



**Verve Cup Offshore Regatta
Chicago Yacht Club
Monroe Station, Chicago, IL
August 7 - 9, 2026**

Sailing Instructions (SIs)

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

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 Appendices T and V1 shall apply.
- 1.3 Rules listed in NoR 1 are not repeated in the SIs.

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 or,
- 2.2 Before 0900 on the day it 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/CNipkLWuYn>.
- 3.2 On the water, the Race Committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors via VHF radio on the channels listed in Addendum A.
- 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 corner of the Monroe Station Clubhouse. 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 75 minutes' in Race Signals AP.

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 The schedule is as follows:

Thursday, August 6

1700-1900 On Site Check In by any boat representative for all divisions

Friday, August 7

1055 First warning (Buoy Racing)



1700/After Racing
1700-1900

Friday Night Party
On Site Check In by any boat representative for Tour of Chicago Distance Race Only

Saturday, August 8

1055

First warning Tour of Chicago Race (All Divisions)

After Racing

Verve Swerve Party with Live Music

1800

Awards for Tour of Chicago

Sunday, August 9

1055

First warning (Buoy Racing)

1400

No warning after this time

1530/After Racing

Sunday Party with Awards Presentation

7 CLASS FLAGS

See Addendum A.

8 RACING AREA

See Addendum A.

9 COURSES

9.1 Buoy Racing:

- a) The diagrams in SI Addendum B 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.
- b) When the Short Mark 1 and Long Mark 1 are the same distance, only one mark will be set and will be referred to as the Long Mark 1.
- c) No later than the warning signal, the Race Committee signal vessel will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg.

9.2 Tour of Chicago Distance Race:

- a) The tables in SI Addendum C show the course(s), including the approximate locations, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.
- b) Course assignments will be displayed on the designated Check-in Boat.

9.3 [NP] Course information may be signaled by courtesy broadcasts on the designated VHF channel.

10 MARKS

10.1 Buoy Racing:

- a) Marks will be inflatable shapes or robotic marks. Mark colors will be described in Addendum A.
- b) Mark 1 will have an offset. In the event that the offset is not in place, the single windward Mark 1 shall be left to port.
- c) 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.
- d) New marks, as provided in SI 14, will be inflatable shapes described in Addendum A. Offset marks will not be set for a change of course.

10.2 Tour of Chicago Distance Race:

- a) Marks will be government navigation aids, semi-permanent white spar racing buoys, pumping station cribs, inflatable shapes, or robotic marks.
- b) Each course option has a gate listed as a mark of the course. The gate will be comprised of an RC boat displaying code flag Mike (with no sound signals) on the western end of the gate and an inflatable or robotic mark on the eastern side of the gate. This changes RRS Race Signals.
 - 1) Boats shall pass between the gate marks in the direction from the previous mark and proceed to the next mark listed in the course.



2) Should the RC display code flag Sierra at the gate in lieu of code flag Mike, the race is shortened per RRS 32.2.

- 10.3 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).

11 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.

12 THE START

- 12.1 Races will be started using RRS 26 with the warning signal made 5 minutes before the starting signal.
- 12.2 The starting line is between a staff displaying an orange flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of a port-end starting mark, or a staff displaying an orange flag on a port-end RC vessel.
- 12.3 **[DP]** Boats whose warning signal has not been made shall avoid the starting area during the starting sequence for other races.
- 12.4 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).***
- 12.5 For buoy racing only: A boat that does not start within four minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. For Tour of Chicago Distance Race: a boat that does not start within ten minutes after the last start of the day will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. ***This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.***
- 12.6 The Race Committee may combine classes for a start by displaying both class flags at the warning.
- 12.7 The Race Committee may modify the starting sequence after the first race of the regatta for any subsequent races.
- 12.9 Initial Start Sequence and Class Flags: See Addendum A.

13 CHANGE OF COURSE BETWEEN STARTS

- 13.1 In the event of a significant change in wind direction during a series of starting sequences, the Race Committee may signal a change of course for a class by displaying flag C (Charlie) at the preparatory signal with repeated sounds and displaying the new course heading. The signal shall stay up until the start.
- 13.2 The signaled fleet will sail to the change mark.
- 13.3 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.***

14 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 14.1 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.
- 14.2 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).***

15 THE FINISH

- 15.1 Buoy Racing:
- a) For Windward/Leeward courses, the finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port end finishing mark.
- b) Flag A displayed, with no sound signal, while boats are finishing means "No more racing today."



