

**INTERNATIONAL MELGES 24 CLASS
2008 MELGES 24 U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**18-21 September 2008
Charleston Yacht Club
Charleston, SC, USA
Corrected May 15, 2008**



The International Melges 24 Class 2008 MELGES 24 U.S. National Championship will be organized by the Charleston Yacht Club, Inc. in cooperation with The U.S. Melges 24 Class Association and the Melges 24 International Class Association.



NOTICE OF RACE

1. RULES.

1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing*.

1.2 The Equipment Rules of Sailing will apply.

2. ADVERTISING

The event is classified Category 'C'.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

3.1 The Championship is open to all boats of the Melges 24 class that meet with the obligations of the Class Rules and their National Authority, in the case that a National Authority exists.

3.2 Eligible boats may enter by visiting M24Charleston.com, clicking on the link to the 2008 Melges 24 U.S. National Championship, completing the online entry process, and paying the required fee by July 31, 2008. All entries are made online via YachtScoring.com and payments are to be made through PayPal.

3.3 Late entries will be accepted until September 4, 2008 and are subject to a \$100 late fee surcharge.

3.4 No entries will be accepted after September 4, 2008.

3.5 The same crews and sails must be used throughout the entire regatta. Substitutions will not be permitted without the explicit written approval of the Race Committee.

4. CLASSIFICATION

4.1 The ISAF Sailor Classification Code will apply to the Corinthian Trophy.

Please refer to ISAF's Web site: www.sailing.org

4.2 To be considered for Corinthian competition, a Corinthian Declaration form must be submitted prior to the close of Check In.

4.3 Forms will be available at Check In.

4.4 Forms are also available online at usmelges24.com.

4.5 Sailors must be registered with ISAF prior to Check In and be able to declare their User ID number on the entry form.

4.6 Full details for the Corinthian Trophy can be found in IMCA Championship rules.

5. FEES

The Entry Fee will be \$400. Late fee will be \$100 surcharge. This Entry Fee includes launching at commencement and recovery at conclusion of the Regatta at designated times, berthing for the event, trailer storage and tickets to the principal events for four crew members. Entry fees should be made via PayPal when following the online entry process at M24Charleston.com. Entries will not be valid until payment is received.

Summary of Fees

Regatta Entry

Received by July 31, 2008.....	\$400.00
Received on or after August 1, 2008.....	\$500.00

Additional Dinner and Party Tickets (4 included with entry)

Purchased by July 31, 2008	\$50.00
Purchased on or after August 1, 2008	\$80.00

Box Lunches (optional)

For crew of 4 for 3 days	\$75.00
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For crew of 5 for 3 days \$90.00

6. PRE-EVENT PRACTICE RACE AND / OR CLINIC

A pre-event practice race and / or clinic is scheduled to start at 1300 on Thursday, September 18 in Charleston Harbor. The practice race and / or clinic will allow start experience.

7. SCHEDULE

7.1 Eight races are scheduled.

EARLY ARRIVALS

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

0600 – 2000 Boat Drop Off at St. Mary's Field (see directions)

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

0600 – 2000 Boat Drop Off at St. Mary's Field (see directions)

0600 – 2000 Setup at Charleston City Marina (space limited)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

0600 – 2000 Setup at Charleston City Marina (space limited)

NORMAL ARRIVAL

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

0600 – 2000 Setup at Charleston City Marina

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

0600 – 2000 Setup at Charleston City Marina

1000 – 1130 Check In (2nd Floor clubhouse)

1000 – 1130 Weigh In (2nd Floor clubhouse)

1300 – 1600 Melges 24 Racing Clinic and / or Practice Race
(Charleston Harbor)

1630 – 1900 Check In (2nd Floor clubhouse)

1630 – 1900 Weigh In (2nd Floor clubhouse)

1800 Competitors Meeting

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

0800 – 0900 Late Weigh In (2nd Floor clubhouse)

1155 Warning Signal Race #1 (Charleston Harbor)
(Successive races to follow ASAP)

1830 After Race Party

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

1155 Warning Signal First Race of the Day
(Charleston Harbor)

(Successive races to follow ASAP)

1830 After Race Party and Dinner

(1st Floor clubhouse)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

1155 Warning Signal First Race of the Day
(Charleston Harbor)
(Successive races to follow ASAP)

1630 or
ASAP thereafter Awards Presentation (1st Floor clubhouse)

8. MEASUREMENTS

8.1 Each boat shall produce a valid measurement certificate before the close of Check In on September 18.

8.2 The Organizers may weigh, measure or inspect any boat and or her equipment and sails before, during or after the races.

