if she had touched a finishing mark.

13. Time Limit

The time limit to finish the race shall be 9:00 p.m. The Time Limit will not be changed as a result of postponements, general recalls or for any other reason. Boats that have started but have not finished by the time limit shall be scored DNF. This modifies RRS 35.

14. Withdrawal

A boat that retires from a race shall promptly report her withdrawal to the Race Committee on station via hailing or via VHF channel 69. If this is not possible, she shall promptly report her actions to the Race Committee on shore.

15. Collisions Involving the Race Committee Boat

- 15.1 A boat shall avoid contact with the Race Committee Boat.
- 15.2 A boat that breaks rule 15.1 shall be disqualified.
- 15.3 If a boat was compelled by another boat to break rule 15.1, she shall not be exonerated. This modifies RRS 64.1.
- 15.4 A boat that wrongfully compels another boat to break rule 15.1 shall be disqualified.
- 15.5 Penalties under rule 15 shall be imposed by the Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Chairperson or his or her designee without a protest hearing. This modifies RRS 63.

16. Radio Communication

- 16.1 The Race Committee will use VHF Channel 69 for courtesy broadcasts.
- 16.2 The Race Committee will not respond to transmissions from competitors except to acknowledge retirements, protests, requests for emergency assistance and boats starting more than four minutes after their class' starting signal (See Rule 10.2).