



# 2015 National Championship

## Macatawa Bay Yacht Club

### Macatawa, MI

#### May 29-31, 2015

The organizing authority for this regatta is the Melges 17 Sailing Association in conjunction with the Macatawa Bay Yacht Club.

## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **RULES** – The regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2013-2016, prescriptions of the US Sailing Association, and the Melges – 17 Class Association except as modified in the Notice of Race, and these Sailing Instructions (SI).
  - 1.1 Instructions 5.2 change Race Signals – AP Flag.
  - 1.2 Instructions 13.2 change RRS 62.1(a)
  - 1.3 RRS 44.1 is changed so the the “One-Turn Penalty” replaces the “Two’Turn Penalty”
  - 1.4 Instruction 14.1 changes RRS 61.1a.
  - 1.5 Instruction 15.3 changes RRS A4.
  - 1.6 Instruction 20 changes RRS 63.7

**2. ENTRY** - Competitors declared eligible by the Melges 17 Class may enter boats by completing the registration form with the organizing authority.

**3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS** – Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located on the wall adjacent to the MBYC Dockmaster’s Office. The Protest Notice Board will be a part of the Official Notice Board.

**4. CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS** – After Fridays racing, any change to the Sailing Instructions (SI) will be posted before 9:00 AM on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 8:00 PM on the day before it will take effect.

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

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed upon the flagpole located on the north side of the MBYC clubhouse or on the Race Committee (“RC”) boat if tied to the dock or seawall.
- 5.2 When Code Flag "AP" is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 60 minutes in the race signal AP.

### **6. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

#### **Friday May 29**

- 11:30 AM - Competitors Meeting outside the MBJA Junior Sailing Center.
- 1:30 PM – Warning signal first race. Up to (3) races planned.

#### **Saturday May 30**

- 10:00 AM - Warning signal first race. Up to (4) races planned.

#### **Sunday May 31**

- 10:00 AM - First race Warning Signal.
- No race Warning Signal will be made after 12:30 PM.

**7. CLASS FLAG and RACE WARNING FLAG** – letter/number Melges 17 on a white field.

**8. RACING AREA** - The racing area will be the West end of Lake Macatawa or the Lake Michigan weather and safety conditions permitting.

#### **9. COURSE.**

**9.1** Courses will be Windward/Leeward. Course diagrams and descriptions appear in Appendix A of these sailing instructions.

**9.1a** The race committee, at its discretion and without displaying a special signal, may choose to eliminate the use of the windward offset mark shown in the diagrams.

**9.2** No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat will display the approximate compass bearing of the first leg. Course signals, including the number of laps, will be displayed on the white board facing aft on the signal boat cabin top.

**9.3** If one of the gate marks is missing, the remaining mark should be rounded to port, and the missing mark is no longer a mark of the course.

#### **10.0 MARKS –**

**10.1** The marks of the course will be as orange tetrahedrons.

**10.2** The windward offset mark will be a smaller orange 1 ft. tetrahedron.

**10.3** Change marks will be yellow tetrahedrons. Subsequent change shall be marks will be replaced by the original mark.

#### **11. THE START –**

**11.1** Races will be started using RRS 26 .

**11.2** The Starting Line will be between the orange flag on the RC Signal Boat on the starboard end and the staff displaying the orange flag on the race committee boat at the port end.

**11.3** The RC will attempt to notify all competitors who are on the course side, **OCS**, of the Starting Line at the start of a race by the hail and by VHF channel 72 of the sail number after displaying Code Flag X. The order of the sail numbers hailed and whether or not the hail is made, or heard by the competitor, will not be grounds for Redress.

**12. THE FINISH –** The Finish Line will be between the orange flag on the RC Boat and the adjacent white mark. Code Flag A when flown will indicate no more racing for the day.

#### **13. TIME LIMIT –**

**13.1** The racing shall be limited to 90 minutes for the first boat to finish.

**13.2** If the last boat/s to finish in a race is/are unduly delaying the start of another race, and/or such action by is determined by the RC to be in the best interest of the regatta, the RC will terminate the race and score those boats in the place they would have finished, based on the judgment by the RC, at the time the race is terminated. If the RC is unable to clearly judge the relative position of 2 or more boats, 2 or more boats will all be given the same better score. The scoring of a boat by the RC under SI paragraph 13.2 will not be grounds for Redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

#### **14. PROTESTS -**

**14.1** Competitors intending to protest about an incident that occurred in the racing area shall notify the RC Finish Boat, after finishing and while still in the immediate area of the RC Finish Boat, of their intent to protest including the sail number of the boat(s) being protested. This adds to rule 61.1(a). Protests shall be written and lodged with the Protest Committee's representative at the RC Boat within the Protest Period that will begin when the RC Boat docks and ends 45 minutes later.

**14.2** Protest notices will be posted on the Official Bulletin Board within 45 minutes after the Protest Time ends to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. The time limitations of RRS 62 (Redress) and 66 (Reopening) are changed so that the time limit for both is the Protest Time Limit of 45 minutes. RRS 67 will be in effect as it applies to RRS 42.

**15. SCORING –** Scoring shall be in accordance with the Low Point System of RRS Appendix A

**15.1** One(1) race is required to be completed to constitute a regatta.

**15.2** A boat's score will be the total of her race scores. When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

**15.3** A boat that does not finish (DNF) a race or retires after finishing (RAF) shall be scored one more point than the last boat to finish in that race. This changes RRS App A4.2

**16. FLOTATION:** - While the wearing of a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) is not required, the Organizing Authority and the Race Committee strongly recommend that each competitor wear a PFD at all times while on the water.

#### **17. SAFETY REGULATIONS**

**17.1** Competitors will sail past the stern of the RC Signal boat and hail her sail number until acknowledged by the RC.

**17.2** A boat that retires from a race shall attempt to notify the RC or a support boat.

**18. PRIZES** – Prizes will be awarded to the skippers and crews placing first through fifth in the regatta. Additional prizes will be presented to the top placing Junior (18 or younger).

**19. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY-** Sailing is an activity that has an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors in this event are participating entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, sponsors, or any other 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 participation in this event. 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.

**20. PRECEDENCE** – In the event of a conflict between these Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race, these Sailing Instructions shall have precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.