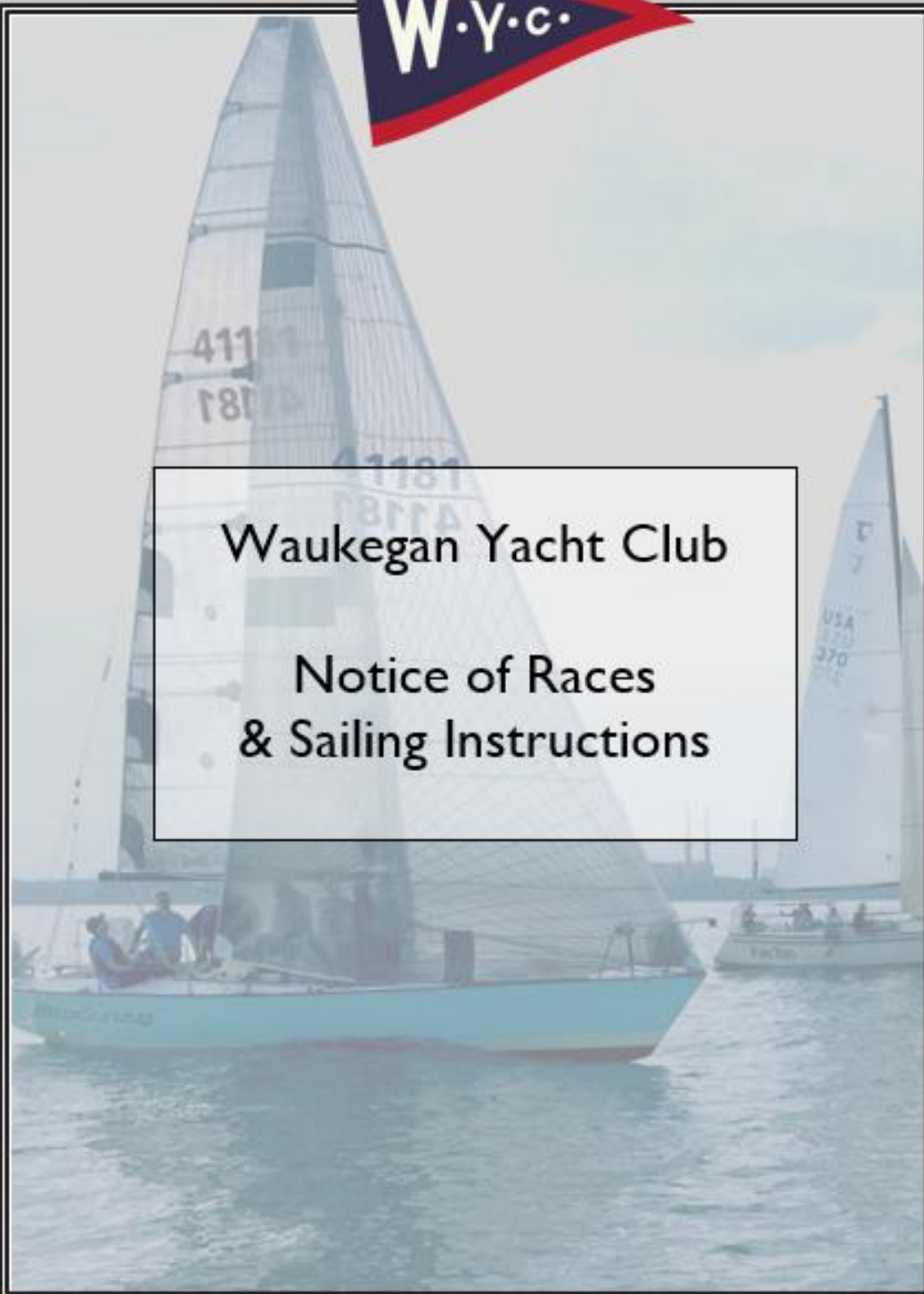




Waukegan Yacht Club

Notice of Races & Sailing Instructions



2026 NOTICE OF RACES & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

All races will be governed by the 2025-2028 Racing Rules of Sailing by ISAF and the rules of the MWPHRF except as altered by the following sailing instructions. You can find a complete copy of the Racing Rules of Sailing at the following URL: <https://www.racingrulesofsailing.org/> . Waukegan Yacht Club (WYC) recommends wearing Personal Flotation Devices (PFD's) during all races.

