



MUSKEGON YACHT CLUB

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Muskegon Yacht Club Race Season

May through October, 2023

Muskegon Yacht Club

Muskegon, Michigan

NOTICE OF RACE

The notation '[NP]' in a rule of the sailing instructions (SIs) means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that rule. This changes RRS 60.1(a).

1 RULES

- 1.1 The race season will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.
- 1.2 The Class Rules of the Melges 24 class, will apply, except as any of these are changed by the sailing instructions.

2 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 2.1 Sailing instructions will be available prior to the first scheduled race. These will be available from MYC Race Committee and online at, www.Yachtscoring.com as well as on the MYC website www.muskegonyachtclub.org

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located at www.yachtscoring.com.
- 3.2 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on Channel 73
- 3.3 The Race Committee will communicate with the competitors using VHF channel 73. The information is provided as a courtesy. Any errors or omissions of these broadcasts or failure to hear them shall not constitute grounds for granting redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 3.4 A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to cell phones. Courtesy broadcasts from the Race Committee will be on Channel 73. RC will also make courtesy broadcast of weather updates and RC intentions prior to the first warning. RC will accept general questions prior to the First Warning (only). This information is provided as a courtesy. Any errors or omissions of these broadcasts or failure to hear them shall not constitute grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 Yacht Ownership and Eligibility - Yachts not owned and skippered by a MYC member may be invited to participate in individual races or regattas. Such visiting yachts are eligible to win trophies or flags for an

individual race or regatta, but not for a series of races unless they have paid the seasonal fee.

- 4.2 Applications and race documents can be found on yachtscoring.com. Each owner/skipper sailing in the Tuesday Night Series, Wednesday Night Series, and Blacklock Cup will be required to submit Proof of Liability Insurance of at least \$300,000. Payment can be made online through PayPal, club charge, or a check can be mailed to MYC.
- 4.3 Each yacht sailing in the Wednesday Night Series or Blacklock Cup must have a current MWPHRF Certificate. Each skipper will provide a copy of the MWPHRF Certificate when submitting the Yacht Identification Form, Proof of Insurance and payment. In the event a skipper is unable to obtain a rating through no fault of their own, they may be allowed to race with an assigned rating upon the approval of the MYC Race and Regatta Committee. The assigned handicap will carry a 6 second per mile penalty until such time as a valid certificate is obtained.
- 4.4 Melges 24 yachts sailing in the Tuesday or Wednesday Night Series must follow all Class Rules of the Melges 24 class, except as any of these are changed by the sailing instructions. Tuesday Night races will be racing boat on boat with no time allowances.
- 4.5 A Skipper/Owner of a competing yacht may not change yachts at any time during a series, unless the change is due to damage rendering the competing yacht unsafe to continue to compete. If such damage occurs, the Owner, or in the event of a charter, the Skipper, may petition the Race and Regatta Committee to both approve the change to allow the new yacht to assume the previous scores of the damaged yacht. The Race and Regatta Committee shall have the sole authority over such a decision. If an Owner acquires a different yacht, mid-series, he or she shall be required to register that yacht as a newly competing yacht and it shall not share or assume any of the accumulated scores of the previously registered yacht.

5 FEES

- 5.1 The full Wednesday Night MYC Season is from May 2023 through October 2023 and includes three (3) weekend events: MYC Commodore' Cup, MYC Nedeau Cup, and MYC Governor's Cup. Season Race Fees are \$275.00 for MYC members and \$550 for nonmembers.
- 5.2 The full Tuesday Night Melges Season from May 2023 through October 2023 includes Tuesday Night races, Wednesday Night races, and three (3) weekend events: MYC Commodore' Cup, MYC Nedeau Cup, and MYC Governor's Cup. Fees are \$375.00 for MYC members and \$550 for nonmembers.
- 5.3 Those not paying a Season Race Fee may pay an Individual Race Day Fee of \$55 per race. "Racing" is defined as being in the starting area after the first warning has been sounded. Any vessels meeting this definition of "Racing" who have not paid the Season Fee will have \$55 charged to their MYC Member account under the approval of MYC's RC.
- 5.5 Those not paying the Tuesday or Wednesday Night Season Race Fees may pay a weekend regatta Individual Race Day Fee of \$110.00 for a two-day weekend regatta or \$55 if one day weekend regatta. This applies only to those three (3) regattas noted in the first paragraph above. All other regatta's fee will be required as shown in that specific regatta's NOR.
- 5.6 Those weekend regattas NOT included in the Full Tuesday or Wednesday Night Season Race Fees are: GRSC/MYC Commodore's Invitational, Harbor Hospice and Clipper Cup. For these and all other regatta's, see their NOR for entry fees.

