



Yacht Racing Union of the Great Lakes
ESTABLISHED 1896



Chicago Yacht Club Fall Match Race

Belmont Harbor- Chicago, IL, USA

September 11- Practice Day

September 12- 13 Racing Days

Including the:

Chicago Yacht Club Match Racing Championship for the Sterling Morton Trophy

And The

YRUGL Great Lakes Match Racing Championship for the Richardson Trophy

The OA is Chicago Yacht Club in conjunction with the Yacht Racing Union of the Great Lakes.

Chicago Yacht Club is the host.

NOTICE OF RACE

The following abbreviations apply to this Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions:

PC: Protest Committee or International Jury
NoR: Notice of Race
OA: Organizing Authority
RC: Race Committee
RRS: Racing Rules of Sailing

SI: Sailing Instruction
WS: World Sailing
[DP]: Discretionary Penalty
[NP]: A boat may not protest as per NoR 1.3

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*, including RRS Appendix C.
- 1.2 The rules for the handling of boats and the equipment list, detailed as part of the Sailing Instructions, will also apply, and will apply to any practice sailing or races. Class rules will not apply.
- 1.3 The notation '[NP]' in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 1.4 The Richardson Trophy Deed of Gift shall apply only to competition for the Richardson Trophy (<https://yrugl.org/richardson-cup-history>).
- 1.5 Major Alterations to the RRS:
 - (a) When a boat in a match fails to *sail the course*, she will be disqualified without a hearing and scored zero points unless both boats in the match have sailed the same course in which case the boats will be scored as if they had sailed the course. This changes RRS 28, 35, 60.5(b), 90.3(a), A5, and C10.7
 - (b) A boat may not request redress under RRS 61.4(b)(1). The protest committee may call a hearing to consider redress under that rule if it believes that a redressable improper action or improper omission has occurred. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)(1).
 - (c) When the umpires proceed under RRS C8.7, they will follow the guidance in SI Addendum E.
- 1.6 The following US national prescriptions do not apply: 63.1(b) and the Preamble to Part 5, Section B. The prescriptions that do apply will be posted on the notice board.

- 1.7 The event has applied for World Sailing Grade 3. This grading is subject to review by World Sailing. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason to do so.
- 1.8 [NP] Drones shall not be flown in the racing area, except as authorized in writing by the OA.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available no later than 1200 on Thursday, September 10, 2026, on the official notice board at <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/t4mnPFtQFD>.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted online at: <https://theclubspot.com/regatta/t4mnPFtQFD>.
- 3.2 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the Chicago Yacht Club flagpole located on the patio of Belmont Station.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Up to eight (8) skippers will be invited.
- 4.2 One skipper and crew from each of YRUGL's regional member Lake Associations (LYRA, I-LYA, LMSRF, DRYA, and LSYA) will be invited upon being appointed by that lake's association to represent them in accordance with the eligibility requirements of the Richardson Trophy Deed of Gift.
 - (a) Each Lake association is responsible for determining who will represent them and may include a qualifying event. Contact your YRUGL member lake association for information on any qualification series or event. Contacts are listed in NoR 16.
 - (b) All lake association spots shall be accepted before August 7, 2026 at 17:00 CDT unless extended by the OA. Remaining spots will be filled by the process detailed in 4.3.
- 4.3 Any skipper eligible to compete under the World Sailing Eligibility Code can request an invitation for the remaining spots and to fill any spots not filled by the process detailed in 4.2 by completing the form online at this link: <https://forms.gle/QEtMGDg5oweMBECE9>. The OA will give priority to teams eligible for the Richardson Trophy per the Deed of Gift when issuing these invitations and continue to issue invitations until the event is full.
- 4.4 Only skippers invited by the OA, and who confirm acceptance of the invitation, as detailed in the letter of invitation, will be eligible to enter this event.
- 4.5 All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of World Sailing Eligibility Code 2.
- 4.6 All skippers shall obtain a World Sailing Sailor ID by registering online at [WS Sailor ID](#). Skippers shall inform the OA of their World Sailing Sailor ID at registration.
- 4.7 To be considered an entry in the event, a boat shall complete all registration requirements to include paying all fees, arranging the damage deposit, and completing crew weighing on the date and during the time period listed in 8.1 below unless extended by the OA.
- 4.8 The entry fee for this event is USD \$750. A non-refundable entry bond in the amount of USD \$250, which amount will be applied toward the entry fee, must be paid with the acceptance of invitation for it to be valid.
- 4.9 All payments including damage deposit must be made by credit card or CYC Member Charge in US Dollars.
- 4.10 When a skipper accepts an invitation and later withdraws within **two months (2) months** of the event or leaves the event before the end without written approval from the OA, a zero score may be applied to their Ranking points for that event by WS. (World Sailing Policy H1 5.3).

