



## **2015 Melges Rocks Regatta**

### **Melges 24 Winter Finale**

### **Audi Melges 20 Miami Winter Series #3**

Coconut Grove Sailing Club- Miami, FL (Biscayne Bay)  
March 12–14, 2015

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

### **1. RULES**

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 1.2 Class rules of The International Melges 24 Class Association (IMCA) and International Audi Melges 20 Class Rules (IAM20CR), including Part 3, Section I (EVENT RULES), will apply, except as specifically changed in the Notice of Race (NOR) or in the Sailing Instructions (SIs).

- 1.3 The following Prescriptions of US Sailing are the only Prescriptions that will apply: Appendix R and prescriptions to rules 61.4, 67 and 76.1.
- 1.4 The Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS) will apply.
- 1.5 Competitor advertising shall conform to the current ISAF Regulation 20 and the Class Rules.

Boats may be required to display identification numbers and sponsors advertising for the duration of the event in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20.4. These items will be supplied free of charge by the organizing authority (OA) at registration.

- 1.6 For the Audi Melges 20 class, for the purposes of RRS 43.2, the anti hiking strap does not constitute a lifeline.
- 1.7 RRS 42.3(c) is modified to allow the spinnaker sheet to be pumped without restriction to promote surfing or planing.
- 1.8 Where there is a conflict between this NOR and the Sailing Instructions (SI's), the SI's shall prevail. This changes RRS 63.7.

## **2. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 2.1 All competing boats shall carry a hand held VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving VHF channels (US) for safety purposes and Race Committee communication.
- 2.2 The Race Committee's VHF channel will be channel **69**.
- 2.3 Race Committee broadcasts concerning its intentions, the course to be sailed, starting times, course changes, OCS hails, etc. are a courtesy only. Failure of the Race Committee to make a broadcast, the timing of a broadcast, or the failure of a boat to hear a broadcast shall not be grounds for redress under RRS 62.1(a).
- 2.4 Except from the specified Race Committee VHF channel 69, no competitor shall make or receive radio communications commencing from the first Warning Signal of the day until the conclusion their day's racing, except in the case of an emergency. This restriction also applies to cell phone communications, except that cell phones may be used between races to check the regatta website.
- 2.5 The Race Committee will attempt to announce its intentions for the day on the Race Committee VHF radio channel at 1000 on Thursday, and at 0900 on Friday and Saturday.
- 2.6 In the event of an onshore Postponement, the Race Committee will make update announcements on the Race Committee VHF radio channel. These announcements may also be e-mailed to the skippers.

### **3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

3.1 Notices & Results will be posted on the two official notice boards located as follows:

a) on the first floor of the Coconut Grove Sailing Club (CGSC)

b) on the regatta website located at:

<http://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=1217>

### **4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

4.1 Any changes will be posted by 0900 on the day they will take effect, except that any changes in the Schedule of Races will be posted no later than one (1) hour after the latest protest time limit on the day before they take effect (SI 16.2). In the event of no racing on a day, any changes in the Schedule of Races will be posted no later than 1700 hours on the day before they take effect.

4.2 Oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be given on the water. The Race Committee Signal Boat shall display Code Flag "L" and announce the change on the Race Committee VHF Channel in accordance with rule 90.2(c). Competitors may also approach the Signal Boat and verbally receive the change while Code Flag "L" is displayed.

### **5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flagpole at the CGSC.

5.2 Code Flag "L", when displayed ashore signifies that a change in Sailing Instructions or other notice to competitors has been posted on the Official Notice Boards.

5.3 Code Flag "AP" when displayed ashore means that the start has been postponed. The Warning Signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after the lowering of this signal.

### **6. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

6.1

Wednesday, March 11

Launching: 0900 – 1700  
Registration: 1500 – 1700 (CGSC)  
Competitor's Meeting: 1800

Thursday, March 12

First Warning Signal 1200 Additional race(s) to follow ASAP

Friday, March 13

First Warning Signal 1100 Additional race(s) to follow ASAP

Saturday, March 14

First Warning Signal 1100 Additional race(s) to follow ASAP

Eight races are scheduled. The Race Committee may run fewer races at its discretion.

