

2026 44Cup Rules

1. Organisation

- 1.1. The 44Cup is overseen by the RC44 Class Association (“CA”). The CA appoints Yacht Clubs, Marinas or Event Agencies to organize and fund the 44Cup Regattas. The Class Office coordinates the organization of the Events with the Organizer appointed by the CA.
- 1.2. The 44Cup is an annual competition of 5 official CA Events listed in point 2 of these rules.
- 1.3. The Organizer shall sign the Event Agreement with the CA and follow the Event guidelines and regulations issued by the CA, including Event Communication Briefing, Sponsorship Regulations and all other regulations issued by the CA in respect of the Event organization.
- 1.4. The boat sailed for the 44Cup is the RC44 One Design. The participants are duly paid members of the CA and are bound by the Class Rules, the Class Constitution, The 2025 44Cup Rules (and associated branding rules & appendix) and the 44Cup standard Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions. In particular, Class Rules Section C helmsman, crew, sails and material regulations apply.

2. Official Events Schedule

2.1. Official 2026 schedule:

Date	Event	Venue	Yacht Club	Country
4 - 8 February	44Cup Calero Marinas	Puerto Calero	RCNA	Spain
22 – 26 April	44Cup Puntalidia	Puntalidia	YCMP	Italy
24 - 28 June	44Cup Marstrand	Marstrand	MSS	Sweden
23 – 27 August	44Cup Worlds Championship Cowes	Cowes	RYS	UK
4 – 8 November	44Cup Cartagena	Cartagena	RCRC	Spain

Should an event be cancelled, the class office may sanction an alternative venue.

2.2. Standard event schedule

- 1 Free training day
- 1 Practice fleet & match race day
- 4 Owner driver fleet race days

2.3. Practice limitation

- 2.3.1. From the 1st day of the 1st event of the season, the teams racing in the 2026 44Cup are not allowed to practice, tune or test on the waters other than on the training, practice and race days described in 2.2.
- 2.3.2. Tour Rule 2.3.1 will be suspended for a new team joining the Class. The suspension will be valid until the new team has completed 5 events.
- 2.3.3. Should a team change 3 or more of his category 3 sailors, rule 2.3.1 will be suspended for 2 events. The team will be allowed to practice, tune or test on the water, providing the owner is on board.
- 2.3.4. An existing team joining the 44Cup during the season will be free to train before their 1st event.
- 2.3.5. A report of a team not respecting Tour Rule 2.3 shall be sent to the RC44 Executive Committee.

3. Entries

3.1. The 44Cup competitors shall comply with the following requirements:

- 3.1.1. Pay the annual Class membership fee and Sail stickers' fee before the 1st regatta of the current year. In case an owner buys a boat during the season, the annual membership fee shall be paid before his 1st race.
- 3.1.2. Comply with all Class regulations, including Class Rules (CR), Class Constitution and 44Cup Rules.
- 3.1.3. Be eligible in accordance with World Sailing Eligibility Code (WS Regulation Art. 19).

- 3.1.4. Register the crew and driver(s) on World Sailing website and get a World Sailing category certificate for each crew. The crew list shall be submitted to CA 3 weeks before each event.
- 3.1.5. Pay the measurement fee, have a valid One Design measurement certificate and proactively maintain the One Design integrity of their boat.
- 3.2. All RC44 boats holding a valid measurement certificate are automatically registered in the 44Cup. Boat owners who wish not to compete in the Championship shall inform the Class office in writing, in order not to be classified. For each event, whether the boat is sailed by the owner, a substitute owner according to CR C.2 or chartered to another owner and/or team, the helmsman and his team shall comply with CR C.2.
- 3.3. The CA Executive Committee may review a competitor's World Sailing classification if its classification is clearly not in line with his actual sailing and professional activities. Additionally, the CA Executive Committee may grant special dispensation to CR C.2.5 when a majority of Owners present at an Event vote to allow a change.
- 3.4. There will be a full crew weigh-in before the 1st event of the season and before the World Championship. The CA will register the weight of all the crewmembers. The owner doesn't need to weigh-in at the World Championship. If there is a crew change during the season, the team, according to the registered weight shall remain under the maximum allowed weight. A new team joining the Tour during the season shall weigh-in before its 1st race.