SERIES SCHEDULE

- Offshore Races begin Saturday, June 20th and are scheduled through the full season
- See the WYC 2026 Race Schedule on the website for additional information and race opportunities.
- Dates and times for any race may change without prior notice. Please check the Waukegan Yacht Club website for the latest information.

THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

ENTRIES: Sailing yachts are required to complete online registration, provide proof of insurance, provide a current PHRF certificate, and pay the racing fee (on the WYC website).

NOTICES: Notices to competitors (if any) will be posted on the WYC web site (<https://waukeganyachtclub.org>) and/or announced on VHF channel 69 prior to the start of that evening's race.

CHANGES: Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted on the WYC web site at least 24 hours before the day that they will take effect. Changes may also be announced on the course prior to the start of the race if deemed advisable and necessary following the hoisting of the Code Flag "L".

COMMITTEE BOAT DUTY: Does not apply to the OFFSHORE Series in 2026

SIGNALS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE BOAT:

FLAG		COLOR & MARKING	SIGNAL
	A	Blue and white	Cancel All Races
	B	Red	Leave Mark to Port
	C	Red blue and yellow stripes	Change Course
	D	Blue with yellow stripes	Keep Clear
	X	White with a blue cross	Individual recall
	1st Sub	Blue with yellow triangle	General recall
	AP	Red with white stripes	Postponement
	N	Blue and white checkers	Race Abandoned
	P	Blue with white square	Preparatory signal
	S	White with blue square	Shortened course
	L	Yellow and black	Come within hail of this boat
	1	White with a red circle	Section 1
	2	Blue with white circle	Section 2
	3	Red white and blue	Section 3
	4	Red with a white cross	Section 4
	5	Yellow and blue	Section 5
	6	Black over white	Section 6

ABANDONMENT “N” FLAG:



Can be done at any time during the race. Signal will be all or any of the following: three long horn blasts; by voice or Hailer; general announcement over the VHF radio, Ch. 69.

CANCELLATION:



Can be done any time prior to the start of the race. The signal will be the same as the abandonment above.

GENERAL RECALL 1ST SUBSTITUTE” FLAG:



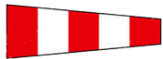
All boats must restart. Signal will be all or any of the following: two short horn blast; by Hailer; announcement over the VHF radio, Ch. 69.

INDIVIDUAL RECALL “X” FLAG:



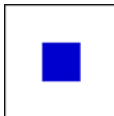
Any boat over the starting line prematurely must restart or be scored Did-Not-Start (DNS). The committee boat will signal one horn blast and hail the boat by sail number or boat name over the VHF radio, Ch. 69, and the Hailer. The recalled boat must keep clear of all other boats that have started or are starting correctly. If the boat does not hear the committee boat hail and fails to restart, the boat will receive a DNS for that race. To restart use Rule 30.1 “Round-an- End Rule”. DO NOT SAIL BACK THROUGH THE STARTING LINE.

POSTPONEMENT “AP” FLAG:



Can be done at any time before a start. Signal will be the following: two long horn blasts and an announcement over the VHF radio, Ch. 69.

SHORTENED COURSE “S” FLAG:



A shortened course will be announced over the VHF radio, Ch. 69 with “S” Flag flown.

BY OTHER:

NR - Bright green rectangle - New Racer

COURSES: No later than the warning signal the race committee signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing for the first leg and the number of legs.

Boats starting in later sections are not to interfere with boats in earlier starts. The starting area is defined as an area extending one half the length of the starting line at both sides of the starting line and extending one half the length of the starting line beyond each end of the starting line. After the warning signal for the first start, all boats that are not starting (or have already started) are required to:

- Stay outside the starting area so as to not interfere with boats that are starting.
- Stay out of the triangle area defined by the starting line and the weather mark.

The “I” flag rule is always in effect, even if the flag is not flown by the committee boat. Any yacht that is on the course side of the starting line less than one (1) minute prior to their start must clear themselves by sailing around the ends of the starting line. Violators are subject to protest by the committee boat and racers.

If a committee boat is present, the finish line will be between the race committee flag on the moored race committee boat and the finish mark designated for the race.

SECTION FLAGS: Boats shall display their section flag secured to the permanent back-stay or stern pulpit if no backstay exists. Boats not displaying their section flag are subject to protest by the race committee or other competitors.