PLEASE NOTE: On the final day of the regatta, the Initial Warning Signal for the final race will not be made after 1500 hours. However, after this Initial Warning, any Warning Signal that follows one or more General Recalls may occur after 1500.

- 6.2 The Race Committee Finishing Boat will signal its intent to start another race that day by displaying Code Flag "R" at the finish of a race. Code Flag "R" will be lowered with one sound, one minute before the next Warning Signal is made.

## **7. RACING AREAS**

- 7.1 All racing will be on Biscayne Bay in an area approximately 1 to 3 miles SSE of Brennan Channel Marker "1" (Fl.G 5sec 8ft).

## **8. THE COURSES**

- 8.1 Courses are described below and in "ADDENDUM #1- COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS".

- 8.2 Course Designations:

**COURSE # 4** - Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Finish

**COURSE # 5** - Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Leeward Gate - Finish

- 8.3 The Windward Mark (W) and the accompanying offset mark (OS) shall be left to port.

- 8.4 Courses will be posted on a Race Committee Signal Boat course board prior to the Warning Signal of each race. The number of the course to be sailed, the approximate magnetic compass bearing, and distance from the starting line to the first mark will be displayed. (This changes *RRS* 27.1)

## **9. MARKS**

- 9.1 The original Windward Mark (W) will be an orange inflatable mark.
- 9.2 The windward offset mark (OS) will be a round orange ball. The offset mark will be laid to port of the Windward Mark, approximately 150 feet away.
- 9.3 A Leeward Gate will be used and the original Leeward Gate marks will be orange inflatable marks.
- 9.4 When changing the next leg of the course (SI Section 12), the new mark, unless the change is for the final leg of course, will be a yellow inflatable mark(s).
- 9.5 Except when there is a change of course, the Gate will be located to windward of the Starting Line. The Gate may be set after the starting signal.
- 9.6 If one of the Leeward Gate marks is missing, boats shall round the one existing leeward mark to port.

## **10. THE START**

- 10.1 Races will be started in accordance with *RRS* 26.
- 10.2 The class flags will be the Melges 24 Insignia on a white flag, and the Audi Melges 20 Insignia on a white flag.  
Numeral pennant #1 may be substituted for the Melges 24 class flag. Numeral pennant #2 may be substituted for the Audi Melges 20 class flag.
- 10.3 The starting line will be between staffs displaying orange flags on two Race Committee Boats. In the event that the Pin End Boat is not on station, it will be replaced by the course side of an inflatable mark.
- 10.4 Penalties as provided for in 30.2 (Z Flag) and 30.3 (Black Flag) shall not be in effect if the race is a General Recalled start or has been abandoned and later resailed. This changes *RRS* 30.2 and 30.3.
- 10.5 A stand off mark may be tethered to the stern of the committee boat(s) and will function as an extension of the Race Committee boat. Boats shall not sail between the stand off mark and the race committee boat.
- 10.6 A boat starting later than four (4) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. (This changes *RRS* A4.1)

## **11. RECALLS**

- 11.1 In the event of an individual recall or for boats disqualified under *RRS* 30.3, the Race Committee may attempt to hail the sail number or bow number of boats that are identified as OCS on the Race Committee VHF channel. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such hails, or the length of time it takes to make a notification on the Race Committee VHF channel will not be grounds for redress requests. (This is in addition to and changes *RRS* 29.1, 30.3, 60.1 (b) and 62.1 (a).)
- 11.2 The Race Committee may hail the bow numbers or sail numbers of boats that are over the line in the last one (1) minute of the starting sequence after the I and/or Z Flag has been lowered. Failure of a boat to hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such hails will not be grounds for redress. (This changes *RRS* 29.1 and 62.1 (a).)

## **12. CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 12.1 If the change is for a windward leg, the new marks will be a yellow inflatable mark and yellow offset ball, unless the change is for the final leg of Course 5, which in that case, the finish line will be in the new position.
- 12.2 If the change is for a leeward leg, the new gate marks will be yellow inflatables, unless the first change is for the final leg of Course 4, which in that case, the finish line will be in the new position.
- 12.3 The Race Committee may attempt to broadcast any course changes over the Race Committee VHF channel.

