



Notice of Race (NOR)

Saturday and Sunday, August 22-23, 2026

Organizing Authorities (OAs): Burnham Park Yacht Club (BPYC),
Columbia Yacht Club (COLYC), and Jackson Park Yacht Club (JPYC)

*The Chicago-based **Alliance for the Great Lakes** is a nonpartisan nonprofit working to protect and preserve the Great Lakes, which all of us, as sailors and competitors, understand is a unique and irreplaceable resource essential to the enjoyment of our sport.*

By registering for this regatta you agree to be contacted by the Alliance for the Great Lakes and invited to create a fundraising team for this event. Fundraising for the Alliance is encouraged but not required to participate in the Regatta. For more information, visit www.GreatLakes.org.

This regatta is comprised of two races:

On Saturday, the **Great Blue Hustle** takes racers out for a 10-14 nm random leg course around dropped buoys and fixed marks for a fun and challenging day with plenty of tacks, gybes, mark roundings, and sail changes to challenge your crew's boat handling skills.

On Sunday, the **Great Blue Pursuit** will put racers on a nearshore distance race with the starting time for each boat based on their handicap rating. This applies the time correction up front and Race results are the finish order.

The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.

1. RULES

- 1.1. These races will be governed by the rules as defined in The 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing ("RRS").
 - 1.2. U.S. Sailing prescriptions will apply, except for the prescriptions to RRS 63.1.
-

- 1.3. Boats shall comply with US Coast Guard recreational safety requirements, as published in the Clubspot Notice Board for this regatta.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1. The sailing instructions will be available no later than August 10, 2026 at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/Yr6tsQ1ebr>.
- 2.2. In the event of a conflict between this Notice of Races and the Sailing Instructions, the Sailing Instructions shall prevail.

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. The official notice board is located at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/Yr6tsQ1ebr>.
- 3.2. All boats shall carry an operable marine VHF radio.
- 3.3. On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be stated in the SIs.
- 3.4. Failure to receive courtesy emails, text messages, or broadcasts from the Race Committee is not grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.
- 3.5. Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 3.6. Help in the form of information freely available to all boats and any publicly offered internet or broadcast weather information from sources available to all competitors, whether on a paid or free basis, is allowable.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1. This event is open to any boat of at least 20 feet length overall.
- 4.2. Boats registering in a Racing Division must have a valid 2026 MWPHRF Standard certificate, and boats must race in full compliance with that certificate.
- 4.3. Boat registering in a Casual Division must either have a valid MWPHRF Standard or Cruiser certificate or request a provisional rating from the OAs. Requests for a provisional rating must be emailed to SailorTom@Whspr.org no later than 0900 August 15, 2026.
- 4.4. Boats must sail with at least two crew members for each race.
- 4.5. Boats racing double-handed shall register online in the appropriate One-Design class or Handicap section for which their boat is eligible and also register online as a double-handed competitor.

- 4.6. [NP] A minimum of 4 entries must be received by 1800 on August 21, 2026 for a one-design class to be recognized. If this requirement is not met, the Organizing Authority will assign these boats to an appropriate MWPHRF section.
- 4.7. One-design boats accepted as a class must race in compliance with their local class rules.
- 4.8. [NP] A boat sailing in MWPHRF handicap division will be assigned to a section according to rating and other factors at the discretion of the Organizing Authorities.
- 4.9. Divisions and classes defined as follows:

Division	Definition	Classes
Racing Spin	Competitive racing boats - Spinnaker	MWPHRF & One-Design
Racing JAM	Competitive racing boats - Jib and Main	MWPHRF
Casual JAM	Cruisers & occasional racers - Jib and Main	MWPHRF/OA Provisional Handicaps

4.10. Woman Skipper Boats

- 4.10.1. A *woman skipper* boat shall be defined as a boat in which a woman is the person in charge during the race. The designation of a boat as a *woman skipper* will only be taken into consideration for the awarding of the *woman skipper* prizes. All other parameters for that boat; including but not limited to the section assignment, handicapping, scoring and awarding of the general prizes; will be made regardless of whether or not the boat is designated as a *woman skipper*.
- 4.10.2. To be eligible for *woman skipper* prizes, a boat must declare their intention, via email to regattachair@colyc.org, to race as a *woman skipper* entry and provide the name of the woman skipper (person in charge) prior to 1700 hours on Friday, August 21, 2026.