IDENTIFICATION - CHECK IN: Racing yachts shall check in by hailing the committee boat prior to the start of the race and at the finish. It is the responsibility of each skipper to make sure that his/her boat is properly identified. In addition, each skipper is responsible for recording the actual finish time of their yacht and if possible, the yacht directly ahead and astern. (This information is to be available to the race committee upon request). To prevent unnecessary traffic in the starting area, a racer who arrives at the starting area within 10 minutes of their start time must postpone their check-in until the boat’s section starting sequence commences. If a racer does not check in, they will not get scored and instead receive a Did-Not-Compete (DNC). The VHF radio is not an acceptable means of checking in.

RADIO: General use of the radio (channel 69) is considered a courtesy and designated use for the Committee boat and Race Chair only except for the following:

- Notification of an emergency or danger
- Notification of withdrawal from the race
- Notification of filing a protest
- Notification of acceptance of alternate penalty
- A response to a specific committee boat request directed to your boat or to the fleet in general.

THE FINISH: The finish line is the invisible line (vertical plane) between the Race Committee boat’s flag and the finish mark. If race instructions do not specify, leave committee boat to starboard and finish mark to port.

PROTESTS: The protester must (at the first reasonable opportunity):

1. Hail the skipper being protested immediately
2. Fly a red (protest) flag
3. Notify the race committee boat of the pending protest.

Protests shall be written on an official protest form and given within one hour after the committee boat docks to the race committee. If the hearing cannot be held on the same day, the hearing will be scheduled no later than 14 days after the incident. Race results will be re-scored, as necessary, based on decisions of the protest committee.

RULE INFRINGEMENTS: A yacht that realizes that she has infringed a rule shall either retire promptly or accept an alternate penalty when so prescribed in the sailing instructions (See ALTERNATE PENALTIES below). If the infringement caused injury or serious damage or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.

ALTERNATE PENALTIES: Refer to the 2025 - 2028 Racing Rules of Sailing by ISAF concerning penalty turns. A boat may clear itself with one turn (Touching a Mark) or two turns (When Boats Meet) penalty after getting clear of other boats as soon after the incident as possible. If the boat caused injury or serious damage or gained a significant advantage in the race or series by her breach her penalty shall be to retire.

AUXILIARY POWER: Yachts are considered to be racing after the preparatory signal, for their respective starts, and must be only under sail power at the time the preparatory signal is made (four minutes prior to their section's start).

WITHDRAWING: Yachts Withdrawing from the race (WDR) are required to notify the race committee.

MWPHRF CERTIFICATES: A current PHRF certificate is required for all yachts. Yachts not having a current certificate will be assigned an average "book" rating less a six second penalty. There will be no retroactive favorable adjustment of this rating for races completed prior to submitting a valid PHRF certificate.

WHISKER POLES (RULE 50.2): Only one whisker or spinnaker pole (length not to exceed the "J" measurement on your PHRF certificate) shall be used at one time. When in use it must be attached to the foremost mast and may be carried on the same side or the opposite side of the boat on which the boom has been set. Poles that can be extended beyond the "J" length must be banded to indicate the maximum proper length. No handheld poles or other extending devices allowed.

HEAD SAILS: Spinnakers (asymmetrical spinnakers, cruising spinnakers, bloopers, or gennakers) are only allowed by boats registered within a spinnaker section. A stay-sail with a tight luff may be used subject to MWPHRF regulations. On leeward legs two head sails may be used by the JAM section boats, but only one head-sail can be hoisted in the head-foil.

ELIGIBILITY: Yacht owners/skippers are not required to be members of the Waukegan Yacht Club to compete in any race. Registrations must be completed and entry fee(s) paid before yachts are eligible to participate. Payment of the entry fee is required before a boat is scored in a race.

Member owners/skippers of the Waukegan Yacht Club are eligible for annual perpetual awards for major events and for the season series scoring.

NEW RACERS “NR” FLAG: New racers may request a NEW RACER FLAG (bright green be flown beneath the section flag). It is expected that other racers will give them the benefit of the doubt, by hailing them with helpful assistance on rules and tactics.

SERIES SCORING: The low point scoring system will be used. 1 point for first, 2 points for second, 3 points for third, etc.

- Offshore Series: The best 5 of the MWPHRF scored listed races will be included. If you do not complete 5 races, your total races will be scored with a last place score for the races missed.
 - In the event of Disqualification (DSQ) from a given race, throwing that race out will be allowed or disallowed in accordance with ISAF Rule 63.1 and Appendix A5.
 - A DSQ can't be thrown out if it was the result of a collision, which caused damage.
 - A boat scored TLE (Time Limit Expired) for an event will receive points equal to the number of finishers in her class plus two points.