5 DAMAGE / DAMAGE DEPOSIT

- 5.1 Each skipper is responsible for the damage or loss to their boat unless responsibility is otherwise assigned by the umpires or PC. The damage deposit of USD \$2500 is the limit of liability of each skipper for each incident. In the event that a deduction is made from the deposit, the skipper will be required to restore the deposit to the original value to continue in the event.

5.2 The OA will refund any remaining damage deposit within **ten (10) days** after the event.

6 CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

- 6.1 The number of crew (including the skipper) shall be **four (4) or five (5)**. All registered crew shall sail all races.
- 6.2 After the warning signal for a match, the registered skipper shall not leave the helm, except in an emergency.
- 6.3 When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event the OA may authorize an original crew member to substitute.
- 6.4 When a registered crew is unable to continue in the event, the OA or the RC may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.
- 6.5 The total weight of the crew, including the skipper, dressed in at least shorts and shirts, shall not exceed **772 lbs.**, determined at the time of registration or such time as required by the RC.
- 6.6 Crew weight may be checked during the regatta. When crew weight was checked prior to racing, at any re-weighing the total weight limit is increased by 22 lbs. Any crew weighing in excess of this increased limit shall not be penalized, but they shall reduce their weight to the increased weight limit before racing again.
- 6.7 The OA may place a person on each boat in a match as a guest or media person.

7 EVENT FORMAT

- 7.1 The OA intends to provide **eight (8) Tom 28 MAX type boats** for racing in the event. Each boat will have the following sails: Mainsail, Jib, and Spinnaker.
- 7.2 Boats will be allocated as decided by the OA or the RC. The intention of the OA and RC will be to allocate boats by draw and then rotate daily. The RC may also require boats to be exchanged in a knock-out stage.
- 7.3 The sails to be used will be allocated by the RC. The OA or RC may require rotation of sails for any reason. Rotation of sails by the OA or RC shall NOT be grounds for redress by a competitor. This changes RRS 61.
- 7.4 While all reasonable steps are taken to equalize the boats variations will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 61.
- 7.5 The number of matches to be sailed each day will be determined by the RC with the intention of the RC to start each subsequent flight as soon as practicable after the previous flight.
- 7.6 The course will be windward/leewards with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- 7.7 The intended racing area is Lake Michigan east of the entrance to Belmont Harbor.
- 7.8 (a) Skippers will be seeded into a round robin based on World Sailing rankings 30 days prior to the event.
(b) After the First Stage the following will apply:
 - (1) Skippers will be paired based on ranking in the First Stage with the highest ranked skipper paired with the lowest and the other skippers paired accordingly, unless the stage specifies a different arrangement.
 - (2) In reference to RRS C4.1, the highest ranked skipper from the first stage shall be starboard entry for the first match and shall alternate each subsequent match.
 - (3) Further matches in the series will not be sailed once the first skipper scores the points required for that stage.
- 7.9 The event will consist of the following stages:
 - a) First Stage - Round Robin(s)
 - (1) All skippers will sail a single round robin.
 - (2) The eight (8) highest scoring skippers shall qualify for the Knock-Out Quarterfinal stage.
 - b) Second Stage - Knock-Out Quarterfinals
 - (1) The first skipper of each series to score at least three (3) points shall proceed to the Knock-Out Semi-Finals Stage Four.
 - (2) The losing skipper of each series shall proceed to Stage Three – Consolation Round Robin.
 - c) Third Stage – Consolation Round Robin

- (1) All skippers qualifying for this stage will sail a single round robin
- (2) Results from this round robin will determine fifth through eighth places in the regatta.
- (d) Fourth Stage - Knock-Out Semi-Finals
 - (1) The skipper finishing first in Stage One shall select his opponent when requested by the RC to do so. The remaining two skippers shall race each other.
 - (2) The first skipper of each series to score at least three (3) points shall proceed to the Final Stage; the other skippers shall proceed to the Third and Fourth Place Stage.
- (e) Fifth Stage – Knock-Out Third and Fourth Place
 - (1) The skippers in this stage shall race to determine third and fourth place.
 - (2) The first skipper to score at least two (2) points shall be awarded third place; the other skipper shall be awarded fourth place.
- (f) Sixth Stage – Knock-Out Final
 - (1) The first skipper to score at least three (3) points shall be awarded first place; the other skipper shall be awarded second place.

