



Chicago Beer Can Series

2024 Sailing Instructions

Wednesday Nights May 22 – Sept. 11, 2024
Organizing Authority (OA) - Columbia Yacht Club (COLYC) ,
Chicago, Illinois (USA)

1. RULES

- 1.1. These races will be governed by the rules defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2021-2024 (“RRS”).
- 1.2. The OA strongly recommends that racers adhere to the US Coast Guard safety requirements and US Sailing Nearshore safety requirements, which are found in the yachtscoring.com event documents.
- 1.3. Registered boats shall not operate a drone at any time.
- 1.4. All competitors shall strictly follow all governmental regulations regarding health, safety, and infectious disease control, including crew limits and requirements for personal protective equipment (PPE).

2. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1800 on the day before it will take effect on <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=16415>
- 2.2. If the Notice of Race conflicts with the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

3. COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors and scheduled protests will be posted on the Official Racing Notice Board <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=16415>.
- 3.2. On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF radio channel 69.
- 3.3. Failure to receive courtesy emails, text messages, or broadcasts from the Race Committee is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed at the mast on the Columbia Yacht Club dock and may be announced as a courtesy on VHF race channel 69.

5. SCHEDULE OF RACES

The first warning for all races shall be at 1840.

Date	Event
May 8	Beer Can Orientation/Starting Gun Party
May 15	Tune-Up Race
May 22	Race Week 1
May 29	Race Week 2
June 5	Race Week 3
June 12	Race Week 4
June 19	Race Week 5
June 26	Race Week 6
July 3	Race Week 7
July 10	Break - Mac Race
July 17	Break - Mac Race
July 24	Race Week 8
July 31	Race Week 9
August 7	Break - 100 Boats on a Beer Can
August 14	Race Week 10
August 21	Race Week 11
August 28	Race Week 12
September 4	Race Week 13
September 11	Race Week 14
October 2	Beer Can Bash Awards Ceremony

6. CLASS FLAGS, SECTION BREAKS, and STARTING TIMES

Class	Class Flag	Warning Signal	Start	Rating Band MWPHRF/ Beer Can Handicap
Green	5	1840	1845	All
Jib & Main	7	1845	1850	All
Spin 4	4	1850	1855	> 100
Spin 3	3	1855	1900	79 - 99
J/105	J	1855	1900	All
Spin 2	2	1900	1905	45 - 78
Beneteau 36.7	6	1905	1910	All
Spin 1	1	1910	1915	< 45

7. RACING AREA

- 7.1. The Chicago Beer Can Race Course, a circle of 8 permanent marks immediately southwest of the Four-Mile Crib, will host racing for all classes.

8. COURSES

- 8.1. The diagrams in Appendix A show the courses, including the approximate locations of the marks, the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, the side on which each mark is to be left, and the approximate course length.
- 8.2. No later than the first warning signal, the Race Committee (RC) Race Committee Boat will display the course Letter and Number.
- 8.3. The Race Committee will make courtesy radio announcements of the course selected prior to the first start.

9. MARKS

- 9.1. Mark(s) are listed in Appendix A.

10. OBSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1. 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.

11. THE START

- 11.1. All races will start at SA7, the center mark of the racing circle.
- 11.2. 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 the starboard side of the Race Committee Boat and hailing their boat's name, sail number, and class. Radio requests for confirmation of check-in will not be acknowledged.
- 11.3. To alert the boats that the first sequence of races will begin soon, the Race Committee shall make repetitive sound signals at least one minute before the warning signal is made.
 - 11.3.1. Failure to receive courtesy emails, text messages, or broadcasts from the Race Committee is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1.
- 11.4. 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 Race Committee Boat. Yachts shall not pass between the guard mark and the RC boat.
- 11.5. 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]
- 11.6. 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.
- 11.7. 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).
- 11.8. 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.

12. SHORTENING THE COURSE

- 12.1. To shorten the course, the race committee will move the finishing line to a new position. A courtesy announcement will be made on VHF Channel 69.

13. THE FINISH

- 13.1. The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Boat and the course side of the finishing mark.
- 13.2. If the race committee is absent when a boat finishes, she shall report her finishing time to the Race Committee using GPS CDT, and her position in relation to nearby boats on VHF Channel 69.

14. TIME LIMITS

- 14.1. The time limit for all classes is 2100.
- 14.2. The time limit will not be changed due to postponements, general recalls, or any other reason.
- 14.3. Any boats that do not finish within the time designated will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired). This changes RRS 35.

15. HEARING REQUESTS

- 15.1. Protest forms are available at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=16415>.
- 15.2. Boats intending to protest must 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.
- 15.3. The protest time limit for each class is 2359 on the race day following each race. Boats must submit their protest form electronically via <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=16415> within the time limit.
- 15.4. Notices of protests by the race committee, technical committee, or protest committee will be posted on www.yachtscoring.com.
- 15.5. Protests will be arbitrated immediately following the night's race (RRS Appendix T) at Columbia Yacht Club (via Zoom if desired).
- 15.6. Appendix V1 and V2 are in effect.
 - 15.6.1. Appendix V2(b) is replaced with: A Post-Race Penalty is a 20% Scoring Penalty. the penalty shall be the score she would have received without that penalty, made worse by 20% of the number of boats in their section that started. round to the nearest whole number (0.5 rounded upward). The scores of other boats shall not be changed; therefore, two boats may receive the same score. However, the penalty shall not cause the boat's score to be worse than the score for Did Not *Finish*.
- 15.7. Protests will be heard as soon as possible at Columbia Yacht Club (with a zoom option). The protest committee will contact the parties via email to arrange an agreeable time to hold a hearing. Failure of a party to respond to

the Protest Committee email within 24 hours of the time the email was sent, may result in the hearing be scheduled at a time convenient for the parties that did respond and the Protest Committee. The Protest committee shall post the hearing time and date on the official notice board.

16. SAFETY REGULATIONS

16.1. A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee as soon as reasonably possible, using VHF Race Channel 69.

17. PRIZES

17.1. Prizes will be awarded to top finishers for the series at the Beer Can Bash as outlined in the NOR. 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.

18. FURTHER INFORMATION

18.1. For further information, please contact

Regatta Chair:

Dom Merritt | beercan@colyc.org

Organizing Authority:

Columbia Yacht Club
111 N. Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60601

Appendix A – COURSE INFORMATION

The Race Committee (RC) will select a course by class from the list below. There are 24 possible courses. The course will be displayed on a course board on the RC boat no later than 5 minutes before 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 and red cylinder, marked "SA 7"
1	41 52.26 N	87 33.41 W	White and red cylinder, marked "1"
2	41 51.94 N	87 32.37 W	White and red cylinder marked "2"
3	41 51.17 N	87 31.95 W	White and red cylinder marked "3"
4	41 50.40 N	87 32.37 W	White and red cylinder marked "4"
5	41 50.08 N	87 33.41 W	White and red cylinder marked "5"
6	41 50.40 N	87 34.44 W	White and red cylinder marked "6"
7	41 51.17 N	87 34.87 W	White and red cylinder marked "7"
8	41 51.94 N	87 34.44 W	White and red cylinder marked "8"
FINISH AREA (SA7)	41 51.17 N	87 33.41 W	White and red cylinder, marked "SA 7"

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 Fleet 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	2nd 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, the Green fleet will go to mark 3 and return to SA7.