RACE DETAILS

		Course Marks	Latitude	Longitude
"W"	Waukegan	Shoal Buoy #3 F1 G 2.5s	N 42° 21.7'	W 87° 47.9'
"K"	Kenosha	South Pier head and break wall light	N 42° 35.4'	W 87° 48.5'
"M"	Montrose	Corinthian YC "West" Mark	N 41° 57.7'	W 87° 37.4'
"R"	Racine	Reef West End Buoy #1 F1 G 4s	N 42° 43.5'	W 87° 46.0'
"Z"	Zion	Nuclear Power Plant Intake (Decommissioned)	N 42° 26.5'	W 87° 47.2'
"SM"	Milwaukee	South Point Lighted Bell Buoy 1 F1 G 4s	N 42° 59.4'	W 87° 51.7'
"C"	Milwaukee	South Shore YC "C" Mark	N 43° 00.4'	W 87° 49.8'
"UIUC"	Waukegan	Station 45186 Waukegan Weather Buoy	N 42° 22.1'	W 87° 47.7'
"ISGS"	Winthrop Harbor	Station 45187 Winthrop Harbor Weather Buoy	N 42° 29.4'	W 87° 46.7'

SKIPPER MEETINGS FOR OFFSHORE RACES (IF NEEDED)

- If starting at Waukegan - 0900 hrs at Waukegan Yacht Club
- If starting in Kenosha – 0900 hrs at Kenosha Yacht Club.
- If starting at Montrose – 0900 hrs at Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club - signal by Code Flag "L" displayed on WYC Committee boat.
- If starting at Racine – 0900 hrs at Racine Yacht Club - signal by Code Flag "L" displayed on WYC Committee boat.
- If starting at Milwaukee – 0800 hrs at South Shore Yacht Club - signal by Code Flag "L" displayed on WYC Committee boat.

POSTING OF ADDENDUM'S FOR OFFSHORE RACES STARTING FROM KENOSHA, RACINE AND MONTROSE

- Kenosha – In the vicinity of dockside entrance of Kenosha Yacht Club.
- Montrose – In the vicinity of southeast entrance of the Chicago Corinthian Yacht Club.
- Racine – In vicinity of main entrance of Racine Yacht Club

The above addenda will be posted no later than 1.5 hrs before 1st warning.

NO COMMITTEE BOAT PRESENT: In the event no Committee boat or other race officials are present on the starting or finish line, racers will use a snapshot of their GPS location and time to record their own starting and finish times, noting the boat ahead and behind and report that information promptly to race authority for that race.

Chicago to Waukegan	
Day of Week	Saturday
Date	6/20/2026
Start Time	See CASRA site.
Starting Line	See CASRA site
Course	See CASRA site
Distance	See CASRA site
Finish	See CASRA site
Time Limit	See CASRA site
Registration	https://chicagosailracing.org/races

Queens Cup Race Milwaukee to Grand Haven	
Day of Week	Friday
0	6/26/2026
Start Time	See SSYC site
Starting Line	See SSYC site
Course	See SSYC site
Distance	See SSYC site
Finish	See SSYC site
Time Limit	See SSYC site
Registration	https://southshoresailing.org/queens-cup-

Chicago to Mackinac	
Day of Week	Saturday
0	7/11/2026
Start Time	See CYC Race to Mackinac Site
Starting Line	See Race to Mackinac Site
Course	See Race to Mackinac Site
Distance	See Race to Mackinac Site
Finish	See Race to Mackinac Site
Time Limit	See Race to Mackinac Site
Registration	https://www.cycracetomackinac.com/entry-guide

Milwaukee to Waukegan	
Day of Week	Saturday
Date	8/22/2026
Start Time	1st Warning 0855 hrs, 1st Start 0900 hrs
Starting Line	A line between the North Gap of the Milwaukee Harbor and Mark "I"
Course	Leave Course Mark "Z" at least 300 feet to starboard
Distance	47 nm
Finish	A line between Shoal Bell Buoy #3 and Waukegan Green Lighthouse
Time Limit	No time limit. Record your time, boat ahead and behind if possible. Use GPS time
Registration	https://waukeganyachtclub.org/sail-racing

