



2021 MELGES 24
US NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
SEPTEMBER 16-19, 2021
GROSSE POINTE FARMS, MICHIGAN, USA



SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The notation '[DP]' in a rule in the SI means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

The notation '[NP]' in a rule in the SI means that instruction is not grounds for protest or a request for redress by a boat. This changes rule 60.1.

1 RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS) and the *Rules* of the International Melges 24 Class Association.
- 1.2 [DP][NP]RRS 40.1 (Personal Flotation Devices – Basic Rule) shall apply while racing.
- 1.3 The US Sailing prescription to RRS 63.1 and 63.2 shall not apply.
- 1.4 Appendix T (Arbitration) shall apply.
- 1.5 Appendix V (Alternative Penalties) shall apply.

2 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change to the sailing instructions shall be posted not less than 90 minutes prior to the first scheduled race on the day it shall take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races shall be posted by 1800 hrs or by the protest time limit, whichever is later on the day before it shall take effect.

3 COMMUNICATIONS WITH COMPETITORS

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the rear porch of CSYC and on YachtScoring (<https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=14521>). The race office will be in the CSYC Clubhouse.
- 3.2 Radio communications between boats and the Race Committee during racing will be carried out on **VHF channel 71**. Competitors are advised to maintain a listening watch on this channel at all times
- 3.3 [NP] The following communications may be made by the race committee using the designated VHF Channel in addition to any Race Signals (*this changes RRS 29, 32, 33 and 41*): Courses, including the bearing and distance to the first mark; postponements and abandonments; boats identified as OCS and general recalls; changing courses or marks and identify marks; shortening the course; time limits.
- 3.4 [DP] 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.

4 CODE OF CONDUCT [NP][DP]

Competitors and Support Persons shall comply with reasonable requests from race officials.

5 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1 Signals ashore will be made from the CSYC flagpole, north of the CSYC clubhouse.
- 5.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' will be replaced with '40 minutes.' *This changes Race Signals AP.*

6 SCHEDULE OF RACES

- 6.1 Thursday, September 16th: Practice Race, warning at 1300
Friday and Saturday, September 17th and 18th: First Warning Signal at 1100
Sunday, September 19th First Warning Signal at 1000

- 6.2 The RC intends to run up to three races per day, when time and conditions permit. Eight (8) races are scheduled.
6.3 If the Race Committee (RC) is unable to complete the race(s) scheduled for a particular day, then that race(s) will be sailed on subsequent days. In no event will there be more than four races per day nor will races be conducted before their scheduled day.
6.4 On the last day of racing, no race will be started after 1400 hrs.

7 CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be the Melges 24 logo on a white field.

8 RACING AREA

The racing area will be on Lk. St. Clair, north and east of CSYC.

9 COURSES

- 9.1 Addendum A shows the courses and the rounding order. All marks will be left to port (except gates).
9.2 No later than the preparatory signal, the race committee signal vessel may display the approximate compass bearing and distance of the first leg.
9.3 Course can be shortened (Per RSS 32)

10 MARKS

- 10.1 Rounding mark 1 (the weather mark) and marks 2S and 2P (the gate) will be **orange** inflatable marks.
10.2 The offset mark will be a **white** ball.
10.3 The starting and finishing marks will be an anchored boat displaying the appropriate color flag or **yellow** inflatable marks.
10.4 One or more 'keep away buoys' may be attached to the RC signal boat. Since they are intentionally attached to the starting mark, they are part of the mark by definition.
10.5 New marks, as provided in SI 13, will be **yellow** inflatable marks.

11 OBSTRUCTIONS

[NP][DP] Boats crossing the St. Clair shipping channel are forbidden to interfere with tug and barge traffic (Federal law 89-764). Boats shall adhere to USCG Rule 18, which reads in part: "(b) A sailing vessel underway shall keep out of the way of: ... (ii) a vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver." A boat receiving five (5) horn blasts from a commercial vessel transiting the ship channel may be protested by the RC.

12 THE START

- 12.1 The starting line shall be between a staff displaying an **orange** flag on the signal boat and the course side of the mark or the staff displaying an **orange** flag as described in instruction 10.3.
12.2 A boat starting later than five (5) minutes after her starting signal shall be scored Did Not Start without a hearing. *This changes RRS A5.1 and A5.2.*
12.3 RRS 30.4 (Black Flag Rule) is changed to permit the RC to display bow number and/or sail number.

13 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark.

14 THE FINISH

- 14.1 The finishing line shall be between a staff displaying a **blue** flag on the signal boat and the course side of the mark or the staff displaying a **blue** flag as described in SI 10.3.
- 14.2 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes shall be scored Did Not Finish without a hearing. *This changes RRS 35, A5.1, and A5.2.*

15 TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES

- 15.1 [NP] The target time for each race is 45 minutes.
- 15.2 If a boat has not rounded the initial Mark A within 30 minutes of her starting signal, the race will be abandoned.
- 15.3 The Race Time Limit (RRS 35) is 90 minutes after the starting signal.

