

Chicago Yacht Club

Monroe Station

2010 Wednesday Night Beer Can Racing Series

NOTICE OF RACE **AND** **CYC SPECIFIC SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

This Notice of Race and Special Sailing Instructions contain information that is specific to Chicago Yacht Club. They are intended to supplement the information provided in the Columbia Yacht Club Notice of Race and General Sailing Instructions.

Please see the Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Regatta Notice of Race and General Sailing Instructions for additional information and rules.

WHERE

The Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Race Course (SA7).

WHEN

The racing begins May 26, 2010 and continues every Wednesday through September 8, 2010 with some Post Season racing (with no race committee) if the weather and daylight allow.

BOATS

Boats shall be properly maintained, clean and ready for guests before 6:00 each race day. Boats shall be fully manned by capable, fun people and carry plenty of ice. Boats must be equipped with cup holders and capable of heeling without spillage.

ELIGIBILITY

All participants must be able and willing to have a good time, enjoy the company of others, know how to swim, and if not, wear a life jacket, have enough time to stick around afterwards for the real reason we are here each Wednesday the camaraderie. In addition, entered yachts shall be owned, chartered or skippered by a CYC member in good standing.

ENTRY FEE

The entry fee for all sections will be \$75.00 for the entire season and must be submitted along with the Monroe Wednesday Night Beer Can Racing Series Entry Form available at www.chicagoyachtclub.org. Please submit, as instructed on the form, prior to participating in your first race.

NOTICES

The Race Committee will communicate on VHF channel 69 when necessary. Announcements may also be made at the Monroe clubhouse prior to departing.

In the interest of better communications, especially for weather concerns, please monitor your radio before departing for the racecourse. The Race Committee and/or Chicago Yacht

Club will attempt to notify competitors of any changes or cancellations between 5:30 and 6:00pm of each race day.

RULES

All races will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), The Columbia Yacht Club Notice of Race and General Sailing Instructions, this Notice of Race and CYC Specific Sailing Instructions and any amendments as made by the Monroe Handicap Committee.

Boats must be properly equipped for sailing at night and must comply with all United States Coast Guard (USCG) regulations.

Boats must be equipped with a VHF radio capable of broadcasting and receiving VHF Channel **69**. Said radio shall be on at all times while the boat is outside of the harbor.

NO boat is to leave the racecourse after starting without communicating to the Race Committee, either visually or by radio. The CYC Race Committee attempts to account for all boats and offenders **shall** have their racing privileges terminated **without redress!!**

No boat shall continue racing after a mark rounding without first administering to each crewmember a fresh round of those fluids whether it be rum, beer, wine, pop, juice, water or whatever.

All crews are required (ok, encouraged) to attend the awards ceremony each evening and the series. Chairman or Monroe Handicap Committee reserves the right to heavily penalize any boat that violates this provision including, but not limited to, losing the possibility of receiving and enjoying awards on future race dates. Come enjoy some good times with your fellow racers.

MANDATORY ITEMS

The Skipper/Owner, or a responsible regular senior crewmember, shall attend the Skipper's Meeting/Party to be held at **6:30pm** on Wednesday May 12. This will be short informative meeting, which shall provide a great opportunity for bribing the Series Chairman and/or Monroe Handicap Committee. Party ends at 8:00pm.

Columbia Yacht Club General Information, Notice of Race and General Sailing Instructions will only be available on line this year and can be found at www.columbiayachtclub.com under the Beer Can section on the left. Laminated course diagrams will be distributed at no cost during the Skipper's Meeting. Replacements will be available for \$5.00 each.

Please review the Chicago Yacht Club Notice of Race and CYC Specific Sailing Instructions **AND** the Columbia Yacht Club General Sailing Instructions - both must be read, understood and govern the racing.

PROTESTS

This is supposed to be fun and safe racing.

A boat may seek a protest meeting **only** if there is contact which causes major damage or serious injury. A hearing shall be for fact-finding purposes only and will be held by an advisory committee that will investigate the factors involved in the collision.

Skippers are responsible for knowing the racing rules (RRS) and the general rules of the road for being on the water. For our newbie's, a simplified summary of some basic rules is included in the General Sailing Instructions.

Flagrant offenders of the rules, **the spirit** of the Wednesday Night Series, or any un-sportsmanlike conduct, may be uninvited from future races and the Chairman's decision is final - there will be no redress or recourse.

