

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS



US NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

JULY 12-14 • SANTA BARBARA YACHT CLUB

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Santa Barbara Yacht Club (SBYC) in conjunction with The US Melges 24 Class Association (USM24CA)



ESTABLISHED 1872

SANTA BARBARA

YACHT CLUB

1 RULES

- 1.1 The event is governed by the *rules* as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.
- 1.2 US Sailing Prescription to RRS 63.2 will not apply.
- 1.3 The notation **[NP]** in a *rule* means that a boat may not protest another boat for breaking that *rule*. This changes RRS 60.1(a).
- 1.4 The notation **[DP]** in a *rule* means that the penalty for a breach of a *rule* may, at the discretion of the protest committee, be less than disqualification.
- 1.5 The notation **[SP]** in a *rule* means that a penalty may be applied by the Race Committee (RC) without a hearing. This changes RRS 63.1, A4, and A5.
- 1.6 **[DP]** Melges 24 Coach and Support Boat Regulations will be in effect.
- 1.7 If there is a conflict between the notice of race and sailing instructions, the sailing instructions will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.7.

2 CHANGES TO THE SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions will be posted before 1130 on the day they will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

3 COMMUNICATION

- 3.1 The official notice board will be online at https://yachtscoring.com/notice_board_summary.cfm?eid=16373.
- 3.2 **[DP]** All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communication with the race committee on US VHF marine channels.
- 3.3 On the water, the race committee intends to monitor and communicate with competitors on VHF channel 71. The following communications may be made by the race committee:
 - Bearing and distance to a mark
 - Start Times
 - Count downs to warning, preparatory, and start signals
 - Shortened course
 - Change of course
 - Abandonment
 - On course side boats or general recalls
- 3.4 **[DP]** From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, a boat shall not:
 - 3.4.1 Make or receive voice or data transmissions not available to all boats, except in case of an emergency.
 - 3.4.2 have contact with a *support person*.
- 3.5 The race office is located at the Santa Barbara Yacht Club - 130 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109, on the southwest corner of the building.
Telephone – (805) 965-8112, ext 114. Email – racing@sbyc.org.
- 3.6 Any failure of a boat to receive or properly interpret the information or an action of the RC acting under Instruction 3.3 will not be grounds for request for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

4 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the SBYC flagpole.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 60 minutes' in race signal AP.
- 4.3 The RC intends to broadcast its intentions for the day at 1000 each morning on VHF 71.

5 SCHEDULE

- 5.1 The schedule is as follows:

DAY	DATE	TIME(s)	EVENT	LOCATION
Thursday	July 11, 2024	1100 – 1300	Check-in	SBYC Fleet Room
		1330	North Sails clinic briefing	SBYC Fleet Room
		1500	3 practice starts / 1 practice race	
		Post Racing	North Sails clinic debrief	SBYC Fleet Room
		1730 – 2000	Smash burgers hosted by Third Window Brewing & palapa bar open	SBYC Beach
		1900	Opening ceremony & competitor meeting	SBYC Beach
Friday	July 12, 2024	1000	No-host breakfast	SBYC Upstairs
		1000-1100	Check-in	SBYC Fleet Room
		1300	First warning signal	
		Post Racing	Hors d'oeuvres & drinks	SBYC Beach
Saturday	July 13, 2024	1000	No-host breakfast	SBYC Upstairs
		1300	First warning signal	
		Post Racing	Beach party and hosted dinner	SBYC Beach
Sunday	July 14, 2024	1000	No-host breakfast	SBYC Upstairs
		1300	First warning signal	
		1530	No warning signal after this time, except as a result of a General Recall	
		Post Racing	Hors d'oeuvres & awards	SBYC Upstairs

- 5.2 A total of ten (10) races are scheduled with no more than four (4) races to be sailed on any one day.
- 5.3 The OA reserves the right to modify the program due to weather conditions or other causes.

6 CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be the Melges 24 logo on a white background.

7 RACING AREA

The location of the racing area is the Santa Barbara Channel as shown in 'Attachment B – Racing Area'. The anticipated racing area will be announced each day on VHF channel 71.

8 COURSES

The diagrams in 'Attachment C – Course Chart' show the course, including the approximate angles between legs, the order in which marks are to be passed, and the side on which each mark is to be left.

9 MARKS

- 9.1 Turning marks will be inflatable shapes of colors consistent with those shown in 'Attachment C - Course Chart'.
- 9.2 The starting pin will be an orange inflatable tetrahedron.
- 9.3 Windward mark 'W' and offset 'O' will be orange inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 9.4 The leeward gate will consist of a pair of yellow inflatable tetrahedrons.
- 9.5 New marks as provided in instruction 12.1 and 12.2, will be:
 - a.) A green inflatable mark to replace 'W'
 - b.) A yellow inflatable mark with a black band to replace a gate mark.
- 9.6 The finishing pin will be a red inflatable tetrahedron.