Waukegan to Zion and Back	
Day of Week	Saturday
Date	9/5/2026
Start Time	1st Warning 0955 hrs, 1st Start 1000 hrs
Starting Line	A line 090° T and no more than 300 feet east from Shoal Bell Buoy #3. Leave to port
Course	From Mark "W" to Mark "Z" and back to Mark "W." Leave Course Mark "Z" at least
Distance	10 nm
Finish	A line between Shoal Bell Buoy #3 and Waukegan Green Lighthouse
Time Limit	No time limit. Record your time, boat ahead and behind if possible. Use GPS time
Registration	https://waukeganyachtclub.org/sail-racing

Mayor's Cup	
Day of Week	Saturday
Date	9/12/2026
Start Time	1st Warning 0955 hrs, 1st Start 1000 hrs
Starting Line	This is a Le Mans start with a twist. The race committee will set your start time 1 minute earlier for each of the following - Your boat is decorated - bonus minute to the best decor - Your crew are wearing costumes - bonus minute to the best outfits - Your skipper answers a weather trivia question correctly at the skippers meeting - \$200 donation to JuniorSAIL The skipper holds onto the brass bar rail in the WYC bar until released by the race committee to run to his/her boat. The boat can motor or motor sail out of the channel but do not make wake and do be under only sail power at the harbor entrance.
Course	Leave Course Mark "UIUC" to Port then proceed toward Winthrop harbor. Leave Course Mark "Z" at least 300 feet to Port. Leave Mark "ISGS" to Port as you round it on your way to back to Waukegan. Leave Course Mark "Z" at least 300 feet to Starboard.
Distance	16nm
Finish	A line between Shoal Bell Buoy #3 and Waukegan Green Lighthouse
Time Limit	Boats failing to finish before 16:00 hours will be scored TLE. Record your time, boat ahead and behind if possible.
Registration	https://waukeganyachtclub.org/sail-racing
Waukegan to Racine	
Day of Week	Saturday
Date	9/19/2026
Start Time	1st Warning 0955 hrs, 1st Start 1000 hrs
Starting Line	A line 090° T and no more than 300 feet east from Shoal Bell Buoy #3. Leave to port
Course	Leave Course Mark "Z" at least 300 feet to port
Distance	22.1 nm
Finish	A line 270° T and no more than 300 feet west of Mark "R". Leave to port
Time Limit	No time limit. Record your time, boat ahead and behind if possible. Use GPS time
Registration	https://waukeganyachtclub.org/sail-racing
Racine to Waukegan	
Day of Week	Sunday
6/20/2026	9/20/2026
Start Time	1st Warning 0955 hrs, 1st Start 1000 hrs
Starting Line	A line 270° T and no more than 300 feet west of Mark "R". Leave to port
Course	Leave Course Mark "Z" at least 300 feet to starboard
Distance	22.1 nm
Finish	A line between Shoal Bell Buoy #3 and Waukegan Green Lighthouse
Time Limit	No time limit. Record your time, boat ahead and behind if possible. Use GPS time
Registration	https://waukeganyachtclub.org/sail-racing

Waukegan to Kenosha (Last Race Race)	
Day of Week	Saturday
Date	9/26/2026
Start Time	1st Start 1030 hrs
Starting Line	This is a Le Mans start. The skipper holds onto the brass bar rail in the WYC bar until released by the race committee to run to his boat. The boat can motor out of the channel and put up sails at the harbor entrance or motor sail to the harbor entrance. Do not make wake or you may get a speeding ticket!
Course	Leave Course Mark "Z" at least 300 feet to port
Distance	13.8 nm
Finish	A line between South Pier Head and the Outer Breakwall Light
Time Limit	No time limit. (Record your time, boat ahead and behind if possible when committee boat not on station.) Use GPS time
Registration	https://waukeganyachtclub.org/sail-racing

Kenosha To Waukegan	
Day of Week	Sunday
Date	9/27/2026
Start Time	1st Start 1030 hrs. Same reverse PHRF starting times as Saturday
Starting Line	This is a Reverse Harbor Start. Kenosha YC flag staff and an imaginary line 180° T from the flagpole. Boats can motor or motor sail in the KYC basin until their starting time. Competitors must cut engines and be under sail power as soon as possible after clearing the Kenosha breakwater when it is safe to do so.
Course	Leave Course Mark "Z" at least 300 feet to starboard
Distance	13.8 nm
Finish	A line between Shoal Bell Buoy #3 and Waukegan Green Lighthouse
Time Limit	No time limit. (Record your time, boat ahead and behind if possible when committee boat not on station.) Use GPS time
Registration	https://waukeganyachtclub.org/sail-racing