

First Annual Chicago Race Week

Big changes continue to happen in the Chicagoland sailing community. The Chicago Area Sail Racing Association (CASRA), comprised of Chicago's five major racing yacht clubs, have organized for 2019 the inaugural Chicago Race Week, scheduled to run from Saturday, August 3rd to Sunday, August 11th.

The first iteration of Chicago Race Week will feature a number of offshore events, including Columbia Yacht Club's Columbia Cup on the front end of the event, and the Chicago Yacht Club's Verve Cup serving as the final event.

During the week, the CASRA clubs are running two events, which they refer to as "Hundred Boats on a Beer Can" series. The Tuesday of Chicago Race Week will feature three different "beer can" style events, all finishing off Chicago's downtown area. And on Wednesday evening, fleets from across the Chicago area will race together on a single evening race course in downtown Chicago.

Chicago Race Week will also include a full series of buoy and distance races for junior racers, as well as a DragonForce 65 remote-controlled sailboat regatta on the Thursday evening of Chicago Race Week. The DF 65 fleet is relatively new to Chicago, but has taken off quickly, with over 150 boats registered in the area within the past two years.

"CASRA's mission is to provide Chicagoland sailors with plenty of reasons to get on the water," commented Greg Miarecki, the President of CASRA. "Chicago Race Week offers something for everyone – serious racers, casual racers, junior sailors, and those who like to enjoy the sport by remote control. We're really forward to a fabulous week of racing here in Chicago this August. Everyone in the area should make plans to join us for some or all of these events."

More information about Chicago Race Week will be available during the coming months at CASRA's website – www.chicagosailracing.org.