10 OBSTRUCTIONS

- 10.1 [DP] The areas defined by lines commencing at the nearest shores and connecting each contiguous City of Santa Barbara swim buoy are designated as obstructions. Boats shall not sail into that area.
- 10.2 [DP] Visiting Cruise Ships including a 100-yard perimeter around the vessel are designated as obstructions.

11 THE START

- 11.1 Races will be started by using rule 26 with the warning signal made five (5) minutes before the starting signal.
- 11.2 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the race committee signal boat at the starboard end and the course side of the port-end starting mark.
- 11.3 A boat starting later than 10 minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS). This changes rule A4.
- 11.4 If any part of a boat's hull is on the course side of the starting line at her starting signal and she is identified, the race committee will attempt to hail her sail number. Failure to hail her number, failure of her to hear such a hail, or the order in which boats are hailed will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).

12 CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

- 12.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will lay a new mark (or move the finishing line) and remove the original mark as soon as practicable. When in a subsequent change a new mark is replaced, it will be replaced by an original mark. The change will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the mark may not yet be in the new position.
- 12.2 To move the leeward gate, the race committee will set the new mark at one end of the gate and an original mark at the other.
- 12.3 The race committee may, without signal, move a mark to change the direction up to 5 degrees or the length up to 5% of the previous length, provided that no boat is sailing to the mark. This changes rule 33.

13 THE FINISH

The finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat at the port end and the course side of the starboard-end finishing mark as shown in 'Attachment C - Course Chart'.

14 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 14.1 Appendix V, Rule V1 will apply: The first two sentences of rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while *racing*. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'
- 14.2 Appendix V, Rule V2 – Post Race Penalties will apply:
- (a) Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident.
 - (b) A Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rule 44.1(a) applies.
 - (c) A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to a member of the protest committee a written statement that she accepts the penalty and that identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.

15 TARGET TIMES AND TIME LIMITS

- 15.1 The target time for each race is 40-50 minutes. Failure to meet the Target Time will not be grounds for redress. This changes RRS 62.1(a).
- 15.2 Any boat not finished within 20 minutes of the first finisher will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF).

16 HEARING REQUESTS

- 16.1 Hearing request forms for protests, requests for redress, and reopening of a hearing are available at the front desk of SBYC. Hearing request forms shall be delivered to the SBYC front desk and shall be submitted within the appropriate time limit.
- 16.2 For all classes, the protest time limit is within 60 minutes of the Race Committee's return to the dock.
- 16.3 Protest times and locations will be posted on the official notice board no later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses.
- 16.4 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered within the protest time limit if the requesting party was informed of the decision on the previous day; no later than 30 minutes after the requesting party was informed of the decision on that day. This changes rule 66.
- 16.5 On the last scheduled day of racing a request for redress based on a protest committee decision shall be delivered no later than 30 minutes after the decision was posted. This changes rule 62.2.

17 PENALTY SYSTEM

- 17.1 RRS Appendix V, Alternative Penalties, Rule V1 – Penalties at the time of the incident will apply. The first two sentences of Rule 44.1 are changed to: 'A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident while *racing*. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the *zone* around a *mark* other than a starting *mark*, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.'

- 17.2 Appendix V, Rule V2 – Post Race Penalties will apply:
- (a) Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or rule 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident.
 - (b) A Post-Race Penalty is a 30% Scoring Penalty calculated as stated in rule 44.3(c). However, rule 44.1(a) applies.
 - (c) A boat takes a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to a member of the protest committee a written statement that she accepts the penalty and that identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.

18 SCORING

- 18.1 Three (3) races are required to be completed to constitute a regatta.
- 18.2 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores.
- 18.3 When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

19 SAFETY

- 19.1 **[DP]** Before the first warning signal of each day, all boats shall sail past the stern of the RC Signal Boat on starboard tack and check in by hailing their sail/bow number. They shall continue to do so until their sail/bow number is verbally acknowledged by the RC.
- 19.2 **[DP] [NP]** A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC before leaving the course area or immediately after arriving ashore via radio contact from SBYC staff.

20 BERTHING

[DP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned places while in the harbor.

21 HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

[NP][DP] Boats will be afloat prior to their first warning signal for the event and shall not be hauled-out until completion of the final race except with the written permission of the OA. Any boat in the water on Thursday, July 11 shall not be hauled-out until completion of the final race except with the written permission of the OA.

22 EQUIPMENT AND MEASUREMENT CHECKS

[DP] A boat or equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with the class rules, notice of race and sailing instructions.

23 DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

[DP] Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the preparatory signal of the first race and the end of the event.

24 VIDEO AND PHOTO

The use of any photo or video by a party other than the race committee or regatta media team shall not be permitted as evidence in any protest or redress hearing.

25 PRIZES

Prizes will be given to the top 5 teams overall and to the top 3 Corinthian teams.

26 RISK STATEMENT

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.**