## **13. FINISH**

- 13.1 The Finish Line for leeward finishes (Course 4) will be on the opposite side of the Race Committee Boat from the Starting Line. The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying

an orange flag on a Race Committee Boat and the course side of a yellow inflatable mark, or between staffs displaying orange flags on two Race Committee Boats.

- 13.2 The Finish Line for windward finishes (Course 5) will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee Boat and the course side of an inflatable mark to port of the Committee Boat, or between staffs displaying orange flags on two Race Committee Boats.

#### **14. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 14.1 A boat that may have broken a rule of RRS Part 2 may take a One-Turn Penalty, including one tack and one gybe. This changes RRS 44.1(a) and 44.2.
- 14.2 Penalties within 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 RRS 44.2.
- 14.3 The penalty, if any, for a violation of a rule other than a rule of RRS Part 2 or Rule 31 will be at the discretion of the Jury and may be other than disqualification. This changes RRS 64.1(a).
- 14.4 If a breach of class rules is found, penalties shall be at the discretion of the Jury, in consultation with a non-competing Class Representative.

#### **15. TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 Any race in which no boat finishes within two (2.0) hours of the start shall be abandoned.
- 15.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored as "TLE" and will be scored two additional points more than the number of boats that finished within that time. This changes RRS 35 and A4.2.

#### **16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 16.1 A boat intending to protest is requested to notify a Race Committee Finish Boat of its intention and the identity of the protested boat(s) as soon as possible after finishing.
- 16.2 Protest forms will be available at the Regatta Desk at CGSC. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the Jury desk within the protest time limit. The time limit is one (1) hour after the Race Committee Finish Boat docks. Protest hearings will be conducted at CGSC as soon as possible.
- 16.3 Notices will be posted no later than 15 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties to or named as witnesses. It is each boat's sole responsibility to check the Protest Notice Board to see if she is cited in a protest. Representatives of boats who are parties to hearings and their witnesses shall remain on call in the vicinity of the Regatta desk until excused by the Jury.
- 16.4 If the RC posts the results on the official notice board before the protest time limit, a request for redress based on being scored OCS, ZFP or BFD shall be made no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit. This changes RRS 62.2
- 16.5 On the last day of the regatta, a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered (a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision

on the previous day; (b) no later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day. This changes RRS 66.

- 16.6 On the last scheduled day of racing, the Race Committee will post a list of boats that have been given starting penalties or other Race Committee actions. If this list is posted prior to the filing deadline, requests for redress based on this posting shall be filed no later than 30 minutes after the posting, or the protest time limit, whichever is later. This changes rule 62.2.
- 16.7 The representative from each yacht who attends the hearing shall be the owner or the Category 1 helmsman. Category 3 sailors are not allowed in the hearing, or to be in contact with the representatives at the hearing per class rules.
- 16.8 Video and photos taken from any support and/or coach boat shall not be used as evidence at protest hearings. This alters RRS 63.6.

## **17. SCORING**

- 17.1 The Low Point Scoring System of RRS Appendix A will apply, with the following modification:

When fewer than six races have been sailed, a boat's series score will be the total of all her race scores.

When six or more races have been sailed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

One race is necessary to constitute a series.

## **18. BOW NUMBERS**

- 18.1 Each Melges 24 shall have clearly visible bow numbers on both sides of the bow, as provided at Registration, and displayed according to the document distributed at Registration check in. The leading edge of each bow number shall be no further back than 10 inches aft of the bow. Boats failing to properly display bow numbers may be subject to protest by the Race Committee only. This changes RRS 60.1(a) and RRS 60.3(a).
- 18.2 Each Audi Melges 20 shall have clearly visible bow numbers as provided by the manufacturer and that Bow Number shall be properly registered when entering the regatta and confirmed during registration. Boats failing to properly display bow numbers may be subject to protest by the Race Committee only. This changes RRS 60.1(a) and RRS 60.3(a).

## **19. LAUNCHING & HAUL OUT REQUIREMENTS**

- 19.1 All boats must be in the water by 1730 on the day before racing begins.
- 19.2 All boats are to remain in the water for the duration of the regatta except according to the terms, and with permission of the Principal Race Officer or the Regatta Chairman in the event of a required emergency repair.

