

Notice of Race

April 7th, 8th and 9th 2017

Organizing Authority is the US Melges 24 Championship Events Inc

Hosted by the Charleston Yacht Club

1. Rules

- 1.1 This regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing, the prescriptions of US Sailing, the rules of the United States Melges 24 Class Association and the Notice of Race.
- 1.2 Racing Rule 40 is changed as follows: "Competitors shall wear personal floatation devices, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment (code flag need not to be displayed).
- 1.3 The race committee will use VHF radio to communicate to the fleet. Failure to make broadcasts or failure to hear the broadcast shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes rule 62.1. The sailing instructions will provide more detail on the procedure.

2. Advertising

- 2.1 Advertising is accordance with World Sailing Regulation 20. Advertising Code, and the Melges 24 Class rules shall be permitted.
- 2.2 Boats may be required to display advertising and or bow numbers. Bow numbers may be the sail number of the competing boat.

3. Eligibility and Entry

- 3.1 The regatta is open only to Melges 24 Class boats that meet the obligations of the Melges 24 Class rules and USMCA rules, including class membership.
- 3.2 Eligible competitors shall enter by completing the online registration form and fee payment on the Yacht Scoring website <http://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4068>.
- 3.3 All participants (or the parent/guardian if under the age of 18) will be required to agree to a waiver of liability as a condition of eligibility. This waiver may be completed either during online registration or at the event check-in.
- 3.4 All competitors are required to check in at the CHYC race office no later than 17:00 Thursday evening. The following must be presented at check-in.
 - 3.4.1 Class measurement certificate
 - 3.4.2 Proof of current class membership
 - 3.4.3 Crew list
 - 3.4.4 Support boat information (and flag)

3.4.5 A signed declaration of liability insurance (form available at check-in)

3.4.6 Signed liability waiver (skipper and crew)

4. Classification

4.1 This event is open to all sailors of all classifications as described in World Sailing Regulation 22. Sailor Classification Code (see www.sailing.org)

4.2 For boats competing for the Corinthian Trophy, sailor classifications, including World Sailing ID numbers, must be submitted to USMCA no later than April 3rd, 2017 by emailing to rdraftz@charlestonyachting.com. The Corinthian Declaration Form will be posted online at www.usmelges24.com.

4.3 Sailors must register with World Sailing prior to April 3rd, 2017 and be able to declare their World Sailing sailor classification ID number on their race entry form.

4.4 Details regarding the Corinthian Trophy may be found in the IMCA Championship rules.

4.5 Protests regarding World Sailing classification may be submitted starting April 3rd, 2017, and must be submitted by the end of protest on the first day of racing. Such protests will be handled by the USMCA office, whose decision is final.

5. Fees

5.1 The entry fee is \$450.00 for entries completed with payment on or before March 1st, 2017. After that date the entry fee is \$550.00

5.2 Entry fee includes dockage, post race refreshments and Saturday evening buffet.

5.3 Entry fees must be paid at time registration and will not be recognized until payment is made.

5.4 Entry fee refunds will be allowed as follows: 100% refund if withdrawal from registration occurs on or before March 1st; a 50% refund if withdrawal is made after March 15th. Refunds after March 15th will need to be made on a case by case basis by the Organizing Authority.

6. Schedule of Events

Eight races are scheduled for the 2017 National Championship.

As many as three (3) races may be run each day.

The OA reserves the right to modify the program due to weather conditions or other causes.

The schedule shall be as follows:

Thursday, April 6th

0800 to 1900 Launching

1000 to 1900 Registration and Measurement

1000 to 1700 Crew Weigh-in

1730 to 2000 Competitors Meeting and Reception

2000 All boats afloat

Friday , April 7th

0900 to 1000 Registration and Measurement
0930 Harbor Start
1100 Initial Warning Signal
1630 Daily Awards Post Race Beverages and Snacks

Saturday, April 8th

0930 Harbor Start
1100 Initial Warning Signal
1900 Championship Dinner

Sunday, April 9th

0930 Harbor Start
1100 Initial warning signal
1400 Time of the latest possible warning signal
1700 Awards with beverages and snacks

7. Inspection and Measurement

- 7.1 All boats shall comply with the current USMCA rules and specifications. Each boat shall present a valid measurement certificate at the time of check-in. Sails shall be measured and stamped by an approved measurer prior to check-in. There will not be any sail measurement or certification at the regatta site.
- 7.2 Spot checks may be performed on any boat by the principal race officer's designee at any time during the event.
- 7.3 Chartered or loaned boats may display national letters and sail numbers in contravention of IMCA rule G3.1, in accordance with rule G3.