4. On board Hospitality
 - 4.1. On board Hospitality approval:
All owners taking part in the 44Cup agree to allow media and guests on board during the series (no more than one person per boat per race). For each start, either all boats competing in the race shall carry a guest or no boat shall carry a guest.
 - 4.2. Hospitality Coordination: CA shall appoint one Hospitality Coordinator to manage the hospitality program, including spectator boats and on-board hospitality. It is the responsibility of the Organizer to adopt appropriate safety facilities to transfer guests on and off the boats and to ensure that their sailing experience is safe, including the requirement to wear buoyancy aids if deemed appropriate.
 - 4.3. Allocation of on-board slots:
On board slots shall be allocated by the Hospitality Coordinator, in cooperation and consultation with the Class event coordinator.
Owners who intend to invite guests shall liaise with the Class Office and pre-book their slots when sending the event entry form. Seven (7) days before the event starts, owner shall confirm their guest (name and date). The Class Office may not confirm team guests after this date. Slots not used by a team may be allocated to another team.
Slots shall be allocated as described below:
1/3 for the Teams guests
1/3 for the Class Office guest
1/3 for the local organizer guests
Entry form will specify the number of slots available for each team. This number shall not be less than three (3).
 - 4.4. The Race Committee may advise that no guests shall be carried on-board if there is a risk of more than 20 knots of wind, if the waves are greater than 1 meter in height or if there is any safety issue related to the boats or guests.
5. Scoring system
 - 5.1. Event classification:
 - 5.1.1. For each Event, the Organizer shall issue a Fleet Racing ranking. In the RC44 scoring system, the points are attributed to a Team. A Team is composed by an owner who will organize his crew. A Team can sail on different boats.
 - 5.1.2. Fleet Racing series: standard World Sailing "low point system" RRS A4 shall apply. In case of a tie, RRS A8 shall apply.

5.1.3. The long-distance race, if any, is part of the fleet racing series.

5.2. 44Cup Fleet Racing Annual ranking

5.2.1. After each regatta, each Team will receive the number of points corresponding to their final Fleet Race ranking in the regatta. The final ranking will be a sum of all the points collected during the 5 events of the 44Cup, with one discard.

5.2.2. The World Championship and the last event of the season will not be discarded.

5.2.3. A team who is not taking part in an event shall receive the following number of points: number of registered boats + 2.

5.2.4. The Class Office will issue the official 44Cup Fleet Racing Annual ranking after each regatta, by addition of the points gained by each team according to 5.2.1.

5.2.5. In case of a tie, the World Championship result will break the tie.

5.2.6. After the last Official Event, the Class office will issue a final 44Cup Fleet racing annual ranking. The team with the lowest score will be the Fleet Race winner of the 44Cup.

6. Award

6.1. The Boat winning the 44Cup Fleet Racing annual ranking shall use two golden steering wheels. The two golden steering wheels shall be provided by CA and maintained by the leading team.

6.2. The final price giving will take place during the last Event of the season.

7. Sails and sail limits

7.1. During 44Cup regattas, a full sail inventory (CR C.11.2.a) shall be declared at registration. During each racing day, 1 mainsail, 2 spinnakers and minimum 2 jibs shall be carried aboard the competitor boat. The 3rd jib may be on the team support boat. Adding a jib or swapping jibs with the support boat is allowed. This changes Class Rules C.11.2.

7.2. Appendix 1 describes the sail stickers rules.

7.3. 44Cup stamped or marked sails may be repaired or modified without being considered a new sail provided no more than the allowable percentage of the original area of the original sail (so when first declared) is replaced with new material. Approval shall be sought from a class measurer prior to carrying out any sail repair involving area changes, or any modification. Sail area % of the original sail allowed to be changed is:

Mainsail and headsails 10%

Spinnaker 15%

8. Safety

8.1. Wind limit: No starting procedure shall commence if the wind is stronger than 25 knots for a constant period of five minutes. This rule shall not be protestable by competitors.

8.2. Life jackets: All competitors shall carry life jackets onboard their boat at all times when racing and shall wear them when code Flag Y is displayed on the Race Committee boat.

8.3. The competitors shall carry on board the safety equipment listed in Class Rules C.4 and C.6 and maintain it in good order. The Class and the Organizer may check this material at any time before, during or after the races.

8.4. The competitors shall carry on board handheld marine VHF. This VHF shall be fully operational anytime during the racing days.

9. Branding

9.1. Team, Class and Organizer signage: The branding on boats shall be placed in accordance with Appendix 3, 4 and 5. It is the responsibility of the Owner to ensure that his material is branded according to the Class regulations, as per Appendix 4. The CA Executive Committee may change the branding displayed in the Appendix 3, 4 and 5, upon confirmation of Class Sponsorship and provided that a majority of owners vote to allow the change.

