



2026 Lake Michigan Clipper Cup - Friday, August 7, 2026

NOTICE OF RACE

The Clipper Cup Committee shall represent the Muskegon Yacht Club as the organizing authority of The Race. The hosts of the race are the Muskegon Yacht Club and the Port Washington Yacht Club

1 RULES

- 1.1 The Race will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 Each boat shall conform to US Coast Guard safety standards.
- 1.3 The World Sailing Advertising Code (Regulation20) governs.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Sailing instructions will be available prior to the race. These will be available online [Yachtscoring](#)

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located at [Yachtscoring](#)
- 3.2 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on Channel 69.
- 3.3 The Race Committee will communicate with the competitors using VHF channel 69. The information is provided as a courtesy. Any errors or omissions of these broadcasts or failure to hear them shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 3.4 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to cell phones.
- 3.5 A remotely controlled vehicle ("drone") shall not be operated from any boat, including any support boat(s) of a competitor from August 7, 2026 until the entered boat finishes, or retires from the race.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Participation will be split into four divisions: Spinnaker Division, Jib and Main Division, Cruising Division, and the Multihull Division.
- 4.2 Yachts competing in the Spinnaker or Jib & Main divisions shall submit a current and valid MWPHRF Certificate. The Cruising division is available for boats with or without a current and valid MWPHRF certificate.
- 4.3 Online registration for the 2026 race is now available at [Yachtscoring](#)
- 4.4 **All online registrations must be completed and class chosen by 5pm on Wednesday, August 5, 2026. Late registrations or changes in class will not be allowed after this date and time.**
- 4.5 Yachts may also mail entry documents and the entry fee to:
Lake Michigan Clipper Cup, 3198 Edgewater, Muskegon, MI 49441

- 4.6 Competitors are required to register at the Muskegon Yacht Club prior to the race. Registration shall be completed by 7:00 PM on Thursday, August 6, 2026. Entered yachts that do not register at MYC will be scored DNS and fees will not be refunded.
- 4.7 At the required registration the Person in Charge of each shall pick up the boat's Yellow Brick Race Tracker (YB Tracker) and sign an YB Tracker Agreement.
- 4.8 After completing the on-site registration and activation of the boat's YB Tracker by registration personnel, the boat shall be entered in the race.

5 FEES

- 5.1 The Entry Fee is \$195.00

6 SCHEDULE

- 6.1 The schedule will be created by the Race Committee and posted online at [Yachtscoring](#). The time of the first warning signal will be 8:30 AM EDT on Friday, August 7, 2026.
- 6.2 It is mandatory that the Skipper or a representative attend the Competitors Meeting Thursday, August 6, 2026 at 8:00 PM at Muskegon Yacht Club.

7 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 7.1 Protests shall be submitted in writing to the Clipper Cup Committee not more than two hours after finishing. The location of the RC office will be identified in the SI's.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 The course will be from Muskegon, MI to Port Washington, WI. The distance used for scoring purposes will be 66.9 nautical miles

9 SCORING

- 9.1 Spinnaker and Cruising division will be scored using the MWPHRF Distance Handicap (DHCP). Ties will be broken using Time-on-Time.
- 9.2 Jib and Main divisions will be scored using MWPHRF Non-Spinnaker Handicap (NSHCP).
- 9.3 Multihull divisions will be scored using the GLMRA Handicap.
- 9.4 The race Committee will assign PHRF ratings to the Cruising Division when a current and valid MWPHRF certificate is not available.

10 RACE TRACKERS

- 10.1 Each boat shall carry a position transponder YB Tracker as provided by the Clipper Cup Committee.
- 10.2 A YB Tracker Agreement must be completed at the on-site registration.
- 10.3 The Person-In-Charge shall ensure that the YB Tracker is installed according to supplied directions and make every effort to ensure it is functional for the duration of the race.
- 10.4 Failure to return the YB Tracker in accordance with the YB Tracker Agreement and Sailing Instructions shall result in a \$1,000 charge that the Competitor agrees to pay.

11 PRIZES

- 11.1 Trophies will be awarded for the following:
 - Spinnaker Division - Clipper Cup - JC Rillema Perpetual Trophy.
 - Jib and Main Division - Bert Smith Perpetual Trophy.
 - Cruising Division - Lighthouse Perpetual Trophy.

Multihull Division - Division Flag and Trophy.

- 11.2 Awards will be presented to yachts finishing first through third in each division (subject to the number of boats in each division) and last yacht to finish.

12 RISK STATEMENT

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

13 INSURANCE

- 13.1 Each yacht shall provide proof of watercraft liability with coverage of at least \$300,000.

14 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 14.1 Acceptance into the Cruising Division and Multihull Division will be at the discretion of the Race Committee. There must be at least 3 entrants in the Cruising and Multihull Divisions to have a class. All safety requirements must be met for both divisions. For the Cruising Division, a cruising asymmetric Gennaker may be used but no bow sprit, whisker or spinnaker pole may be used to support the Gennaker. A spinnaker pole or whisker pole may be used to wing out jibs but is restricted in length to the "J" dimension.
- 14.2 For further information contact MYC Clipper Cup Committee at race.myc@muskegonyachtclub.org

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