



Introduction To 2013 Edition of Safety Thursday

March 21, 2013

Fellow Mac Racers:

Welcome to the first issue of "Safety Thursday 2013." As you may recall, we kicked off the concept of the Safety Thursday last year, dedicating one email a week to a safety topic relevant to the Mac. This year, we hope to make the Safety Thursday concept even more relevant to our fellow sailors by covering some new topics, revisiting old ones, and continuing the conversation via social media. If you don't already follow the Mac on Facebook and Twitter, we encourage you to do so now:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoYCRaceToMackinac>
<https://twitter.com/racetomackinac>

Each Thursday from now until the race, all competitors in the Mac will get an emailed newsletter dedicated to a safety topic. On Facebook and Twitter, we hope to engage in a thoughtful and open discussion with the fleet on the topic we raise. Through this interaction, we hope that we can all become safer sailors, allowing us to enjoy this fantastic race even more.

In addition to many of the topics we covered last year, we intend to expand into new ones including weather resources; charts; inspections and more. However, we want to hear what our fellow sailors want to learn about, so by all means, send your suggestions for appropriate Safety Thursday topics to us via racecoordinator@chicagoyachtclub.org.

Our 2012 newsletters are archived at <http://www.cycracetomackinac.com/the-race/safety/>, and we will post the 2013 ones there as well.

We encourage all of you to join the conversation on Facebook or Twitter; we can all learn from each other how to be safer and better sailors.

Chicago Yacht Club's goal is to encourage all of us to embrace safe sailing. It is important that every competitor embrace this message. As recent events over the past few years have shown us, our decisions and actions on the water have far reaching implications. The impact of an unsafe crew isn't just felt by them, it is felt by all of us who are compelled to come to their aid when they get themselves in trouble.

We hope that Safety Thursday can help you adapt a mindset of safety when on the water so we all can get to the Island fast and most of all safely!

Lou Sandoval
Chair, Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac presented by Veuve Clicquot

Note: The purpose of this article is to highlight some of the Mac Safety Regulations and how your crew can race the Mac as safely as possible. As always, ultimate responsibility for the safety of the crew and the decision whether to race or to stop racing is that of the skipper (RRS4, MSR2). This email is meant as a courtesy only and you should always refer to the Race Documents section of the website for the Notice of Race, Sailing Instructions and Mac Safety Regulations, which govern the race.