- 9.2. Any breech of rule 9 may be reported to the Jury, who will consult the CA and shall advise the boat to apply the rule or penalize her. A second breech of the rule may lead to the exclusion of the boat from the Event. Additional breeches of the rule may lead to the exclusion of the boat from the 44Cup.
- 9.3. The class sponsor branding, according to Appendix 3, 4 and 5, including stickers, flags, boom cover, will be provided by CA. The competitors shall be responsible to keep them clean and tidy, as per Appendix 2.
10. Communication and social functions
 - 10.1. Each Team shall participate in the communication and promotional events, as requested by the Organizer including all official dinners & prize-giving ceremonies. At least one member of each team shall attend the press conferences, briefings and Event public conferences when requested by the Organizer.
 - 10.2. During the 44Cup, boats may be requested to carry a GPS antenna or a camera provided by the Organizer. The GPS antenna or cameras enable the transfer of necessary performance information for media and spectator viewing ashore. Teams are responsible for any material provided by the Organizer or the CA.
 - 10.3. Only 1 drone per day is allowed on the water. A team willing to use a drone in the racecourse area shall ask the CA the permit to do so. The team allowed to fly a drone shall make all its footage available to the CA.
11. Rules modification
The 44Cup Rules shall not be modified between the first regatta and the final prize giving ceremony unless by unanimous vote by the Executive Committee. This rule doesn't apply for: rule 2; 3.3 and 9.
12. Jury and Sailing Instructions
 - 12.1. Umpiring and Sailing Instructions: The Jury shall be composed according to RRS and the Event Agreement between the Class and the Organiser. Standard 44Cup Sailing instructions shall be used for the Fleet Racing series and the Match Racing series. The Fleet Racing SI specifies that direct umpiring may apply.
 - 12.2. 44Cup Rules argument: Issues regarding the 44Cup rules shall be sent in writing to the Class Office. The Executive Committee of the Class will study the request and provide the competitors with an official answer.
 - 12.3. By taking part in the 44Cup, an owner commits himself to use no other rights of appeal, other than those described in the World Sailing RRS and the 44Cup Rules.
13. Logistic and assistance
 - 13.1. Team container bigger than standard 20' box high cube is not allowed.
 - 13.2. The teams shall use the logistic solution provided by the CA to move their cargo between the different venues of the 44Cup.
 - 13.3. Shrink-wrapping the boats during transportation or storage is not allowed
 - 13.4. Single used plastic bottles are not allowed
 - 13.5. No more than one chase boat per team is allowed. There shall be no weather devices on board. All chase boats shall be clearly identified with a team flag.
 - 13.6. Diving to clean the hull between races during a sailing day is forbidden.
14. Insurance and disclaimer of liability

- 14.1. For all Events, the boat is required to hold adequate third-party insurance cover of minimum 10'000'000€, and it is the owner or owner's representative's sole and inescapable responsibility to ensure that the insurance is in place and is adequate.
- 14.2. It is the owner's responsibility to provide insurance for: his boat, including all land and sea transportation; crew and guests.
- 14.3. Competitors participate in the Events and in the 44Cup entirely at their own risk. See RRS Rule 4, Decision to Race. The Organizing Authority, race officials, umpires and the CA will not accept any liability for material damage, personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the Events and the 44Cup.

