



Verve Cup Inshore Regatta

Chicago Yacht Club August 21 - 23, 2026 Belmont Station, Chicago, IL Sailing Instructions (SIs)

*The Chicago Yacht Club Regatta Association is the Organizing Authority.
Chicago Yacht Club is the host.*

ABBREVIATIONS

[NP] Rules that are not grounds for a protest or request for redress by a boat but may be protested by a *Committee* or the Organizing Authority. ***This changes RRS 60.1 and 61.1.***

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 In addition to other rules changed in this document, the following rules are changed:
 1. RRS 60.4 (a) adds, “(4) if the protest is by a boat and is based on a rule with the notation [NP].”
 2. RRS 60.5(c) adds, “(5) the protest is based on a rule with the notation [DP] and the protest committee decides the penalty shall be more or less than a single Disqualification.”
 3. RRS 61.3 adds, “or is a request by a boat and is based on a rule with the notation [NP].”
 4. Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: (2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, and did not see, the incident, or...
- 1.3 The US Sailing Prescriptions to RRS 63.1(b) and the Preamble to Part 5, Section B shall not apply
- 1.4 [DP] Drones shall not be flown in the racing area except with prior authorization by the OA.
- 1.5 Sonar Class Rules shall not apply. The CYC rules for handling boats shall apply to the Sonar Class.
- 1.6 Appendices T and V1 shall apply
- 1.7 For the J70 Class, see “Addendum RS.” This changes RRS 26, 29.1, 30, 41(c) and Race Signals.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions will be posted:

- 2.1 By 2000 on the day before a schedule change will take effect,
- 2.2 Before 0900 on the day the change will take effect or,
- 2.3 In the event of AP posted ashore, no later than 15 minutes before AP is lowered ashore.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board online at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/RS9bw4J2MF>.
- 3.2 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio. See Addendum B for channel(s).
- 3.3 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 3.4 [NP] Errors and omissions in courtesy broadcasts are not grounds for a request for redress. ***This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)(1).***

4 CODE OF CONDUCT

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



5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flagpole at the northeast of the Belmont Station Barge. In addition, signals made ashore may be distributed, as a courtesy, to the email or text address listed in a boat's entry form. Failure to receive courtesy electronic communications shall not be grounds for a request for redress. ***This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)(1).***
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in Race Signals AP. ***This changes Race Signals.***

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

All on shore events will take place at CYC Belmont Station:

Thursday, August 20

1400-1900 Onsite check – in (J/88 and J/70)

Friday, August 21

1025 J/88 and J/70 First warning signal
1700-1900 Sat/Sun classes onsite check-in

Saturday, August 22

1025 First warning signal all classes
After Racing Sponsored Pour after racing at CYC and
Presentation of the Knud Reimers Trophy for the Associates Regatta

Sunday, August 23

1025 First warning signal all classes
1400 No warning signal after this time
Awards & Closing ceremony after racing at CYC
Sponsored Pour after racing at CYC

7 CLASS FLAGS & RACING AREA

See Addendum B for Class Flags, Initial Starting Sequences, and Racing Areas.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 The diagram(s) in SI Addendum A show the course(s), 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.
- 8.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal vessel will display the course and the approximate compass bearing of the first mark.
- 8.3 When Long Mark 1 and Short Mark 1 are the same distance, only one mark will be set and it will be referred to as Long Mark.

9 MARKS

- 9.1 The starting mark will be described in Addendum B for each circle.
- 9.2 Rounding marks will be orange inflatable or robotic marks.
- 9.3 Routine movement of robotic marks will not be grounds for redress this changes RRS 27.2, 61.1(a), and 61.4(b)(1). Routine movement includes marks maintaining the intended location and returning to station after having been moved by a boat. (Note Rule 31 still applies).
- 9.4 The Finishing mark will be described in Addendum B for each circle
- 9.5 Change marks will be yellow inflatable shapes.



- 9.6 Mark 1 may have an offset per the course diagrams in Addendum A. In the event that there is only a single windward mark, the single Mark 1 shall be left to port.
- 9.7 For courses LL, LS, and SS, Mark 2 will be a gate. In the event that the gate is not in place, the single leeward Mark 2 shall be left to port.

