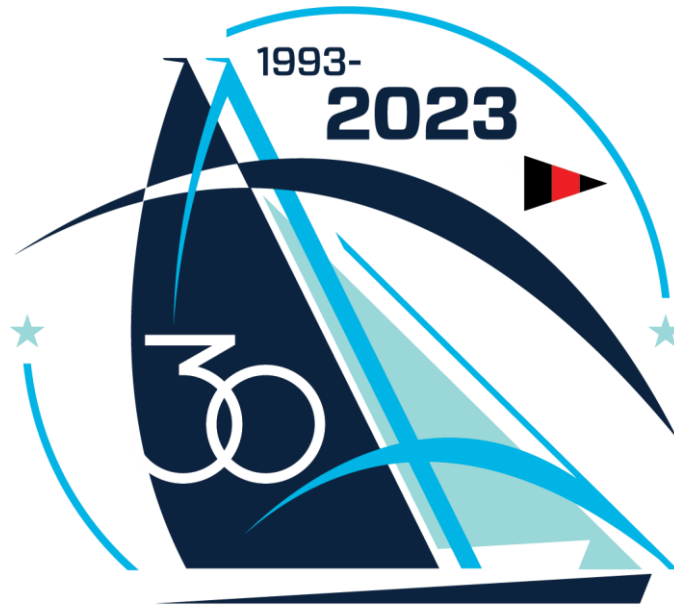




**USMCA**



**MELGES<sup>24</sup>**

**U.S. NATIONAL  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

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LAKE GENEVA YACHT CLUB  
6-8 OCTOBER

## **Sailing Instructions**

The Organizing Authority (OA) is Lake Geneva Yacht Club (LGYC) in conjunction with  
The US Melges 24 Class Association (USM24CA)

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## 1 NOTICE TO COMPETITORS. CHANGES TO THE NOTICE OF RACE & SAILING INSTRUCTIONS [SI]

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- 1.1 Notices to Competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board Online (ONBO) that can be found here: [https://yachtscoring.com/notice\\_board\\_summary.cfm](https://yachtscoring.com/notice_board_summary.cfm) Competitors will be informed by text or email (indicated in the registration form) when a Notice to competitors is posted on the ONBO.
- 1.2 Changes to the rules will be posted on the ONBO before 0830am on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted no later than 1900 on the day before it will take effect.
- 1.3 For an on the water change to the sailing instructions: “L” flag shall be displayed. The change will be announced on the designated VHF channel. (This changes RRS Race Signals)

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## 2 SIGNALS MADE ASHORE [SI]

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- 2.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from a flagpole in the Lake Geneva Yacht Club lawn.
- 2.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, ‘1 minute’ is replaced with ‘not less than 30 minutes’ in the race signal AP. (This changes RRS Race Signals)
- 2.3 The RC intends to broadcast its intentions for the day at 0930 each morning on channel 18 VHF.

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## 3 CLASS FLAG [SI]

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- 3.1 The Class flag used in accordance with RRS 26 will be the Melges24 logo on a white background.

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## 4 THE COURSES [SI]

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- 4.1 The course to be sailed will be a windward-leeward configuration. Offset and gate marks will be used.
  - Courses are described in Attachment A.
- 4.2 The illustrations in Attachment A show the course diagrams.
- 4.3 No later than the warning signal, the RC signal vessel will display the designated course. Course signals will be black letters and numerals displayed on orange boards or on a white board displayed by a race committee signal vessel. The approximate compass bearing and distance from the RC signal vessel to Mark 1 may be broadcasted on the designated VHF channel.
- 4.4 Marks 1 and 1a shall be rounded to port. Mark 1a is an offset mark and will be positioned to port of the associated windward mark (looking upwind).
- 4.5 A leeward gate (two marks) will be used. Boats shall sail between the gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either gate mark. If only one gate mark is set, boats shall round the single mark to port. Except when there is a change of course, the gate will be positioned approximately 0.1nm to windward of the RC signal boat. The gate may be laid after the starting signal.
- 4.6 Except when there is a change of course:
  - (a) the downwind finishing line for LA courses will be to leeward of the gate and adjacent to the RC signal vessel;
  - (b) the upwind finishing line for WA courses will be to windward of mark 1.

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## 5 MARKS [SI]

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- 5.1 Marks 1, 2S and 2P will be orange inflatable marks
- 5.2 Mark 1a will be an orange ball.
- 5.3 New marks used according to SI 7 will be orange inflatable marks .
- 5.4 The starting marks will an RC vessel displaying an orange flag and an orange inflatable mark.
- 5.5 The finishing marks will be either an RC vessel with a blue flag and an orange inflatable mark, or between two orange inflatable marks.
- 5.6 A RC vessel signaling a change of course, according to SI 7.1, shall be treated per RRS 31. (This Changes rule RRS 31)

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## 6 THE START [SI]

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- 6.1 The starting line will be between an orange inflatable mark on the port end and an orange flag on the RC Signal vessel at the starboard end.