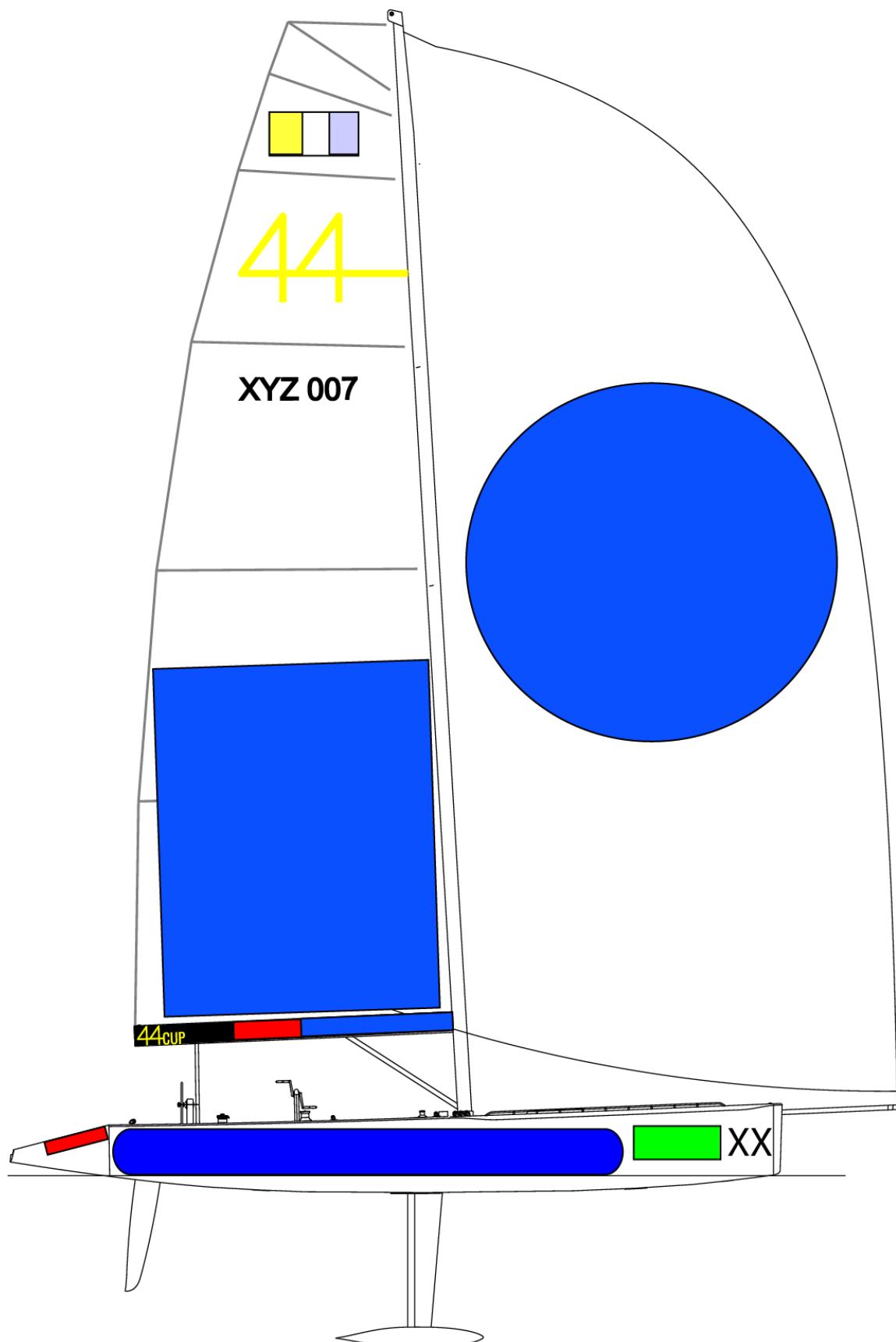
Appendix 1: Sail stickers

- 1.1 Sail stickers will be distributed by the Class Office according to CR C.11.2
- 1.2 The price of 1 sail sticker is 60€, in 2026 all registered team will receive 6 stickers.
- 1.3 Teams are allowed to register 2025 stickers during the 1st event of the 2026 season. After the 1st event of 2026, all unused sail stickers of 2025 will be void.
- 1.4 A replacement sail sticker can only be asked for a sail sticker of the same calendar year (as per year written on the sail sticker). The replacement sticker shall be applied to an identical type of sail.

Appendix 2: Owners and Skippers liability

- Teams are responsible to comply with the sponsorship and signage regulations contained in the 44Cup Rules and all regulations issued by the Class.
- Teams may submit a diagram of their Branding layout to the CA for approval.
- Branding shall be kept in a clean and tidy condition and stickers shall be properly applied and maintained. Teams shall maintain the marketing material provided by the Class and the Organiser.
- Competitors attention is drawn to rule 9 and Appendix 3-5: if the branding does not comply with the Class regulations:
 - the Jury may be notified and may apply a penalty to any non-complying boat
- the Class Office may penalize any non-complying boat
- Competitors shall maintain their container ID number as per international shipping regulations and regularly verify the validity of their container certification.