15.2 Tour of Chicago Distance Race:

- a) The finishing line is between a staff displaying a blue flag on the signal vessel at the starboard end and the course side of the port end finishing mark.
- b) [NP] Alternate Finish: In extraordinary circumstances negatively impacting the safety or fairness of the race, the RC may designate the gate described in SI 10.2(b) as an alternate finish line for one or more classes and score all boats in those classes based on the time they cross the line between the flag pole on the RC boat and the side of the eastern gate mark closest to the previous mark of the course. Boats will be notified via notice to competitors on the Notice Board in addition to courtesy electronic communications as soon as practicable after the decision is made.

16 **PENALTY SYSTEM**

Appendices T and V1 shall apply.

17 **TIME LIMITS**

17.1 Buoy Racing:

- a) The Mark 1 Time Limit, Race Time Limit (see RRS 35), and the Finishing Window are shown in the table below in minutes (time adjusted in handicap sections).

Mark 1 Time Limit	Race Time Limit	Finishing Window
30 minutes	120 minutes	30 minutes

- b) If no boat has passed the first mark within the Mark 1 Time Limit, the race will be abandoned.
- c) The Finishing Window is the time for boats to finish after the first boat sails the course and finishes. Boats failing to finish within the Finishing Window, and not subsequently retiring, 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 two 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.***

17.2 Tour of Chicago Distance Race:

- a) Race Time Limit (see RRS 35) is shown in the table below.

Race Time Limit
1600 August 8, 2026

- b) All boats not finished by 1600 will be scored TLE without a hearing. ***This changes RRS 35 and A5.1***

18 **HEARING REQUESTS**

- 18.1 Protests and requests for redress shall be filed in person at the protest desk at Chicago Yacht Club, online on the event website, or emailed to regattamanager@chicagoyachtclub.org within the appropriate time limit.
- 18.2 A boat's protest time limit is 60 minutes from the docking time of the Signal Boat for her circle.
- 18.3 Hearings will be held, in person, at Monroe Station immediately following the day's races.
 - a) A boat protesting under RRS 60, a boat being protested under RRS60, and boats requesting redress under RRS61 shall, as soon as practical, have a representative report to the protest desk at CYC Monroe station.
 - b) Competitors are reminded that touch and go and docking are available at CYC Monroe station as provided in NOR 14 and SI 21.
 - c) When interpreting "As soon as practical", the jury will not accept reasons such as but not limited to sailing to another harbor, cleaning up the boat, and driving to Monroe as sufficient cause to delay a hearing.

19 **SCORING**

- 19.1 A boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races. No score will be discarded. ***This changes RRS A2.***
- 19.2 One (1) completed race constitutes a regatta.
- 19.3 ORC classes shall be scored in accordance with the ORC handicap certificate. ORC scoring will be calculated using time-on-time (TOT) scoring options as follows:



- a) Buoy racing: time-on-time (ToT) 5-Band Windward/Leeward Rating or 5-Band 60-40 as appropriate for the course sailed (such as a course shortened to 3-legs or 5-legged course).
 - b) Tour of Chicago Distance Race: Triple Number AP
- 19.4 Any decision on wind range selection or course selection shall be at the sole discretion of the race committee and shall not be grounds for a boat to request redress. ***This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)(1).*** A complete description of ORC scoring models can be found at <https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/2026-ORC-USA-CAN-Scoring-Options.pdf>
- 19.5 MWPHRF scoring shall be in accordance with the MWPHRF handicap certificate using Time-on-Time (ToT) based on the following formula: $\text{ToT Rating} = 650 / (550 + \text{MWPHRF ToD Rating})$. ToD ratings used in the calculation will be as follows:
- a) Buoy Racing: HCP
 - b) Tour of Chicago Distance Race: DHCP
- 19.6 A score of TLE will receive the points equal to the number of finishers in her class plus two points but no more than points equal to that of DNF. ***This changes RRS A4.2 and RRS A5.***
- 19.7 Boats sailing the full series will receive points for the Tour of Chicago Distance Race equal to their finishing place in that race among the competitors in their class sailing the full series only.