4.11. Double-Handed Boats

- 4.11.1. A Double-Handed boat shall be defined as a boat racing with only 2 crew. The designation of a boat as Double-Handed will only be taken into consideration for awarding of double-handed prizes. All other parameters

for that boat; including but not limited to the section assignment, handicapping, scoring and awarding of the general prizes; will be made regardless of whether or not the boat is designated as Double-Handed.

- 4.11.2. Power-driven winches, mechanical and electro-mechanical steering devices are permitted on Double-Handed Boats. This changes RRS 52.
- 4.11.3. While racing each crew member in a Double-Handed boat must have a PFD, properly fitted and worn when not below decks or while briefly changing gear/clothing.

5. FEES

- 5.1. The Entry Fee for all boats is \$110. Boats entering and paying by July 23, 2026 will be entitled to pay an Early Entry Fee of \$90.
- 5.2. All entry fees are refundable, subject to a \$10 administration fee. In order to receive a refund for a race, yachts must withdraw by sending an email to regattachair@colyc.org no later than 0900 CDT on August 21, 2026.

6. ADVERTISING

- 6.1. Any advertising proposed to be carried by a boat must be described in the Entry Form.
- 6.2. Advertising deemed by Organizing Authorities not to be compliant with World Sailing Regulation 20 may be rejected.

7. SCHEDULE

Date	Race	1st Warning
Saturday, August 22	The Great Blue Hustle	1055 CDT
Sunday, August 23	The Great Blue Pursuit	1055 CDT

8. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

Measurement and weigh-ins will not be conducted by the OAs.

9. VENUE

The venue for these races will be the waters of Lake Michigan. For both days the starting areas will be due East of Monroe Harbor. Specific locations and coordinates will be provided in the Sailing Instructions.

10. SCORING

- 10.1. Handicap section breaks will be published by the OAs and sent to competitors by 1200 CD on Friday, August 21, 2026.
- 10.2. MWPHRF Distance Handicap (DHCP) applies to all boats, except:
 - 10.2.1. MWPHRF Non-Spinnaker Handicap (NSHCHP) will apply to boats racing in the Racing JAM Division.
 - 10.2.2. MWPHRF Non-Spinnaker Handicap (NSHCHP) or the OA provisional Handicap will apply to boats racing in the Casual JAM Division.
- 10.3. For Saturday's Great Blue Hustle race, time on time scoring will be applied using the following formula. Time Correction Factor = $A/(B + \text{MWPHRF ToD Rating})$, where A is 650 and B is 550.
- 10.4. For Sunday's Great Blue Pursuit race, boats will be assigned an individual start time based on their handicap and scored in order of finish.

11. DOCKING

To the extent possible, Organizing Authorities will make docking available to entered boats for post-race parties.. Availability of docking and docking instructions will be outlined in amendments for each race.

12. RISK STATEMENT

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.**

13. INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the equivalent.

14. PRIZES

- 14.1. Daily prizes will be given for first, second, and third places for each section with four or more starters. For sections with fewer than four starters, prizes will be awarded for the number of starters minus one.

- 14.2. Additional prizes will be awarded to the best *woman skipper(s)* in each section, regardless of their rank within that section.
- 14.3. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place overall winners of the regatta will be awarded at the after race party on Sunday August 23, 2026 or the CASRA end of year party.

15. PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RIGHTS

Competitors give the OAs absolute right and permission for any photographs or video footage taken of themselves or their competing boat to be published in any media whatsoever for editorial, commercial purposes, or to be used in press information.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information please contact regattachair@colyc.org.