



**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS FOR
LAKE GENEVA YACHT CLUB
MELGES 24 FALL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA
OCTOBER 2-4, 2015
LAKE GENEVA YACHT CLUB
FONTANA, WISCONSIN**

**Headquarters: Lake Geneva Yacht Club at the Buddy Melges Sailing Center
(All times given are Central Daylight Time)**

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 (the 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, or in the case of minors, each competitor's parent or guardian 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.

1. RULES

The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing and the rules of the International Melges 24 Class Association, except those that are changed or modified by the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions.

2. ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY

The Notice of Race defines eligibility. Eligible boats may be entered by completing registration with the Lake Geneva Yacht Club.

3. NOTICE TO COMPETITORS

Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located at Regatta Headquarters.

4. COMPETITORS' BRIEFING MEETING

The competitors' briefing will be at approximately 8:45 a.m., Saturday, October 3, at Regatta Headquarters.

5. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any changes to the sailing instructions (SI) will be posted no later than 90 minutes before the first warning signal on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 7:00 p.m. on the day before it will take effect.

6. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

6.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed by the Fleet Signal Boat moored at Regatta Headquarters.

6.2 When the Answering Pennant ("AP") is displayed ashore, '1 minute' is replaced with 'not less than 45 minutes in the Race Signals AP'.

6.3 Approximately one hour prior to the scheduled warning signal of the first race of the day, the signal boat will fire a gun, or make another sound signal.

7. NOT USED

8. NUMBER AND SCHEDULE OF RACES

8.1 Seven races are scheduled, of which one must be completed to constitute a regatta.

8.2 The Warning Signal for the first race, Saturday, October 3, will be at 10:00 a.m. Except when races are sailed back to back, the approximate time of the warning signal for subsequent races will be posted and or announced on the competitors' radio channel.

8.3 The Warning Signal for the first race on Sunday, October 4, will be at 10:00 a.m. No warning signal will be made after 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 4.

9. CLASS FLAG

The class flag will be the letter and number "M24" on a contrasting field.

10. RACING AREA

The racing area will be the navigable waters of the west end of Geneva Lake.

11. THE COURSE

11.1 All courses will be Windward-Leeward courses (W). All windward marks will have an offset mark as well. Races may finish downwind. Leeward gates will be used.

11.2 No later than the warning signal, the race committee signal boat display the number of complete and partial laps to be sailed.

11.3 When there is a gate, boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark. If only one mark of the gate is present, it should be rounded, leaving it to port.

11.4 Courses may be shorter than minimums required by class rules.

12. MARKS

All marks will be orange balls and the offset mark will be an orange ball.

13. THE START

13.1 Races will be started by using RRS 26.

13.2 RRS 30.1 (the I FLAG RULE) will be in effect for all starts. This changes Race Signals.

13.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on an RC boat at the starboard end of the line and the course side of a nearby mark, or between two marks. If the latter, the signals will be made from an RC boat near the starboard end of the line.

13.4 A boat starting later than five minutes after her starting signal will be scored DNS. This changes RRS A4.1.

13.5 If RRS 30.2 is used, flag Z will be displayed alone as the Preparatory Signal (flag I is to be assumed.) This changes Race Signals.

13.6 If the race is abandoned after the starting signal under the Z or Black Flag, all competitors who received a 20% scoring penalty under the RRS 30.2 or were disqualified under the RRS 30.3 in the abandoned race are again eligible to race without penalty. This changes RRS 30.2 and 30.3.

14. RECALLS

Following the display of Code Flag "X", every effort will be made, as quickly and clearly as possible, to hail by VHF radio a complete list of boats identified on the course side at the start or needing to comply with RRS 30.1. Please note that due to this hail being a courtesy, it is extremely unlikely that redress will be granted because of the order of numbers called, failure to hear a hail, or failure to understand a hail. This changes RRS 41.

15. CHANGE OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE

15.1 To change the next leg of the course, the race committee will either move the original mark (or the finishing line) to a new position, or the RC will lay a new mark and remove the original mark as soon as practicable.

15.2 The RC may adjust gate marks without further signaling to maintain the appropriate course configuration.

16. THE FINISH

16.1 The finishing line will be displayed between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee boat and the course side of a nearby mark, or between two marks.

16.2 Flag "A" displayed with no sound while boats are finishing means 'no more racing today.'

16.3 Flag "H" displayed with no sound while boats are finishing means 'racing will continue after a break either on shore or on the water.'

16.4 When neither Flag "A" nor Flag "H" is flying while boats are finishing, another race may follow immediately.

16.5 A boat that retires from a race shall notify a RC boat before leaving the racing area, or, if that is not possible, notify a regatta official at Regatta Headquarters immediately upon arrival on shore.

17. PENALTIES

RRS 44.1 is changed so that the Two-Turns Penalty is replaced by the One-Turn Penalty.

18. TIME LIMIT

18.1 The time limit will be 90 minutes for any race.

18.2 Boats still racing 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored the position of the last boat to finish plus 2. This changes RRS 35 and A4.1.

19. PROTEST AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 19.1 A boat intending to protest about an incident that occurs in the racing area shall, as soon as practicable, notify the RC finish boat on station of her intention, identifying the boat(s) being protested. This changes RRS 61.1 (a).
- 19.2 Protests shall be written on forms available at Regatta Headquarters and delivered there within the protest time, which will end one hour after the signal boat docks. The docking time will be posted.
- 19.3 Notices of protests and requests for redress will be posted within 15 minutes of the expiration of the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held at a location at Regatta Headquarters.
- 19.4 Notice of a request for redress including the nature of the request and the grounds on which it is filed shall be considered to fulfill the requirements of the prescription to RRS 63.2
- 19.5 On the last day of the regatta a request for reopening a hearing shall be delivered:
 - (a) within the protest time limit if the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on the previous day.
 - (b) No later than 30 minutes after the party requesting reopening was informed of the decision on that day.
 - (c) This changes RRS 66.
- 19.6 A boat that does not comply with 44.1 or 44.2, but prior to a hearing, acknowledges breaking a rule, shall be penalized 50% of the number of registered boats, but not fewer than six places, except that she shall not be scored worse than DNF, as approved by the Protest Committee.

20. SCORING

- 20.1 The Low Point System in Appendix A of the RRS will apply, except that RRS A2 is changed so that each boat's total score will be the sum of her scores for all races.
- 20.2 A boat that did not finish (DNF) a race or retires after finishing (RAF) shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats finishing that race. This changes RRS A4.2.
- 20.2 RRS A.4.2 is amended to provide that a boat that does not finish (DNF) a race or retires after finishing (RAF) shall be scored points for the finishing place one more than the number of boats finishing that race.

21. NOT USED

22. MEDIA RIGHTS

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

23. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 23.1 The only communication devices that may be used by competitors when racing are: (a) a weather monitor, (b) a VHF radio tuned to receive only RC transmissions that are intended for all boats (Competitor channel) and (c) a cell phone that may be used for emergency purposes only. The penalty for breaking this rule will be total disqualification from the regatta or such lesser penalty as may be determined by the Protest Committee.
- 23.2 The competitors' VHF channel will be VHF 72. The Race Committee VHF channel will be VHF 18.

24. OUTSIDE HELP

A boat that receives outside help other than help permitted by RRS 41, or from a non competitor or non competing boat, shall retire. This changes RRS 41.