20 [DP] SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 20.1 Tour of Chicago Distance Race Only:
- a) Each boat shall check in by sailing past the Designated Check-In boat, hailing or displaying her sail number, and receiving an acknowledgment from the race committee prior to her warning signal for the race.
 - b) The Designated Check-in boat shall display **Code Flag Lima (L)** and will be located at the coordinates listed in **Addendum A**.
- 20.2 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.

21 BERTHING

[DP] Boats wishing to utilize CYC Monroe or Belmont station docks during the regatta shall make reservations prior to the regatta with the respective CYC Dockmaster. CYC Monroe 312-296-2042 or 312-867-7777 x3781, CYC Belmont 312-617-6997, or email dockmaster@chicagoyachtclub.org. If space is available during the regatta, it will be on a first come/first serve basis.

22 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.

23 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.

24 INSURANCE

Each participating boat shall be insured with a valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000 per incident or the equivalent. Competitors shall be prepared to supply proof of insurance upon request by the OA.

25 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded in accordance with the NoR.



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FURTHER INFORMATION

Patrick Burks, Regatta Manager

Chicago Yacht Club - 400 E Monroe St, Chicago, IL 60603

(312) 967-5698

regattamanager@chicagoyachtclub.org



Addendum A

Racing Areas, Class Flags, Marks, and Initial Start Sequence

Start Sequence may change after Race 1 of the Regatta

Red Circle

Center is approximately 3 nautical miles at a heading of 006° (magnetic) from the Chicago Harbor Lighthouse entrance or 2 nautical miles at a heading of 100° from the Belmont Harbor Light. The approximate coordinates are 41° 56.3' North and 87° 35.3' West.

Signal Boat: <i>Argo</i>		VHF Channel: 71	
Start:	Green Bot	Windward:	Orange Tetrahedron
Gate:	Orange Bots	Offset:	Orange Tetrahedron
Finish:	Yellow Bot	Change:	Yellow Tetrahedron
Class		Class Flag	
Beneteau 36.7		Flag 6	
J 105		Flag 5	
T-10		Flag 0 (zero)	

Blue Circle

Center is approximately 3.8 nautical miles at a heading of 070° from the inner Monroe Harbor entrance. The approximate coordinates are 41° 54.2' North and 87° 31.9' West.

Signal Boat: <i>Carrier V</i>		VHF Channel: 80A	
Start:	Green Tetrahedron	Windward:	Orange Tetrahedron
Gate:	Orange Tetrahedron	Offset:	Orange Tetrahedron
Finish:	White Tetrahedron	Change:	Yellow Tetrahedron
Class		Class Flag	
Beneteau 40.7		Flag 7	
ORC Full Series		Whiskey (W)	
PHRF Full Series		Foxtrot (F)	
J 109		Flag 9	



Tour of Chicago Distance Race

Courtesy Broadcast: VHF Channel 71

Approximately 0.75nm at a bearing of 300 degrees from the Harrison-Dever Crib

Check-In Boat Approximate Coordinates: 41°55.00' North, 87°35.30' West

Starting Line Approximate Coordinates: 41°55.30' North, 87°35.30' West

Marks and Courses for Tour of Chicago Distance Race described in Addendum C

Classes and Flags in starting order:

<u>Start #</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Flag</u>	<u>Section Split</u>
1	PHRF 2 Distance	Code Flag Four (4)	DHCP $\geq$ 100, Competing in Distance only
2	Tartan-10	Code Flag Zero (0)	
3	J/105	Code Flag Five (5)	
4	J/88	Code Flag Juliett (J)	525 $\geq$ APH, Competing in Distance only
4	ORC 2 Distance	Code Flag Two (2)	
5	Beneteau 36.7	Code Flag Six (6)	
6	J/109	Code Flag Nine (9)	Also competing in Buoy Races
7	PHRF Full Series	Code Flag Foxtrot (F)	
8	Beneteau 40.7	Code Flag Seven (7)	
8	PHRF 1 Distance	Code Flag Three (3)	DHCP < 100, Competing in Distance only
9	ORC Full Series	Code Flag Whiskey (W)	Also competing in Buoy races
9	ORC 1 Distance	Code Flag One (1)	525 < APH, Competing in Distance only