16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 16.1 The protest time limit is 60 minutes after the RC Signal Boat docks at the end of each racing day or when the RC signals 'No more racing today,' whichever is later. The time will be posted on the official notice board.
- 16.2 Hearing request forms are available near the Official Notice Board or online ([US Sailing Hearing Request Form](#)).
- 16.3 Notices shall be posted no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings shall be held in the protest room, the location of which shall be posted on the official notice board, beginning at the time posted on the official notice board.
- 16.4 Notices of Race Committee or Protest Committee protests shall be posted to inform boats under RRS 61.1(b).

17 SCORING

- 17.1 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 17.2 In accordance with RRS A2, each boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores, with a single score excluded after six (6) races have been completed

18 SAFETY REGULATIONS [NP][DP]

- 18.1 Upon arriving in the starting area, boats are requested to check-in with the race committee by sailing past the stern of the RC Signal Boat on starboard tack and hailing their sail number.
- 18.2 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the race committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

19 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [NP][DP]

Substitution of damaged or lost equipment shall not be allowed unless authorized by the Race Committee. Requests for substitution of equipment shall be made to the Race Committee at the first reasonable opportunity.

20 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS [NP][DP]

A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules and sailing instructions. On the water, a boat may be instructed by a Technical Committee equipment inspector to proceed immediately to a designated area for inspection.

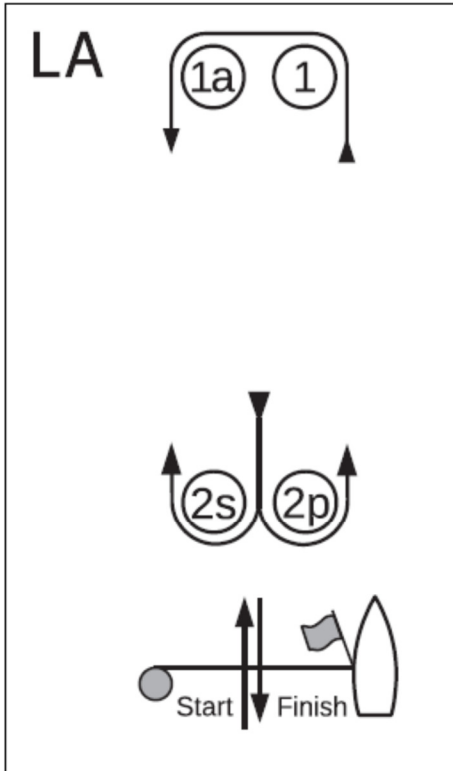
21 AWARDS

- 21.1 Awards shall be presented at the Awards Ceremony after the conclusion of racing on the last day of the event. The number of awards shall be based on pre-registrations.
- 21.2 The top-placing competitor shall be declared the "2021 Melges 24 US National Champion."

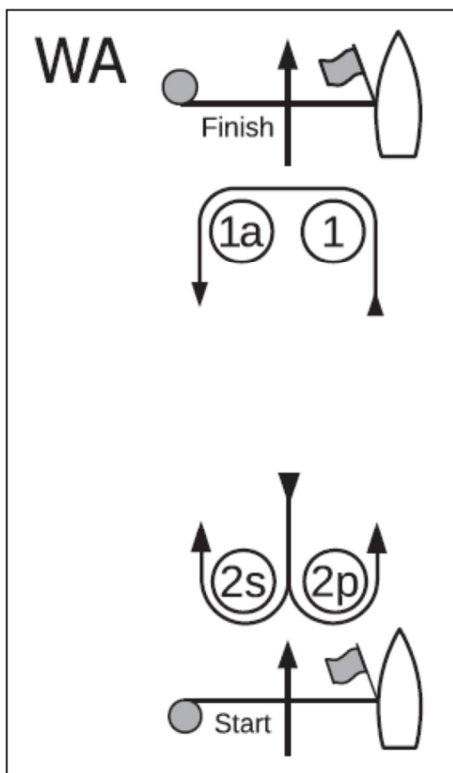
22 RISK STATEMENT

RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue to race is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury. **Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

**ADDENDUM A
ILLUSTRATING THE COURSE
(NOT TO SCALE)**



Course LA – Windward/Leeward with Offset Mark, Leeward Finish	
<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
LA2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish
LA4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – Finish



Course WA – Windward/Leeward with Offset Mark, Windward Finish	
<i>Signal</i>	<i>Mark Rounding Order</i>
WA2	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – Finish
WA3	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – Finish
WA4	Start – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – 1 – 1a – 2s/2p – Finish