8.3 **THERE WILL BE NO FACILITIES FOR INITIAL MEASUREMENT.** Sails shall be measured and stamped by an approved measurer before arrival at the Regatta.

8.4 Chartered or loaned boats may display National letters and sail numbers in contravention of Class Rules.

9. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sailing Instructions will be available after 1000 hours on September 18 at Check In. See Schedule for Check In times.

10. VENUE

10.1 The 2008 U.S. Melges 24 National Championship regatta is being hosted by the Charleston Yacht Club, Inc. at 17 Lockwood Drive, Charleston, SC, USA. The Charleston Yacht Club is located inside the Charleston City Marina.

10.2 Racing will take place in Charleston Harbor.

11. THE COURSES

The course to be sailed will be windward-leeward configuration with fleet racing. Offset marks and leeward gates shall be used.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

Rules 44.1 and 44.2 are changed so that only one turn, including one tack and one jibe, is required.

13. SCORING

13.1 The Low Point System of Appendix 'A' will apply.

13.2 One race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

13.3 (a) When fewer than six races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

(b) When from six to eight races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

14. SUPPORT BOATS

14.1 Support boats shall be identified as decided by the Organizers. Support boats must register at Check In.

14.2 The Coach and Support boat appendix shall be in operation (See attached, Appendix A).

15. LAUNCHING AND BERTHING

15.1 Cranage will be available at Charleston Yacht Club hoist at the following times:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 171000 – 2000

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 181000 – 2100

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 211400 – 2300

Cranage outside these hours will be subject to additional charge.

15.2 Alternatively, a launch ramp at REMLEY's POINT Boat Landing – Mt. Pleasant – off Mathis Ferry Road near Hobcaw Point and Molasses Creek subdivision. This is a large landing with four ramps on the Wando River open 24/7. It provides access to Charleston Harbor.

Directions: From Charleston Yacht Club, take Lockwood Blvd. to 17 North (also known as the Cross Town). Take 17 N over the Arthur Ravenel Bridge into Mount Pleasant. After crossing the bridge, turn left at the second light onto Mathis Ferry and left on 5th Avenue to 3rd Street to 3rd Avenue to 2nd Street to 5th Avenue.

15.3 All boats are to be afloat by 2100 on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18.

15.4 The fleet will be kept at the Charleston City Marina, on the outside of the main dock near the gas pumps and bathhouse. Fenders and mooring lines will be required.

16. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior written permission of the race committee.

17. DIVING EQUIPMENT AND PLASTIC POOLS

Underwater breathing apparatus (including snorkels) 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 regatta.

18. RADIO COMMUNICATION

18.1 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.

18.2 Race information will be given on VHF Channel 74.

19 PRIZES

The prizes will be given for the overall Championship and the Corinthian Championship.

20 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

20.1 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.

21 INSURANCE

The boat is required to hold adequate third-party insurance, and it is the owner or owner's representative's sole and inescapable responsibility to ensure that the insurance is in place and is adequate.

22 TELEVISION & PHOTOGRAPHERS' RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission for video footage or photographs of themselves or their boat to be published in any media for press, editorial or advertising purposes.

23 TRAILER STORAGE

Trailers must be stored outside Charleston City Marina and The Charleston Yacht Club after your boat is afloat. Free trailer storage is available at St. Mary's Field. See Directions.

24 EARLY ARRIVAL

24.1 Special arrangements have been made to store boats that are arriving early (Sunday or Monday, September 14 or 15) at St. Mary's Field. St. Mary's Field is a fenced in area at the corner of Lockwood Boulevard and Board Street, approximately 4 blocks from the Charleston Yacht Club / Charleston City Marina. See Directions.

24.2 Boats may begin setting up in the Charleston City Marina starting on Monday and Tuesday. Space is limited on Monday and Tuesday.

25 TEMPORARY DRY STORAGE BEFORE AND AFTER REGATTA

Limited dry storage is available prior to and after the regatta. Please contact Katy Perrin for details:

Katy Perrin
Front Beach Rentals
1750 Signal Point Rd., Unit 4C
Charleston, SC 29412
(843) 442-8715

26 BOX LUNCHES

The Charleston Yacht Club Auxiliary is offering box lunches for your crew for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The Auxiliary does a great job and will provide tasty lunches. For a crew of 4, lunches will be \$75.00. For a crew of 5, lunches will be \$90.00. Please order your lunches no later than September 4. Pick up will be on the first floor of the Charleston Yacht Club.

