



2020 U.S. MELGES 24 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
Oxford, Maryland U.S.A // October 15–18

NOTICE OF RACE

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Tred Avon Yacht Club (TAYC) in conjunction with the United States Melges 24 Class Association (USM24CA).

The notation "[DP]" in a rule in the NOR means that the penalty for a breach of that rule may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.

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 (IM24CA).
- 1.2 The following rules will be changed in accordance with RRS 86.1(b):
 - 1.2.1 All competitors shall wear personal flotation devices while racing, except for brief periods while changing or adjusting clothing. Wet suits and dry suits are not personal flotation devices. Code flag "Y" will not be displayed. This changes RRS 40.
 - 1.2.2 The Race Committee (RC) 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 RRS 62.1. The Sailing Instructions (SIs) will provide more detail on this procedure.
- 1.3 The SIs may change additional racing rules.

2. ADVERTISING

- 2.1 Advertising will conform to World Sailing Regulation 20 and the Class Rules.
- 2.2 Boats may be required to display sponsors' advertising for the duration of the event chosen and supplied by the OA.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 3.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the Melges 24 class that meet the obligations of the Class Rules and, when relevant, their Member National Authority.
- 3.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration at: <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=12985> no later than Monday, October 5, 2020. Entries may be accepted after this date only with approval by the OA on a case by case basis.
- 3.3 Only boats that have completed all registration requirements will be allowed to compete. Note – completed entry includes payment of entry fee.
- 3.4 The OA will acknowledge completed entries upon receipt via email and post on the official event website at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=12985>.
- 3.5 As a condition of entry, all boats shall be moored in the Tred Avon YC from October 15, 2020 through to the completion of the event.

4. CLASSIFICATION

- 4.1 The World Sailing Sailor Classification Code (Regulation 22) will apply to teams competing for the Corinthian Trophy (see RRS 79).
- 4.2 For boats that qualify for the Corinthian division, sailors shall complete and submit a Corinthian Declaration Form online that includes sailor classifications, World Sailing sailor ID numbers and date of expiration to USM24CA administration no later than Monday, October 5, 2020. The Corinthian Declaration Form will be online at: www.usmelges24.com .
- 4.3 Entries accepted after Monday, October 5, 2020 shall not be eligible for the Corinthian Trophy and will sail in the open division.
- 4.4 Full details for the Corinthian Trophy can be found in the IM24CA Championship rules.
- 4.5 Protests regarding World Sailing classification may be submitted starting Thursday, October 8, 2020 and must be submitted by close of registration. Such protests will be handled by the USM24CA office, whose decision is final.
- 4.6 Should a boat whose Corinthian entry has been checked and accepted need to change a crew member between the closing date of entries and the start of the regatta, the name of the new crew member with their valid World Sailing sailor ID and group number shall be submitted to the OA for approval by the IM24CA Championship Coordinator.

5. FEES

- 5.1 The entry fee of \$450.00 USD includes boat and trailer parking, launching, hauling and invitations to social events for skipper and one crew.
- 5.2 After September 1, 2020 the entry fee shall be \$550.00 USD. This will apply to all boats registering after September 1, 2020 or for all boats who have registered but not paid their entry fee by September 1, 2020.

6. SCHEDULE

The schedule of events and racing is as follows:

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Wednesday	October 14	Check-In / Weigh-In	1600 - 1900
Thursday	October 15	Practice Race	1300
		Check-In / Weigh-In	1600 - 1800
		Opening Ceremony	1800
Friday	October 16	First Warning Signal	1100
Saturday	October 17	First Warning Signal	1100
Sunday	October 18	First Warning Signal	1100
		Awards Following Racing	TBA

- 6.1 The Race Committee will plan to run up to three races each day, however, four races per day may be run to anticipate future weather disruptions or to make up for races not sailed during previous days. At no time will the total number of races be more than one race more than the schedule of three races per day.
- 6.2 The OA reserves the right to modify the schedule due to weather conditions or other causes.

7. MEASUREMENT

- 7.1 Each boat shall produce a valid measurement certificate before the close of registration, October 15, 2020.
- 7.2 The Technical Committee may weigh, measure or inspect any boat and or her equipment and sails before, during, or after the races.
- 7.3 Registration of sails and limitation stamping will take place during periods stated in NOR 6 above. **There will be no facilities for initial measurement.** Sails shall be measured and stamped by an approved measurer before arrival at the Regatta.
- 7.4 A boat chartered or loaned for this event may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of the Class Rules.
- 7.5 During the regatta, checks on conformity with Class Rules, including measurement requirements may be performed at any time.

8. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The SI will be available at Tred Avon Yacht Club and online by October 12, 2020.