Appendix 3: Afloat branding
Signage dimension and position



TEAM Sponsors (blue)

- Hull: position starting 300 cm aft the bow joint, to the spoiler joint.
- Mainsail: dimension 490 x 600 cm, position from the boom upwards.
- Gennakers: dimension 40 m² (i.e. 25% of the sail area) position free shape.
- Boom: dimension 250 x 25 cm, position front half part.
- No restrictions on the cockpit top sides, from the pit to the steering wheel.
- No restrictions on crew branding.
- National flag: dimension 160 x 80 cm, position: 10 cm above batten 4 and 70 cm from the leech on both sides. Nationality of the flag is at the owner's discretion.

VENUE Sponsors (green)

- Bow: dimension 150 x 80 cm, position 10 cm from the bow number and 20 cm above the waterline.

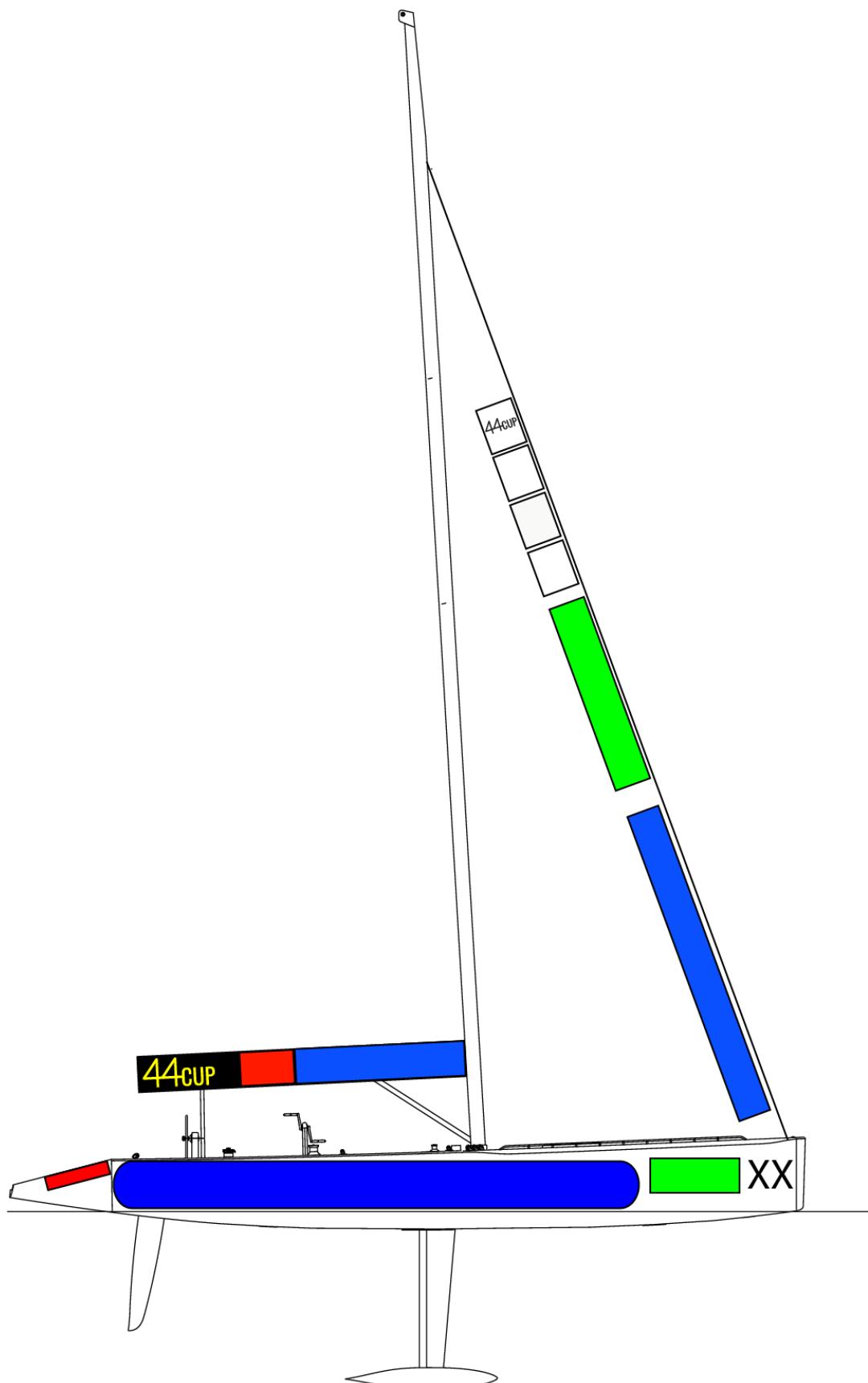
CLASS Sponsors (red)

- Boom: dimension 250 x 25 cm, position aft half part.
- Spoiler (internal and external top sides).