- 6.2 To alert boats that a race will begin soon, an ORANGE flag will be displayed at least 1 minute before a warning signal is displayed. This flag will be removed approximately 4 minutes after a valid start with no sound signal.
- 6.3 [SP] A boat starting later than four (4) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start without a hearing.
- 6.4 RRS 30.4 (Black Flag Rule) is changed to permit the RC to display bow number and/or sail number.

## 7 CHANGES OF THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE [SI]

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- 7.1 To change the next leg of the course, the RC 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. At the weather mark, the RC will make every effort to set an offset mark with a change mark, however, if it is absent, proceed to the next mark of the course from the weather mark.
- 7.2 Any adjustment of any leg of the course, while boats are racing, by moving mark(s) up to 005° in bearing and/or 0.1 nm in length will not be considered a change of course. (This changes RRS 33)

## 8 THE FINISH, TIME LIMITS AND TARGET TIMES [SI]

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- 8.1 For both upwind and downwind finishes, the finishing line will be between a staff displaying a blue flag on the finishing line vessel and the course side of a nearby orange inflatable mark.
- 8.2 The time limit for the first boat to sail the course and finish a race will be 2 hours after the start.
- 8.3 The time limit for the first boat to round Mark 1 for the first time after the start is 30 minutes.
- 8.4 Boats failing to finish within 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes, and not thereafter retiring, being penalized, or given redress, will be scored TLE (Time Limit Expired, see Scoring). (This changes RRS 35, A5.1, A5.2 and A10)
- 8.5 The target time for races is 45 to 60 minutes. Failure to meet the target time will not be grounds for redress. (This changes RRS 62.1(a))
- 8.6 Flag A displayed at the finish means “no more racing today.”

## 9 HEARING REQUESTS [SI]

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- 9.1 The Protest Time Limit (PTL) shall be sixty (60) minutes after the last boat has finished the last race of the day or the RC signals no more racing today, whichever is later. The resulting time will be posted at the Official Notice Board Online. (This changes RRS 61.3)
- 9.2 Hearing requests shall be delivered to the chief judge within the appropriate time limit.
- 9.3 Notices of scheduled protests or requests for redress hearings will be posted on the Official Notice Board Online to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or may be parties affected by a request for redress.
- 9.4 Notices will be posted on the ONBO not later than 30 minutes after the protest time limit to inform competitors of hearings in which they are parties or named as witnesses. Hearings will be held in the protest room, beginning at the posted time.
- 9.5 Within the protest time limit, the RC shall post on the ONBO the boats that are disqualified or penalized under A5. A boat so notified may only request for redress within 30 minutes after that posting.
- 9.6 Notices of protests by the RC or the Protest Committee will be posted on the ONBO to inform boats under rule 61.1 b).
- 9.7 In RRS 90.3(e) the expression “24 hours” is changed by “30 minutes”

## 10 REPLACEMENT OF CREW OR EQUIPMENT [SI]

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- 10.1 Substitution of competitors will not be allowed without prior written approval of the Regatta Chair (OA). Competitors desiring to substitute crew shall have crew members weighed-in prior to 0830 on that race day at the Race Office, unless otherwise extended by the Regatta Chair (OA).

- 10.2 Substitution of equipment will not be allowed unless authorized by the OA. Requests for substitution shall be made to the OA at the first reasonable opportunity.
- 10.3 Any substitution granted via NOR/SI 10.1 or 10.2 will be posted on the Official Notice Board Online.

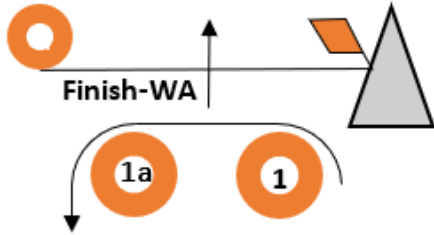
## 12 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY [NOR]

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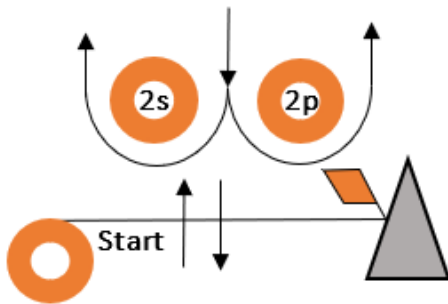
- 12.1 Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The OA will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 12.2 Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor and the responsible adult agree and acknowledges that:
- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
  - b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
  - c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
  - d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
  - e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities;
  - f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

# 2023 US NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Attachment A - COURSE DIAGRAM



Course WA - Windward/Leeward with Offset Mark, Windward Finish	
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
WA2	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - Finish
WA3	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - Finish
WA4	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - Finish
WA5	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - Finish



Course LA - Windward/Leeward with Offset Mark, Leeward Finish	
Signal	Mark Rounding Order
LA2	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p 1 - 1a - Finish
LA3	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a- Finish
LA4	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish
LA5	Start - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - 2s/2p - 1 - 1a - Finish