*** Tour of Chicago Distance Race combined scratch sheet and results will be posted on the notice board in

“Documents”: <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/CNipkLWuYn> ***



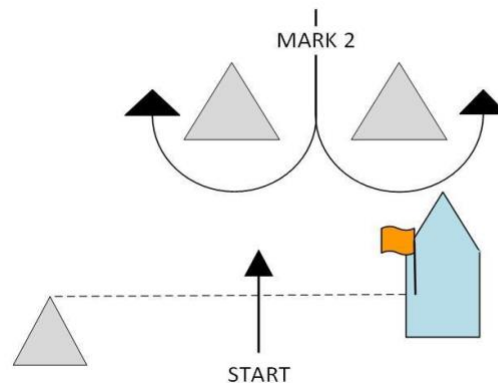
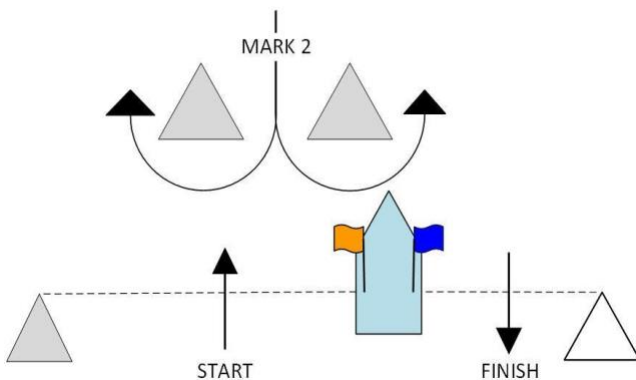
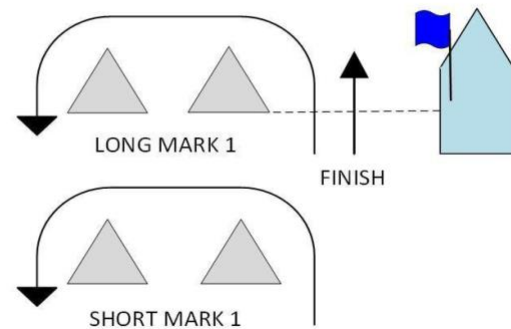
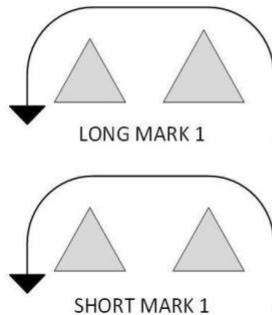
Addendum B

Buoy Racing Course Diagrams

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

MARKS MAY BE A DIFFERENT COLOR OR SHAPE BASED ON COURSE ASSIGNMENT. REFER TO ADDENDUM A.

MARKS MAY BE A DIFFERENT COLOR OR SHAPE BASED ON COURSE ASSIGNMENT. REFER TO ADDENDUM A.





Addendum C

Tour of Chicago Course Descriptions

*Listed Latitude, Longitude, Bearing, and Range are approximate

	Rounding/ Crossing Direction	Description	*Latitude	*Longitude	*Bearing (Deg M)	*Range (NM)
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Course A ~13 nm

Start			41 55.30n	087 35.30w		
Drop Mark 1	Leave to Starboard	Drop mark or bot	41 56.85n	087 35.89w	348	1.61
CCYC SE2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 55.83n	087 31.63w	112	3.33
Gate	Cross from North to South	Drop Mark and RC Vessel	41 53.03n	087 33.70w	213	3.2
CoLYC 1	Leave to Port	White Spar Buoy	41 52.26n	087 33.41w	169	0.8
Four Mile Crib	Leave to Port	LL no. 19925	41 52.36n	087 32.69w	83	0.54
Drop Mark 2	Leave to Port	Drop Mark or Bot	41 53.53n	087 31.66w	38	1.4
Finish	Cross from East to West	Finish	41 53.53n	087 34.12w	274	1.83