CLEAR areas – not for use

- Mast
- Appendages
- Headsails
- Backstays
- Any area not mentioned above

Appendix 4: Ashore branding
Signage position and dimension



TEAM Sponsors - Team flags overall area 80 x 700 cm

- Forestay flags: overall dimension 80 x 700 cm, position 100 cm from the genoa tack fitting.
- Boom cover: dimension 200 x 40 cm, position 10 cm from the boom cover front edge.
- Hull and cockpit: as per Appendix 1

VENUE Sponsors – Organiser flags overall area 80 x 400 cm

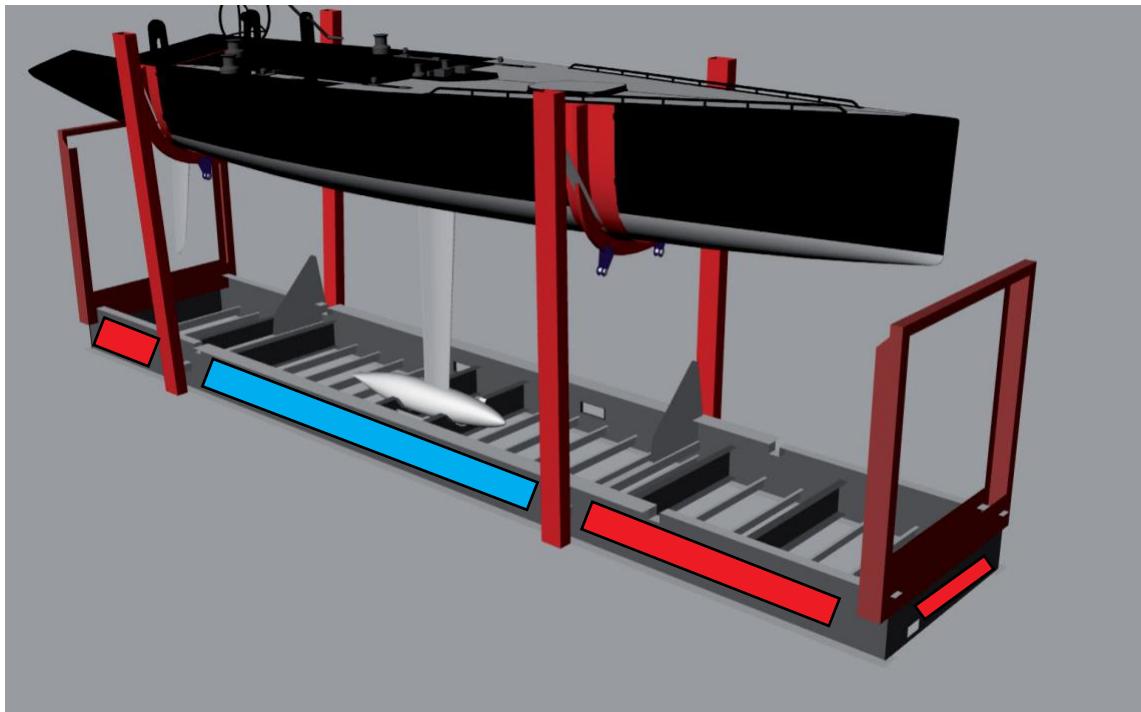
- Forestay flags: overall dimension 80 x 400 cm, position 800 cm from the genoa tack fitting (i.e. above Team Flags).
- Bow: as per appendix 1.

CLASS Sponsors – Class flags overall area 80 x 400 cm

- Forestay flags: overall dimension 80 x 400 cm, position 1200 cm from the genoa tack fitting (i.e. above Organiser Flags).
- Boom cover: dimension 200 x 40 cm, position 10 cm from the boom cover aft edge.

CLEAR areas – not for use

- Mast
- Backstays
- Any area not mentioned above

Appendix 5: container branding**Signage position and dimension****Container colours:**

The standard container colour shall be black.

The standard container soft cover colour shall be light grey.

TEAM Sponsors

- Area situated between the two main arms of the container, on both sides. (500 X 45 cm).

CLASS Sponsors

- Area situated between the front main arm and the front side of the container. (230 X 45 cm).
- Area situated between the aft main arm and the aft side of the container. (150 X 45 cm).

CLEAR areas – not for use

- Container top
- Container front
- Container arms
- Any area not mentioned above