7.10 The RC may change the format, terminate any stage or the event when, in its opinion, it is impractical to attempt to hold the remainder of matches under the existing conditions or in the remaining time scheduled. Early stages may be terminated in favor of later stages.

8 PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

8.1 Schedule

Friday, September 11

1100 to 1630	Registration and Crew Weigh In
1200 to 1600	Practice Session

Saturday, September 12

0730 to 0830	Final Registration and Crew Weigh In
0830	First Briefing and meeting with Umpires
1000	First Attention Signal
*After Racing	Umpire Debrief

Sunday, September 13

0900	Briefing for competitors
1000	First Attention Signal
1600	Latest Time for an Attention Signal
*After Racing	Prize Giving

*Approximately 30 minutes after the last boat returns to the dock

8.2 [DP] Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:

- (a) First briefing for skippers
- (b) Daily briefing for skippers
- (c) Prize giving for final skippers and crew

9 [NP] [DP] ADVERTISING

Boats shall display advertising chosen and supplied by the OA. *See World Sailing Advertising Code.*

10 [NP] [DP] CODE OF CONDUCT

10.1 Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with any reasonable request from any official, including attendance at official functions and co-operation with event sponsors, and shall behave so as to not bring the event into disrepute.

- 10.2 Competitors and support persons shall handle any equipment or place any advertising provided by the organizing authority with care, seamanship, in accordance with any instructions for its use and without interfering with its functionality.

11 [NP] [DP] SUPPORT PERSONS

- 11.1 Support persons shall comply with reasonable requests from officials and shall stay approximately 100m from the racing area while boats are racing.
- 11.2 The OA will not provide berths for support person vessels.

12 [NP] MEDIA, IMAGES and SOUND

- 12.1 If required by the OA:
- (a) Television personnel and equipment (or dummies) supplied by the OA shall be carried on board while racing.
 - (b) Competitors shall wear microphones supplied by the OA during racing and be available for interviews when advised by the OA or RC.
 - (c) Registered skippers shall wear communications equipment supplied by the OA that will allow commentators to communicate with them whilst racing
- 12.2 Competitors shall not interfere with the normal working of the OA supplied media equipment.
- 12.3 Event participants automatically grant to the OA, without payment, the right in perpetuity to make, use and show any images [motion pictures, still pictures and/or other live, taped or filmed images] relating to the event.

13 DATA PROTECTION:

Any personal information given will be kept secure. The OA will not sell or rent your personally identifiable information.

14 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing 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.**

15 PRIZES

- 15.1 Prizes will be given to the top three teams in the event.
- 15.2 The top placing skipper in the event will have their name inscribed on the Sterling Morton Trophy to remain on display at Chicago Yacht Club.
- 15.3 The top placing skipper and crew eligible for the Richardson Trophy will be presented the trophy subject to its deed of gift and be named the YRUGL Great Lakes Match Racing Champions.
- 15.4 The OA may reduce a prize in the case of misconduct or refusal to comply with any reasonable request, including attendance at official functions.

16 FURTHER INFORMATION

Patrick Burks, Regatta Manager
Chicago Yacht Club
312-967-5698
regattamanager@chicagoyachtclub.org

Keith Stauber, YRUGL OA Contact
218-390-1776
staubsails@chartermi.net

Lake Association contacts for invite requests:

Luc D'Aoust for Lake Yacht Racing Association (LYRA)
star6631@gmail.com (416) 725-6340

Dr. Matt DuBois for Inter-Lake Yachting Association (I-LYA)
msdubois@sbcglobal.net (734) 250-4496

Ryan Seago for Detroit River Yacht-racing Association (DRYA)
rseago@umich.edu (313) 401-5772

TBA for Lake Michigan Sail Racing Federation (LMSRF)
Keith Stauber for Lake Superior Yachting Association (LSYA)
staubsails@chartermi.net (218) 390-1776

Published: July 17, 2026