9. VENUE

Racing will be conducted on the Choptank River, approximately 2-3 nautical miles southwest of the Tred Avon Yacht Club, depending on the wind conditions.

10. COURSES

Courses will be windward-leeward. Offset marks and leeward gates will be used.

11. MEASUREMENT

- 11.1 **The first two sentences of RRS 44.1** are changed to read: “A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or RRS 31 or Class Rule C.11 while 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.”
- 11.2 Unless the course is shortened to finish at the windward 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 RRS 44.2.

12. SCORING

- 12.1 Three (3) races completed constitute a National Championship.
- 12.2 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 12.3 When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat’s series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst discardable score.

13. BERTHING

Boats shall be at the Tred Avon Yacht Club in their assigned berthing location commencing at 1800 hours on October 15, 2020, until the conclusion of racing.

14. HALL OUT

The OA may impose haul-out directions.

15. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between 1800 hours on October 15, 2020, until the conclusion of racing.

16. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 16.1 Except in an emergency, a boat that is racing shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that is not available to all boats [DP].
- 16.2 Race information will be given on the designated VHF Channel, which will be described in the SI.

17. EVENT EQUIPMENT ON RACE BOATS

The OA may require competitors to carry GPS tracking devices and / or cameras aboard while racing.

18. TEAM AND PRIVATE SUPPORT BOATS

A boat shall receive no outside assistance from support boats or otherwise once she has left the dock for the day until the finish of the last race of the day, except in case of emergency and / or towing supplied by the OA and available to all participants.

19. PRIZES

- 19.1 Prizes will be given to the top five (5) teams overall and the top three (3) Corinthian teams.
- 19.2 The USMCA or the OA may award additional prizes.

20. DISCLAIMER

The OA will require each competitor to sign a waiver of loss, damage or injury to persons or property occurring in conjunction with the regatta or on the property of the Tred Avon Yacht Club. The OA, their members, employees, officers and / or agents shall not be responsible for any loss, damage, or injury that may occur to person or property, whether ashore or afloat, as a consequence of the participation of any boat.

21. INSURANCE

- 21.1 Boats sailing in this regatta (“person in charge” (see RRS 46)) must be adequately insured and hold a valid insurance certificate showing proof of third-party liability for racing risks, with a minimum coverage of \$300,000.00 USD per event or equivalent.
- 21.2 The OA is not responsible for verifying the status or validity of insurance certificates.

22. RIGHTS TO USE NAME AND LIKENESS

By participating in this regatta, competitors automatically grant to the OA and any event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recordings, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.

23. COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS

- 23.1 Coach and support boats shall register with the race office during registration. They shall declare which boat or boats they are attached to.
- 23.2 Coach and support boats shall display a flag, or other identification symbol, as may be required by the race committee.
- 23.3 No coach boat or support boat shall pass information in any way to a boat that is racing. See Rule 41. Infringements of this will be taken very seriously.
- 23.4 All Melges 24 boats shall proceed to the racing area under their own power.
- 23.5 There shall be no transfer of any goods or equipment between Melges 24s and their coach or support boats until after the finish of the last race of the day.
- 23.6 Coach and support boats shall keep 100 meters from the course diamond (including laylines) from the time the racers leave the dock until completion of the final race.

- 23.7 Any coach or support boat that interferes with another competitor or the racing in any way, including creating excess wash, or hinders an official boat carrying out its duties shall have the competitor(s) to which they are attached, liable to a penalty at the discretion of the Protest Committee.
- 23.8 Any competitor may protest under this attachment.
- 23.9 Any penalty given by the Protest Committee is at their discretion but shall be applied to the overall score and therefore not discarded.
- 23.10 Coach and support boats shall not communicate with competitors (by any means) from the time the racers leave the dock until completion of the final race.

24. PRESS AND SPECTATOR BOATS

- 24.1 All press and official spectator boats shall be registered by the race organizing authority during registration.
- 24.2 Press and spectator boats shall display any flag, or other identification symbol as may be required by the race committee.
- 24.3 The race organizers may appoint one or more photo boats, which will be allowed within the race course. The position of these boats shall not be grounds for redress.
- 24.4 Press and spectator boats shall not interfere with the racing in any way.

25. CHANGES TO THE NOTICE OF RACE

The OA may change the Notice of Race (see RRS 89.2(b)) and will post any changes on the event scoring website: <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=12985>

26. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Official Event Website:

<https://usmelges24.com/2020-nationals>

Regatta Co-Chair

R. J. Cooper

rjcooper@ilexconstruction.com

Regatta Co-Chair

Chris Kalinski

c.kalinski911@gmail.com

USM24CA Northeast District Governor

Peter Bergendahl

pebergendahl@mac.com

U.S. Melges 24 Class Admin

Joy Dunigan

communications@usmelges24.com

(912) 398-5776