10 OBSTRUCTIONS

The following area(s) are designated as an obstruction:

- a) The area around the pumping stations (cribs) and the marks placed around them by the US Coast Guard. Boats shall not sail between the marks.

11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark. A pin boat may be used for the port end of the starting line.
- 11.3 **[DP]** Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 11.4 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 a redress for request. ***This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)(1).***
- 11.5 A boat that does not start within four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. ***This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.***
- 11.6 The race committee may combine classes for a start by displaying both class flags at the warning.
- 11.7 The race committee may modify the starting sequence after the first race of the regatta for any subsequent races.

12 CHANGE OF COURSE AT THE START

- 12.1 The Race Committee may signal a change of course for a class by displaying flag C (Charlie) at the preparatory signal with repeated sounds. The signal shall stay up until the start.
- 12.2 The signaled fleet will sail to the change mark.
- 12.3 If there is a subsequent change and the new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. ***This changes RRS 27.1 and 33.***

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 13.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.
- 13.2 A course change of 10 degrees or less will not be signaled by the race committee. The course change will continue to use the active mark. ***This changes RRS 33(a).***
- 13.3 Offset marks, if used as provided in instruction 9.5, will not be set on a changed leg of the course.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal vessel and the course side of the finishing mark per the course diagrams in Addendum A.
- 14.2 Flag A displayed, with no sound signal, while boats are finishing means "No more racing today."

15 PENALTY SYSTEM

Appendices T and V1 shall apply.



16 TIME LIMITS

- 16.1 The Finishing Window is 20 minutes after the first boat in its respective Class has sailed the course and finished. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window and not subsequently retiring, being penalized, or given redress will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) without a hearing. A boat scored TLE shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the points scored by the last boat that finished within the Finishing Window. *This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10.*

17 HEARING REQUESTS

- 17.1 Protests and requests for redress shall be filed on the event website, in person at the protest desk at Chicago Yacht Club Belmont Station, or emailed to regattamanager@chicagoyachtclub.org within the appropriate time limit.
- 17.2 A boat's protest time limit is 60 minutes from the docking time of the Signal Boat for her circle.
- 17.3 Hearings will be held in person at CYC Belmont Station.

18 SCORING

- 18.1 The scoring system is as follows: Low Point Scoring.
- 18.2 Two (2) races are required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 18.3 A boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races. No score will be discarded. *This changes RRS A2.*
- 18.4 Classes whose starts have been combined will be scored separately.
- 18.5 Scoring inquiries shall be filed online by emailing regattamanager@chicagoyachtclub.org.

19 [DP] SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 19.1 Each boat shall check in by sailing past the race committee signal boat, hailing or displaying her sail number, and receiving an acknowledgement from the race committee prior to her first race on each day of racing.
- 19.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee either before leaving the course or, if that is impracticable, immediately after arriving ashore. A boat may notify the race committee using the designated VHF hailing channel.

20 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

[DP] Keelboats shall not be hauled out during the event except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

21 RISK STATEMENT

Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury, or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

22 [DP] INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with a valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$100,000 per incident or the equivalent. Competitors shall be prepared to supply proof of insurance upon request by the OA.

23 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the NoR.