6 SCHEDULE

- 6.1 The schedule will be created by the Race Committee and posted online at, www.Yachtscoring.com as well as on the MYC website www.muskegonyachtclub.org

7 VENUE

- 7.1 Courses will be set in Muskegon Lake unless indicated in the race schedule. A series with their own race instructions may use Lake Michigan if indicated in the sailing instructions. The Race Committee boat will plan to leave the dock approximately 30 minutes prior to a Muskegon Lake start and approximately 60 minutes prior to a Lake Michigan start.
- 7.2 Government Marks are to be passed on the USCG correct side. The exception to this rule will be the Muskegon Lake green mark USCG #3, which may be passed on either side.

8 COURSES

- 8.1 Courses will be set in Muskegon Lake unless indicated in the race schedule. A series with their own race instructions may use Lake Michigan if indicated in the sailing instructions. The Race Committee boat will plan to leave the dock approximately 30 minutes prior to a Muskegon Lake start and approximately 60 minutes prior to a Lake Michigan start.
- 8.2 Lake Michigan Destination and Return Races - When there is no turning mark at the halfway point of a destination and return race, yachts shall turn to seaward, at a point 90 degrees from course, within 100 yards of a pier or the shore if the reference point is a landmark.

9 SCORING

- 9.1 Individual race scoring will be under MWPHRF handicap scoring except for the Tuesday Night Melges 24 Series which will be boat on boat.
- 9.2 Melges 24 Season Class Scoring will be based on all Tuesday night finishes of the season.
- 9.3 Wednesday Night Season Class Scoring will be based on individual "Low Point" scoring. The best low point finishes of the twenty (20) Wednesday night finishes of the total twenty-four (24) scheduled from May through October. This assumes a full race season with no races canceled. See below for throw-out calculations.
- 9.4 PHRF Season Overall scoring will be based on individual "High Point" overall scoring of the best high point finishes of the twenty (20) Wednesday night finishes of the total twenty-four (24) scheduled from May through October. This assumes a full race season with no races canceled.
- 9.5 Wednesday Night Sponsor Series Scoring: There will be four (4) separate Wednesday Night Sponsor Series. These races will be the first six (6) Wednesday nights followed by the following six (6), the next six (6) and the last six (6) Wednesday nights. Each Sponsor Series will be scored independent of the overall Wednesday Night Racing Series. If six (6) races are scored, each boat will receive one (1) throw-out. If less than six (6) races per series are scored, there shall be no throw-out. The class winners of each Sponsor Series will be boat(s) with the lowest amount of points after the allowable throw-out. *A Boat's throw-out for series may differ from the boat's throw for the season.
- 9.6 Blacklock Cup Trophy Scoring: The Blacklock Cup will be awarded for the Best Overall High Point score for the combined MYC Commodores Cup, MYC Nedeau Cup, GRSC/MYC Commodores Invitational, and MYC Governor's Cup. There will not be a throw-out available for the Blacklock Cup Scoring.
- 9.7 Spring & Fall Challenge Scoring: The Spring and Fall Challenge will continue to each be awarded as single events. In addition, they will count towards the Wednesday Night Racing Series and they will count towards the one (1) of two (2) of the Sponsor Series that they will fall in on the race schedule, unless either are abandoned.
- 9.8 Nedeau Cup: The Nedeau Cup will be awarded to the Overall Winner of the Nedeau Cup Regatta. It is the intent of MYC RC to set the course for this event on Lake Michigan.
- 9.9 Boat of the Year Scoring: The Boat of the Year Scoring will be determined by the MYC Race and Regatta Committee.
- 9.10 One (1) race sailed shall constitute the summer series.

- 9.11 Throw-Outs: All fleets will obtain one (1) throw-out race for every six (6) races scored.
- 9.12 There shall be two (2) separate Overall Season Trophy Winners. A PHRF Overall Season Trophy Winner, and a Melges 24 One Design Overall Season Trophy Winner.

10 PRIZES

- 10.1 Prizes will be awarded each Tuesday and Wednesday night for individual races. Series awards will be distributed at the awards dinner.

11 RISK STATEMENT

- 11.1 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.

12 INSURANCE

- 12.1 Each yacht shall provide proof of watercraft liability with coverage of at least \$300,000. This must be submitted with your Yacht Identification Form and payment.

13 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 13.1 Commercial Vessels: Racing yachts shall observe the Great Lakes Rules of the Road which require avoidance of commercial vessels underway.
- 13.2 Multiple Starts: In any multiple division single race, the starting order of the classes will be determined by the Race Committee and will be signaled by the appropriate class flag displayed during the start sequence.
- 13.3 Jib and Main rules: For the Jib and Main (non-spinnaker) races, no more than one headsail may be flown at one time. When yachts with head foil type fore stays change the jib during a race, they must do so as though the sail was hanked-on. That is, the first sail must be completely lowered before the second is raised. The same halyard must be used for both sails. Spinnaker/whisker poles may be no longer than the "J" measurement. Poles must be attached or held to the mast during use and may be carried only the side opposite the boom.
- 13.4 For further information contact MYC Race Committee at race.myc@muskegonyachtclub.org