27 DIRECTIONS TO CHARLESTON YACHT CLUB

Charleston Yacht Club is located INSIDE the Charleston City Marina.

From the NORTH or WEST

- From I-26 E towards CHARLESTON.
- Take the US-17 S exit- exit number 221A- towards KING ST/SAVANNAH.
- Merge onto US-17 S. for 1.1 miles
- Turn LEFT onto LOCKWOOD DR. 0.60 miles
- Turn Right into the City Marina and right again into the City Marina parking lot (through the gates)
- Charleston Yacht Club is the gray building at the far end of the lot.

From the South (I-95)

- Take the US-17 exit- exit number 33- towards CHARLESTON/BEAUFORT.
- Merge onto US-17 N. for 60.76 miles
- Take the LOCKWOOD DR ramp. (stay in right lane while crossing the Ashley River Bridge)
- Merge onto LOCKWOOD DR. 0.44 miles
- Turn Right into the City Marina and right again into the City Marina parking lot (through the gates)
- Charleston Yacht Club is the gray building at the far end of the lot.

28 DIRECTIONS TO ST. MARY'S FIELD FROM CHARLESTON YACHT CLUB

St. Mary's Field is for early arrivals and trailer storage during the event.

When you exit the Charleston Yacht Club / Charleston City Marina, turn right on Lockwood Boulevard. Go approximately 4 blocks and turn left onto Broad (the road forces you to go left). St. Mary's Field is the fenced area to your left. Take the next left onto Barre Street and a left into St. Mary's Field.

29 FURTHER INFORMATION

Please call or email Judy Fairchild with questions about registration or for information about Charleston.

REGATTA CO-CHAIRS

Reggie Fairchild
Cell Phone: 843-259-1717
Email: ReggieFairchild@gmail.com

Judy Drew Fairchild
Cell Phone: 843-259-1713
Email: JudyDrew@aol.com

Chris Hamilton
Cell Phone: 843-469-4254
Email: chamilton@eratidesrealty.com

THE CHARLESTON YACHT CLUB, INC.

The Charleston Yacht Club, Inc.
17 Lockwood Drive, The City Marina
Post Office Box 20474
Charleston, South Carolina 29413-0474
Telephone (843) 722-4968
Facsimile (843) 723-7495
<http://charlestonyachtclub.com/index.html>
Email: office@charlestonyachtclub.com

EVENT PRESS OFFICER

Joy Dunigan
U.S. Melges 24 Class Association
Cell phone: +1 (912) 398-5776
E-mail: communications@usmelges24.com

NOTICE OF RACE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS APPENDIX - A COACH, SUPPORT, PRESS & SPECTATOR BOATS

COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS

1. Coach and supporter boats shall register with the race office during Check In. They shall declare which boat or boats they are attached to.
2. Coach and Supporter boats shall keep clear of the racing area at all times during racing.
3. Any Coach or Supporter 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 their race boat or boats liable to a penalty at the discretion of the Jury.
4. The penalty given by the Jury is at their discretion, but shall be applied to the overall score and therefore not discarded.
5. No Coach boat or Support boat shall pass information in any way to a boat that is racing RRS 41. Infringements of this will be taken very seriously.
6. Coach and Support Boats shall communicate only with the boats they are registered to, and only by means of voice between races. Closed VHF or mobile telephone communication is prohibited.
7. Coach and Supporter boats shall display a flag, or other identification symbol, as may be required by the Race Committee.
8. All Melges 24 boats shall proceed to the Racing area under their own power.
9. There shall be no transfer of any goods or equipment from leaving the dock until after the finish of the last race of the day between Melges 24's and their coach or support boats.
10. Coach and support boats shall not go alongside their Melges 24's until after the finish of the last race of the day.
11. Any competitor may protest under this appendix.

PRESS AND SPECTATOR BOATS

1. All Press and Official Spectator boats shall be registered with the Race Organizers during Check In.
2. Press and Spectator boats shall not interfere with the racing in anyway and shall stay at a distance outside the racecourse where their wake causes no problem.
3. The 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.
4. Press and Spectator boats shall display any flag, or other identification symbol as may be required by the race committee.