24 FURTHER INFORMATION

Patrick Burks - Regatta Manager

Chicago Yacht Club

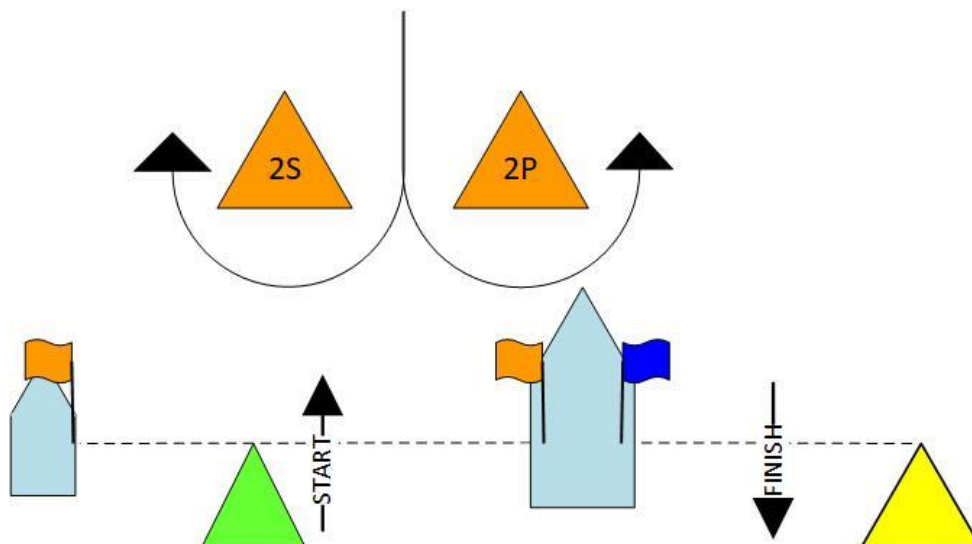
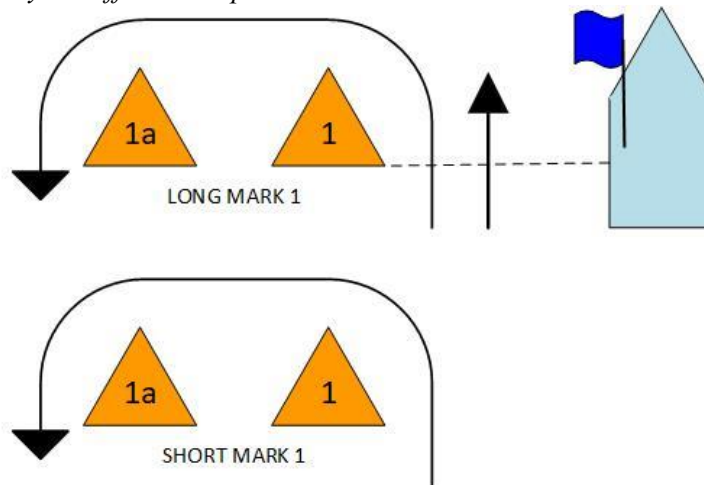
regattamanager@chicagoyachtclub.org



Addendum A Course Diagrams

Course Assignment	4 Legs	5 Legs
LL (Long, Long)	Start - Long Mark 1 – Long Mark 1a - 2S/2P - Long Mark 1 - Long Mark 1a - Finish	Start - Long Mark 1 – Long Mark 1a - 2S/2P - - Long Mark 1 – Long Mark 1a – 2S/2P - Finish
LS (Long, Short)	Start - Long Mark 1 – Long Mark 1a - 2S/2P - Short Mark 1 – Short Mark 1a - Finish	Start - Long Mark 1 – Long Mark 1a - 2S/2P - - Short Mark 1 – Short Mark 1a - 2S/2P - Finish
SS (Short, Short)	Start - Short Mark 1 – Short Mark 1a - 2S/2P - -Short Mark 1 – Short Mark 1a – Finish	Start - Short Mark 1 – Short Mark 1a - 2S/2P - - Short Mark 1 – Short Mark 1a - 2S/2P - Finish

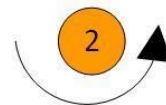
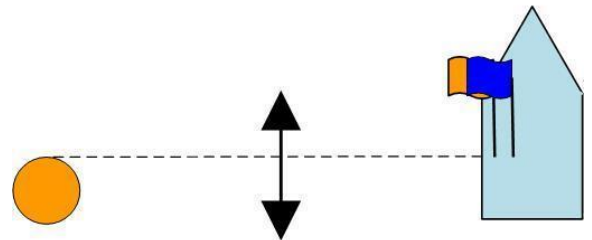
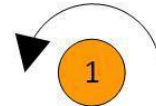
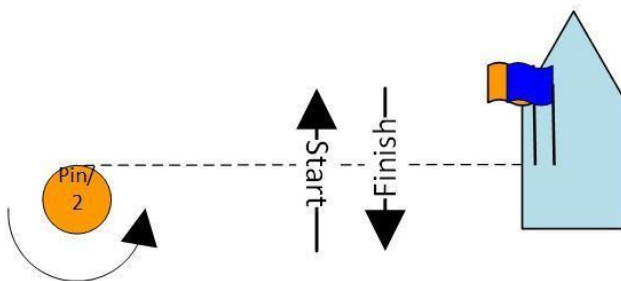
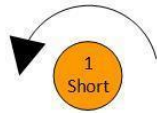
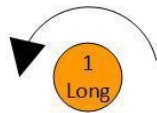
Marks may be different shapes or colors than shown. See Addendum B