HANDICAP SYSTEM

The handicaps will be based on a modified PHRF (seconds per nautical mile allowance) to be known as the Monroe Beer Can/Rum Race Rating System, as amended, possibly weekly, hourly, or ?? by the Series Chairman, the Monroe Handicap Committee - consisting of your bartenders, managers & servers (so be nice to them) and/or others as determined by the Chairman. All participants may receive some sort of credit, as determined by the Monroe Handicap Committee, for each person aboard over and above the normal crew limit for your vessel, as well as possibly penalized should those crewmembers fail to attend the weekly awards ceremony. Normal PHRF handicaps will apply for the overall Season Awards.

COURSES

The Race Committee will let you know the course when you get out there. It will probably be out and around a crib, or a mark or two and then back home, maybe. Always check the blackboard on the RC boat for the course before you proceed and please note that each section may sail a different or shorter course than the other sections.

THE START

Start between the Race Committee boat (the big steel thing that **will** hurt your boat if you hit it) OR, a privately owned volunteer boat and some floating object somewhere near the Race Committee boat. **ALL competitors shall at all times avoid any contact with the Race Committee boat.**

Please identify yourselves to the Race Committee before proceeding in the race.

Be considerate to others and do not take a head start, wait until it is your time to start and then go have some fun. If you take a head start (are over the line early) the Race Committee and your friends may yell at you, but keep going if you choose, but be prepared to make it up to them at the bar.

SECTION BREAKS

See the Columbia Yacht Club Notice of Race and General Sailing Instructions.

STARTING TIMES

Starting sequence shall begin at 6:40 with some sound signal and a flag - please see the Columbia Yacht Club General Information, Notice of Race and General Sailing Instructions for specific times.

THE FINISH

The official CYC finish location for the Daily Awards shall be the Mac Bar of the Chicago Yacht Club Monroe Station. However, on your way please also pass between that floaty thing in the water and the Race Committee boat.

All boats shall proceed directly into the harbor upon passing the floaty thing or shall notify the Race Committee if you have other intentions we don't want to worry the bar staff if you are late or don't show up.

TIME LIMIT

All boats should be finished before **9:00pm** allowing everyone time to eat a little something and enjoy some time with your fellow competitors before returning to the real world.

PRIZES/AWARDS

Prizes will be awarded at the completion of each night's race, but not until sails are properly flaked and the boats cleaned up - put them away, then come to the club! Recipients must be present to receive an award. Daily awards may or may not have anything to do with who won the races that day - that is reserved for the Season Awards. They will typically be presented to those teams that support the Yacht Club and the Staff and will be awarded solely at the discretion of the Regatta Chairman and the Monroe Handicap Committee – show up to see who really wins!

We remind everyone that “awards” are not to be consumed in the Clubhouse! They should be properly aged for one week and opened next Wednesday to greet your crew and guest as they arrive for another fun evening on the water.

Season awards will be presented at the year-end party to be held in October with brag flags and glasses awarded to the top boats in each section.

ENTERTAINMENT, FOOD AND DRINKS

For all participants from Chicago Yacht Club there will be a cookout with discounted Beer Can Buffet and drink specials on the patio of the Monroe Station after each Wednesday night race. The main dining room will also be open extended hours.

OTHER INFORMATION

All racers with engines (that are operational) are encouraged to assist your fellow competitors. Please look around when you leave and/or return to the dock to see if a one-design boat or others may need a tow - we don't want them to miss the start, but more importantly the finish.

All crews are encouraged to return to the clubhouse after each race. Repeat offenders of this may be uninvited or penalized in future races come support **your** club. Moreover, each boat may receive a time penalty, applied to the following week's race, for each member of the crew that does not attend the evening's awards ceremony.

Wednesday Night Beer Can Racing Series are intended to be fun and exciting for all participants. Relax and have a good time, but please do so safely.

In all seriousness folks, just go out there have a good time and be SAFE.

Neither the Chicago Yacht Club, the Race Committee or any other Committee, or any Officer or Director of the Club shall be liable for any injury or damage whatsoever to persons or

property whether caused by or resulting from their act, omission, or alleged negligence, or from weather or sea conditions, or any acts, omissions, or alleged negligence of other participants, which may occur during or arising out of or in connection with any race, regatta, cruise, spectacle, or yachting marine activity sponsored or aided in whole or in part by Chicago Yacht Club. Notice is hereby given to all participants (which include spectators, officials and others) that they participate in such events solely at their own risk.

By electing to participate and in consideration of such participation, each participant shall be deemed to have agreed to the foregoing conditions.

Please see the Columbia Yacht Club Beer Can Notice of Race and General Sailing Instructions for additional information and rules.

Questions or comments should be directed to Gene McCarthy, CYC Monroe Beer Can Chair, estaes@sbcglobal.net, cell 312-848-8173 or CYC Race Coordinator, racecoordinator@chicagoyachtclub.org, office 312-861-7771.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the water.