



Sailing Instructions

2009 MELGES 32 East Coast Championships

May 15, 16 and 17, 2009

Organizing Authority
The American Yacht Club

Hosted by
The American Yacht Club

1.0 RULES

- 1.1. This regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing* and the International Melges 32 Class Rules, except as these are altered by the Notice of Race or Sailing Instructions.
- 1.2. All boats must carry minimum equipment as required by the US Coast Guard and the Melges 32 Class Rules.
- 1.3. The Racing Rules of Sailing will be changed as follows:
Sailing Instruction 5.2 changes "AP" in Race Signals

2.0 ADVERTISING

- 2.1. International Melges 32 Class Rule C.8. ADVERTISING shall apply.

3.0 NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 3.1. Notices to competitors will be posted on the official Race Committee Notice Board located on the front porch of the American Yacht Club main clubhouse and will be broadcast on VHF channel 69 at 0900 each day.

4.0 CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1. Any change to the Sailing Instructions will be posted on the official Race Committee Notice Board located on the front porch of the American Yacht Club main clubhouse and on the AYC website at www.americanyc.org before 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

5.0 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 5.1. Signals made ashore will be displayed on the main flagpole at American Yacht Club and announced on VHF channel 69.
- 5.2. If races are postponed from ashore, the first warning signal will be made not less than 90 minutes after AP is lowered. This changes "AP" in Race Signals.
- 5.3. If racing for the day is abandoned from ashore, signal flags N over A will be displayed with three sound signals and announced on VHF channel 69.

6.0 MEASUREMENT

- 6.1. Crew weigh-ins will be conducted. Instructions will be provided at the time of registration.

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7.0 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

7.1. Thursday, May 14

1000-1700

Registration, measurement and weigh-in

1800-1900

Competitor's meeting

Friday, May 15

0700-0800

Up to four races may be sailed

1030

Crew weigh-in by appointment only

Warning for first race, followed by subsequent races

Saturday, May 16

1030

Junior sailing day (see Sailing Instruction 19.0)

1830

Warning for first race, followed by subsequent races

Dinner at American Yacht Club

Sunday, May 17

1030

Two races are scheduled

Warning for first race, followed by subsequent races

No warning signal will be given after 1330

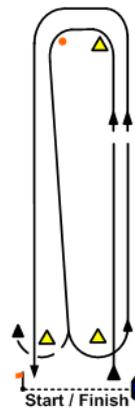
8.0 COURSES

8.1. Courses will be windward/leeward with an offset mark at the windward mark.

8.2. The Race Committee may set a gate as the leeward mark. If the leeward mark is a gate, boats shall pass through the gate from the direction of the previous mark before proceeding onto the next leg of the course. The leeward mark or gate is not a mark of the course for a final downwind leg.



Sample Odd-Leg Course



Sample Even-Leg Course

8.3. Sample course board and configurations (labels will not be displayed):

Bearing	Range	Legs	
2	1	4	
3	.5		
0			

Fore

Aft

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9.0 RACING AREA

- 9.1. The racing area will be east of buoy R42 off Milton Point, Rye, NY, as shown in chart on www.yachtscoring.com under General Race Forms

10.0 MARKS

- 10.1. Marks, except the offset mark, will be yellow tetrahedrons.
- 10.2. The offset mark will be an orange ball.
- 10.3. A new mark replacing an original mark will be an orange tetrahedron. In a subsequent change of course, the orange tetrahedron will be replaced with an original yellow tetrahedron. Further course changes will follow this pattern.

11.0 THE START

- 11.1. The starting line will be between an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and an inflatable orange tetrahedron.
- 11.2. The Race Committee signal boat may have one or more inflatable buoys secured to it which shall be considered to be part of the signal boat for the purpose of rule 31.
- 11.3. A boat that starts later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS.

12.0 RECALLS

- 12.1. The Race Committee will attempt to identify recalled boats and to broadcast their sail numbers on VHF channel 69. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such hail, shall not be cause for redress.

13.0 THE FINISH

- 13.1. The finishing line for all courses will be between an orange flag on an official boat displaying a blue flag or shape and the finish mark.
- 13.2. For courses with an odd number of legs, the finishing line will be located approximately 100 yards to windward of the windward mark on the same bearing as the last leg.
- 13.3. For courses with an even number of legs, the finishing line will be located approximately 100 yards to leeward of the leeward mark or gate on the same bearing as the last leg.
- 13.4. Boats approaching a windward finishing line to finish may ignore the windward mark. Boats approaching a downwind finishing line to finish may ignore the leeward mark or gate.

