

2024 MELGES 15 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

August 22nd – August 25th
Organizing Authority (OA):
Grand Traverse Yacht Club (GTYC),
in conjunction with the Melges 15 Class



NOTICE OF RACE

*The notation '[NP]' in this document means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule.
This changes RRS 60.1(a).*

1. RULES

- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined by the *Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 US Sailing Prescriptions to 63.1 and 63.2 will not apply, relating to a required posting for any boat in the fleet that may desire to participate in a request for redress hearing.
- 1.3 US Sailing Prescriptions 81 will not apply, relating to not permitting indemnification or hold harmless agreement language in the NoR or SI docs.
- 1.4 The Vakaros RaceSense system will be utilized by the race committee. This changes RRS 41(c). Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 configured for RaceSense at check in, and shall be mounted on the aft side of the mast at all times while racing. Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2 at check-in for configuration with RaceSense, or an Atlas 2 will be provided, by Vakaros, to any boat that does not have one available.
- 1.5 RaceSense information is available to all boats.
- 1.6 Failure of an Atlas 2 or the RaceSense system shall not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 63.1, 60.1(b), 60.2(b) and 60.3(b).
- 1.7 If there is a conflict between the sailing instructions and notice of race, the sailing instructions will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.

2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 2.1. The regatta is open to boats meeting the requirements of the M15 Class rules.
- 2.2 Registration is limited to the first 75 paid and eligible entrants.
- 2.2. All Boat Owners must be members of the Melges 15 Class Association.
- 2.3. The registration will be open on March 15th, 2024 @ Noon, Eastern
- 2.4. You may register by going to the following URL: <https://yachtscoring.com>
- 2.5. No registration will be considered complete until all fees, required forms, and signatures are received.

3. FEES

- 3.1. The entry fee per boat is \$300 if received on or before August 1st at 11:59 hrs (11:59am) EDT.
- 3.2. The entry fee includes admission to all social events and dinners for skipper and one crew member.
- 3.3. Additional tickets may be purchased for the event Party and dinner held on Saturday for \$40.00 each.
- 3.4. A late fee of \$25.00 will go into effect on Monday, August 1st at 1200hrs (12:00 PM) EDT.
- 3.5. Entry fees are non-refundable on, or after Monday, August 10 at 2100 hrs (9:00 PM) EDT.
- 3.6. All refunds are subject to a reasonable administrative fee that covers the OA's non-refundable credit card and electronic waiver fees.

4. COMMUNICATION

4.1 The race office will be in the meeting room of the GTYC clubhouse.

4.2 The official notice board will be online at the event page at yachtscoring.com. As a courtesy, unofficial physical notice boards will be maintained at GTYC opposite the heads

4.3 [DP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channels 9, 16, 69, & 72

4.3 Following the display of the Individual Recall Flag, the RC will attempt to announce by VHF radio the sail numbers of all boats identified as OCS. Such an announcement is a courtesy and failure of the RC to make the announcement or of competitors to hear or understand shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

4.5 [DP] While racing, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communication that is not available to all boats.

4.6 Signals ashore shall be made at the signals mast at the GTYC clubhouse.

4.7 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 30 minutes' in the race signal AP. This changes RRS Race Signals.

5. SCHEDULE

5.1. Competitors may arrive at the venue starting at 1200 hrs (12:00 PM) on Wednesday, September 28th

5.2. **DAILY SCHEDULE**

Thursday, August 22nd

10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Check-in
1600 hrs (4:00 PM)	Practice Race
1800 hrs (6:00 PM)	Class Meeting

Friday, August 23rd

1030 hrs (10:30 AM)	Competitors' Meeting
1300 hrs (1:00 PM)	First Warning, 3 Races are scheduled
1800 hrs (6:00 PM)	Regular club bar & dinner service available

Saturday, August 24th

1300 hrs (1:00 PM)	First Warning
1800 hrs (6:00 PM)	Party and dinner at Yacht Club

Sunday, August 25th

1100 hrs (11:00 AM)	First Warning
1400 hrs (2:00 PM)	No warning after this time
TBD	Awards Immediately after racing

5.3. A maximum of 8 races are scheduled, with a maximum of 3 per day

6. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

6.1 The Sailing instructions (SIs) will be available on the yachtscoring.com event website and posted on the Official Notice Board by 1600 hrs (4:00 pm) Thursday, August 22nd, 2024.

7. VENUE

7.1 The intended racing area will be within 1.25 nm of the R2 buoy on West Grand Traverse Bay

7.2 The regatta venue is the Grand Traverse Yacht Club clubhouse.

7.3 Competitors will be assigned shore storage & launching sites at one of three locations: the GTYC clubhouse, Viridian South Beach, & Viridian North Beach

8. COURSES

8.1 Courses will be Windward/Leeward and will not be shortened.

9. SCORING

9.1. The Low-Point Scoring System, RRS Appendix A will be used.

9.2. A Minimum of three races must be completed to constitute a regatta.

9.3. When fewer than 6 are completed, a boats series score will be the total of her races.

9.4. When 6 or more races are sailed a boat's series score will exclude her worse race score.

10. PRIZES

10.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top three (3) boats; Top Youth (U21); Top Female; Top Master (age 50 to 59 years); Top Grand Master (ages 60 to 69), Top Mega Master (age 70 and above); Top Husband and Wife. Award age requirements are determined on the day of the first race of the Event. Age categories are determined by the skipper.

11. BOW NUMBERS

11.1 Boats shall carry identification bow numbers, corresponding to sail number. Bow numbers must be applied to the forward section of the hull on each side of the boat following the application instructions included with the numbers. Application to the class for approval must be made in cases of variation between bow numbers and sail numbers, and the registrar must be notified of any change. Bow numbers can be purchased here:

<https://shop.melges.com/collecons/melges-15/products/melges-15-bow-number>

12. RISK STATEMENT

12.1 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.

13. INSURANCE

13.1 Each participation boat shall carry insurance including third party liability insurance.

15. LAUNCHING

14.1 Boats will be beach or ramp launched via dollies. *Hoist launching is not available.*

15. MEDIA RIGHTS

15.1 Competitors give absolute right and permission for video footage and photographs of themselves or their boat to be published in any media for press, editorial, or advertising purposes.

16. INFORMATION

14.1 For more information contact:

Fern Spence, Regatta Chairman, nationals@gtyc.org

Jordan Owen, GTYC Race Coordinator, 231.946.9779, manager@gtyc.org

17. LOCATIONS

Grand Traverse Yacht Club
13653 S. West Bay Shore Drive, Traverse City, MI 49684
231.946.9779, info@gtyc.org