Course B – Windward/Leeward	
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
B4 - LL (Long, Long)	Start - Long Mark 1 - Mark 2 - Long Mark 1 - Finish
B4 - LS (Long, Short)	Start - Long Mark 1 - Mark 2 - Short Mark 1 - Finish
B4 - SS (Short, Short)	Start - Short Mark 1 - Mark 2 - Short Mark 1 - Finish

Course M - Windward/Leeward	
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
M4	Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – Finish
M5	Start – 1 -2 – 1 – 2 – Finish
M6	Start – 1 – 2 – 1 – 2 -1 - finish





Addendum B

Class Flags, Initial Starting Sequences, VHF Channels, and Racing Areas

Blue Circle

Courtesy Broadcasts: VHF Channel 72

Approximately 2.15 nm at 115° from the Belmont Buoy

Approximate Coordinates - 41° 55.7'N 087° 35.3'W

Start pin will be a Green Robotic or inflatable mark

Finish pin will be a white inflatable mark

<u>Start</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Flag</u>
1	J/88	Code Flag Juliett (J)
2	J/70	Class Insignia

Red Circle

Courtesy Broadcasts: VHF 73

Approximately 1.15 nm at 80° from the Belmont Buoy

Approximate Coordinates – 41° 56.8'N 087° 36.5'W

Start pin will be a Yellow robotic or inflatable mark

Finish pin will be a white inflatable mark

<u>Start</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Flag</u>
1	Etchells	Class Insignia
2	Colgate 26/Shields	Code Flag 6 (Six)
3	Sonar	Class Insignia
4	2.4MR OD	Two (2)



ADDENDUM RS

RaceSense RRS changes

[NP] Rules and Instructions for Using the Vakaros and RaceSense System

RS.1 Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge (hereafter “Vakaros device” inclusive of both Atlas 2 and Atlas Edge) configured for RaceSense at check-in. Boats without a configured Vakaros device may have one provided by the Organizing Authority (OA), for applicable fees. This shall be mounted as required by the OA or class at all times while racing.

RS.2 Competitors shall

- a) calibrate their Vakaros device before registration/check-in. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure their device remains in proper calibration throughout the event.
- b) turn their Vakaros device off after sailing each day. New battery life is approx. 100 hours.
- c) take all reasonable measures to keep the Vakaros device safe and operational while racing and promptly notify appropriate Race Committee (RC) or appointed person on the water or ashore of any device issues.

RS.3 The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the RC and the relevant information will be available to all boats.

RS.4 Instructions for using the electronic Atlas 2 can be found here <https://support.vakaros.com/> or Atlas Edge can be found here <https://vakaros-atlas-edge-user-guide.super.site/>

RS.6 The countdown to the start on the Vakaros device from RaceSense will be the official time. Signal flags will only be used as a courtesy signal. This changes RRS 26.

RS.7 The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and 30 by the RC is replaced with electronic identification through the Vakaros RaceSense system, modifying RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, and 30.4.

RS.8 Any alleged failure of the Vakaros device, RaceSense system, or communication systems will not constitute grounds to request redress by a boat or the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 61.1(a), 61.1(c).

RS.9 If the RC vessel displays flag Oscar (Old School) with a long sound signal before the warning signal of a race, RS.6 and RS.7 inclusive will not apply to that race.

RS.10 If the RC vessel displays flag Romeo (Reboot) with a long sound signal before the warning signal of a race, competitors shall restart their Vakaros device unit by switching it off, waiting 10 seconds and then switching it back on to reconnect to the RaceSense network. Flag R will remain displayed for a minimum of 2 minutes and will be removed with the next warning signal.

RS.11 If firmware updates to a Vakaros device are required between scheduled race days, notice will be sent to all boats via email and/or SMS.