14.0 TIME LIMIT

- 14.1. The time limit for the first finisher will be 2 hours from the starting time. Boats failing to finish within 2 1/2 hours of their start will be scored Time Limit Expired (TLE) and scored as described in Sailing Instruction 18.3. This changes rules 35 and A4.

15.0 SAFETY REGULATIONS

- 15.1. Boats shall check-in prior to the first race each day by passing astern of the signal boat on starboard tack.
- 15.2. Any boat withdrawing before the start or retiring from a race for any reason shall notify the Race Committee at the earliest possible opportunity on VHF channel 69 or by telephone to American Yacht Club (914-967-4800).

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16.0 PROTESTS

- 16.1. Written protests shall be delivered to the Protest Committee desk in the American Yacht Club Clubhouse within one hour of the time that the Race Committee signal boat docks. This time limit will be posted on the official Race Committee Notice Board. A list of protests filed with the Protest Committee will be posted on the official Race Committee Notice Board.
- 16.2. Protest hearings will be held at American Yacht Club as soon as possible after each day of racing. A protest against a boat whose representative has not announced his intention to appear at the hearing by reporting to the Protest Committee desk in person or by telephone (914-967-4800) within one hour of the expiration of the time limit for filing protests (i.e. two hours after the Race Committee signal boat docks) shall be heard without representation from the protested boat as provided in rule 63.3(b).
- 16.3. It is the responsibility of the parties to ensure that their witnesses are available when called to testify. If witnesses are not in the vicinity of the protest room when called, they may not be heard.

17.0 ARBITRATION

- 17.1. For protests involving an alleged breach of the rules of Part 2 of the RRS, a short arbitration hearing will be held prior to the protest hearing. This changes Part 5, Section B of the RRS.
- 17.2. After a written protest form is filed, one representative from each boat will meet with the arbitrator. No witnesses will be allowed. Unresolved arbitration will be referred to the Protest Committee.
- 17.3. A boat that accepts fault at the arbitration hearing shall receive a penalty score equal to her finish position plus 40% of the number of boats entered (rounding 0.5 upward), except that she shall not be scored worse than DNF.
- 17.4. Decisions made during arbitration cannot be grounds for redress and cannot be appealed.
- 17.5. The arbitrator will not be a member of the Jury that hears the protest, but may be permitted to observe the testimony given to the Jury and offer testimony. This changes rule 63.3(a).

18.0 SCORING

- 18.1. Three completed races will constitute a regatta.
- 18.2. When fewer than five races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When five or more races are completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.
- 18.3. A boat that fails to finish within the time limit shall, without a hearing, be scored by the Race Committee with points equal to the number of boats that have sailed the course and finished within the time limit plus two points. This changes rules A4.1, A4.2 and A5.

19.0 JUNIOR SAILING

- 19.1. Experienced local junior sailors may be randomly assigned to each yacht for racing on Saturday. These individuals will not be included for calculation of class weight restrictions.
- 19.2. A representative from each boat should meet their junior sailor at the main dock and escort him/her back to the boat.
- 19.3. Junior sailors must wear their personal flotation device at all times while on the boat, except briefly while changing or adjusting clothing or personal equipment.

20.0 SUPPORT BOATS

- 20.1. Restrictions on Support Boats shall apply as described in International Melges 32 Class Rule C.11.1. OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE.

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21.0 ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION

- 21.1. Each boat shall carry a radio capable of transmitting and receiving VHF channel 69. Except in an emergency or to report a protest or withdrawal, 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 and data communication.

22.0 LAUNCHING AND HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 22.1. *Note that low tide is at 0930 on Friday May 17th. Boats should launch the previous evening in order to ensure making the first start.*
- 22.2. Boats will not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.
- 22.3. No boat will be launched or hauled except under supervision of an American Yacht Club staff member or authorized member.

23.0 PRIZES

- 23.1. Series prizes will be awarded to boats placing first through third.
- 23.2. Prizes will be awarded at American Yacht Club after the final race and protests.

24.0 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 24.1. Competitors participate in the regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.

25.0 OTHER DOCUMENTS

- 25.1. Forms and documents related to this event are located on www.yachtscoring.com.

**American Yacht Club cordially extends the privileges of the Clubhouse
and harbor facilities to participants before and after the races.**

Robin Wallace	Principal Race Officer
Sandison E. Weil	Protest Committee Chairman
Glenn A. Morrison	Race Committee Chairman