8. Sailing Instructions

- 8.1 The sailing instructions will be available at check-in and on the Yacht Scoring website beginning April 3rd, 2017.

9. Venue

- 9.1 Charleston Yacht Club at the The City Marina on the Charleston Peninsula.
- 9.2 Their hoist will be available for a modest fee to support the Yacht Club.
- 9.3 Dockage will be at the The City Marina and there will be limited dockage available on the yacht club dock.
- 9.4 The course area will be the Charleston Harbor between Middle Ground and Fort Sumter. See attachment A

10. Courses

The courses will be around buoys set by the race committee as described in the sailing instructions. Courses will be generally windward/leeward, using offsets off the windward mark and leeward gate marks, subject to conditions as determined by the race committee.

11. Scoring and Penalties

- 11.1 Low Point Scoring System (Appendix A) shall be used.
- 11.2 When fewer than six races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of the boat's race scores. When six or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst discardable score.
- 11.3 The race committee will attempt to complete as many races as conditions allow. A minimum of three completed races are required to constitute a series.
- 11.4 The first two sentences of Racing Rule 44.1 are changed as follows: "A boat may take a one turn penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 when racing. However when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty".
- 11.5 Unless the course is shortened to finish at the weather mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes rule 44.2.

12. Support Boats

Support boats, which include coach and spectator boats, must register at the race office during the period of check-in. During racing, support boats shall monitor the race committee channel and remain more than fifty yards from the course area, except when asked to assist by the race committee. Supports shall not communicate with boats that are racing.

13. Launching, Berthing and Haul-Out Restrictions

- 13.1 All boats intending to race shall be afloat by 20:00 Thursday April, 6th 2017
- 13.2 Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta without prior written permission of the organizing authority's event chairman.

14. Radio Communication

Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

15. Prizes

- 15.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top 3 teams overall and to the top 3 Corinthian teams.
- 15.2 The top scoring team in the open division will be awarded the Buddy Melges Perpetual Trophy.
- 15.3 Additional prizes may be awarded by the class association.

16. Safety

Boats shall not impede the passage of commercial vessels and shall comply with US Inland Navigation Rules Act of 1980. Boats that fail to comply promptly with signals from a race committee boat to alter course, or that receives a 5 blast warning from a commercial vessel, will be subject to protest and possible disqualification.

17. Risk, Disclaimer of Liability, Personal Conduct

17.1 Competitors participate in the regatta at their own risk. See Rule 4 (Decision to Race). The organizing authority will not accept an liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

17.2 Competitors will accept full responsibility for all their actions during any activity related to this event. This includes on-shor activities before, during and after the regatta.

18. Insurance

Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third party liability insurance with minimum coverage of \$300,000.00 per event or the equivalent. Competitors shall be prepared to sign a declaration as proof of having the appropriate insurance.

19. Right to use name and likeness

By participating in this event, all competitors automatically grant the organizers and sponsors the right to make, use and show, at any time and at their descretion, any photographs or videos of him or her produced during the period fo the event with out compensation.

20. Further Information

20.1 Keep an eye on the Nationals website at www.usmelges24nationals.com

20.2 Contact Event Chair Randy Draftz at rdraftz@charlestonyachting.com

20.3 Contact Joy Dunnigan at communications@usmelges24.com

20.4 Charleston Tourism at <http://www.charlestoncvb.com/plan-your-trip/lodging~123/hotels~847/>

**NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP**

CHARLESTON SOUTH CAROLINA

Attachment "A"