Course B ~ 17 nm

Start			41 55.30n	087 35.30w		
Drop Mark 1	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 56.85n	087 35.89w	348	1.61
CCYC SE2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 55.83n	087 31.63w	112	3.33
Gate	Cross from North to South	Drop Mark and RC Vessel	41 53.03n	087 33.70w	213	3.2
CoLYC 7	Leave to Port	White Spar Buoy	41 51.17n	087 34.87w	209	2.06
CoLYC 3	Leave to Port	White Spar Buoy	41 51.17n	087 31.95w	94	2.18
Drop Mark 2	Leave to Port	Drop Mark or Bot	41 53.53n	087 31.66w	9	2.37
Finish	Cross from East to West		41 53.53n	087 34.12w	274	1.83

Course C ~ 25 nm

Start			41 55.30n	087 35.30w		
Drop Mark 1	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 56.85n	087 35.89w	348	1.61
CCYC E2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 57.74n	087 32.40w	75	2.75
CCYC SE2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 55.83n	087 31.63w	168	2
Harrison Dever Crib	Leave to Port	LL no. 20040	41 54.99n	087 34.35w	252	2.2
Gate	Cross from North to South	Drop Mark and RC Vessel	41 53.03n	087 33.70w	170	2.02
CoLYC 7	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 51.17n	087 34.87w	209	2.06
Drop Mark 3	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 57.44n	087 34.07w	10	6.3
Drop Mark 2	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 53.53n	087 31.66w	160	4.3



Finish	Cross from East to West		41 53.53n	087 34.12w	274	1.83
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Course D ~ 27 nm

Start			41 55.30n	087 35.30w		
Drop Mark 1	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 56.85n	087 35.89w	348	1.61
CCYC E2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 57.74n	087 32.40w	75	2.75
CCYC SE2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 55.83n	087 31.63w	168	2
Harrison Dever Crib	Leave to Port	LL no. 20040	41 54.98n	087 34.35w	252	2.2
Gate	Cross from North to South	Drop Mark and RC Vessel	41 53.03n	087 33.70w	170	2.02
CoLYC 7	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 51.17n	087 34.87w	209	2.06
Drop Mark 3	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 57.44n	087 34.07w	10	6.3
Four Mile Crib	Leave to Port	LL no. 19925	41 52.35n	087 32.69w	173	5.18
Drop Mark 2	Leave to Port	Drop Mark or Bot	41 53.53n	087 31.66w	38	1.4
Finish	Cross from East to West		41 53.53n	087 34.12w	274	1.83

Course E ~28 nm

Start			41 55.30n	087 35.30w		
Drop Mark 1	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 56.85n	087 35.89w	348	1.61
CCYC T	Leave to Port	White Spar Buoy	42 00.12n	087 33.07w	37	3.89
CCYC W	Leave to Port	White Spar Buoy	41 57.74n	087 37.40w	238	4.01
CCYC SE2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 55.83n	087 31.63w	118	4.7
Gate	Cross from North to South	Drop Mark and RC Vessel	41 53.03n	087 33.70w	213	3.2
Drop Mark 3	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 57.44n	087 34.07w	1	4.42
Drop Mark 2	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 53.53n	087 31.66w	160	4.3
Finish	Cross from East to West		41 53.53n	087 34.12w	274	1.83

Course F ~33 nm

Start			41 55.30n	087 35.30w		
Drop Mark 1	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 56.85n	087 35.89w	348	1.61
CCYC T	Leave to Port	White Spar Buoy	42 00.12n	087 33.07w	37	3.89
CCYC W	Leave to Port	White Spar Buoy	41 57.74n	087 37.40w	238	4.01
CCYC SE2	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 55.83n	087 31.63w	118	4.7
Harrison Dever Crib	Leave to Port	LL no. 20040	41 54.98n	087 34.35w	252	2.2
Gate	Cross from North to South	Drop Mark and RC Vessel	41 53.03n	087 33.70w	170	2.02



ColYC 7	Leave to Starboard	White Spar Buoy	41 51.17n	087 34.87w	209	2.06
Drop Mark 3	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 57.44n	087 34.07w	10	6.3
Drop Mark 2	Leave to Starboard	Drop Mark or Bot	41 53.53n	087 31.66w	160	4.3
Finish	Cross from East to West		41 53.53n	087 34.12w	274	1.83