



Welcome to the first issue of 'Safety Thursday 2014.'

We all enjoy getting out on the water and competing with our fellow sailors, but much more importantly, we all enjoy coming home safely to our friends and loved ones. The expression 'safety is an attitude' is a truism on the Mac Committee. Through the CMSRs, Safety Thursday, our Safety at Sea Seminar, our social media outreach, and our overall approach to the Race, we hope to encourage you to adopt this attitude as well.

Each Thursday from now until the Race, all competitors and crew 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. 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>

In addition to many of the topics we covered last year, we intend to expand into new ones. What are we missing? Please send your suggestions for appropriate Safety Thursday topics to us via racecoordinator@chicagoyachtclub.org. Our 2013 and 2012 newsletters are archived at <http://www.cycracetomackinac.com/the-race/safety/>, and we will post the 2014 ones there as well. We encourage all of you to go back and re-read last years' articles as a refresher.

Chicago Yacht Club's goal is to encourage all of us to embrace safe sailing. It is important that every competitor hear 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 all benefit by having fellow competitors whose attitudes embrace safety as a mantra, because the first responder in the event of any incident will likely be us or one of our fellow sailors.

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!

Matt Gallagher
Chairman
Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac

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.

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