## **20. TEAM AND PRIVATE SUPPORT BOATS**

- 20.1 A boat shall receive no outside assistance from: support boats, transfer of equipment or victuals or otherwise once she has left the dock for the day until she has finished the last race of the day, except in the case of emergency.

A boat should not be towed once she has left the dock for the day until she has finished the last race of the last day, except in the case of emergency or motor problems that cause the boat to not make her way to the starting area. If in the case of a motor problem, the boat shall make every attempt to fix the problem prior to the next day's racing and shall make the boat available for inspection by the Jury, Race Committee or class representative.

- 20.2 Each competitor (skipper) shall register any coach, support and/or spectator boat affiliated with their boat in any way with the OA during Check-in. Only coach, support and/or spectator boats that have been registered with the OA will be allowed in the racing area as permitted in this section.

- 20.3 **Individual coach or support boats shall not approach closer than 100 meters to any boat that is racing, at any location on the race course.**

- 20.4 Coach and support boats are required by the Race Committee to monitor the Race Committee VHF Channel 69 and shall abide by all Race Committee or Course Marshall instructions. In addition, they shall provide assistance to any competitor in danger if notified to do so by the Race Committee.

- 20.5 A boat whose registered coach, support and / or spectator boat has violated any of the above stated rules, or has caused undo wake due to excessive speeds near the race course, may be subject to protest by the Race Committee or the Jury.

- 20.6 The Race Committee reserves the right to make additional requirements for coach and/or support boats at any time during the regatta.

## **21. PRIZES**

- 21.1 The top 5 boats overall will receive prizes.

## **22. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

- 22.1 A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to start a scheduled race shall promptly report this to the Race Committee via hailing or calling on the Race Committee VHF channel 69, and receive acknowledgement. If this is not possible, she shall promptly report her actions to the Regatta desk on shore at CGSC.

## **23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

- 23.1 Sailing is an activity that carries with it an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk and are reminded to pay special attention to RRS 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers, including the OA, Coconut Grove Sailing Club, Melges Performance Sailboats, Race Committee, Jury, sponsors, volunteers, or any other affiliated organization or official, will not be responsible for damage to any boat or other property or the injury to any competitor, including death, sustained as a result of practice for or participation in this event on the water or ashore. By participating in this event, each competitor agrees to release the race organizers from



any and all liability associated with such competitor's participation in this event to the fullest extent permitted by law.

24. **MEDIA RIGHTS**

Each participant shall acknowledge that all media and commercial rights belong exclusively to the organizing authority and the IAM20CA and IMCA, and shall grant to the OA, IAM20CA and IMCA the unrestricted right and permission to use and publish any biographical information, text and images arising from the Championship including name, voice, image, likeness, biographical material as well as representations of the boats in any media worldwide (being television, print and digital media), including video footage, for the sole purposes of advertising, promoting, reporting and disseminating information regarding the **Melges Rocks Regatta** and the participants in the regatta. The OA will exercise these rights in its sole discretion or as it may agree with the event sponsors. Participants shall not reproduce, publicly communicate or distribute images of the race in any way or form without previous authorization from the OA or the IAM20CA or IMCA.

**For further information, please contact:**

**CGSC Regatta Chairman:**

Ron Rostorfer - [ronsailon@comcast.net](mailto:ronsailon@comcast.net)

**Class Admin:**

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## ADDENDUM #1 - COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS

### EXAMPLE: COURSE BOARD DISPLAYED ON R/C SIGNAL BOAT

Course: 4  
Distance To W: 1.0  
Bearing To W: 120

### COURSE # 4 (Leeward Finish)

Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Finish

● ●  
(OS) (W)

● ●  
(Leeward Gate)

Start ⌞ ----- ⌞ R/C ⌞ ----- ⌞ Finish

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### COURSE # 5 (Windward Finish)

Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Leeward Gate - Finish

Finish ⌞ ----- ⌞ R/C

● ●  
(OS) (W)

● ●  
(Leeward Gate)

Start ⌞ ----- ⌞ R/C