



# GRAND TRAVERSE YACHT CLUB

## 2017 WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES

### SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

**1. RULES** — The series will be governed by The Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (USSA), the rules of the PHRF class (as administered by LMPHRF), and the International Melges 24 Class Rules, except as any of these are changed by these sailing instructions.

**1.1.** A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty, consisting of one tack and one gybe, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2, Rule 31, or Rule 42 while racing.

**2. ENTRIES** — Eligible boats may be entered by completing registration with the Grand Traverse Yacht Club (GTYC) through Yacht Scoring at <http://www.yachtscoring.com> and paying all applicable race fees prior to racing.

**3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS** — Will be posted on the official Fleet Race Notice Board located at the GTYC Clubhouse inside the main entrance.

**4. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS** — Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted before 1700 hrs on the day it will take effect, except that any change to the schedule of races will be posted by 1200 hrs on the day before it will take effect. These posted changes may also be communicated to the competitors on the water over VHF Channel 69 prior to the 1st warning. The RC boat will display Code Flag "L" when a change has been posted and is to be communicated.

**5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE** — Will be displayed from the GTYC flagstaff and will be communicated to competitors over VHF Channel 69. If you have any question regarding the status of a race, call the Race Committee @ 218-3700..

#### **6. SCHEDULE OF RACES**

SERIES DATE & TIME OF WARNING SIGNAL

**SPRING May 10 – May 31 1800 hrs**

**SUMMER June 07 - July 12 1800 hrs**

**TWILIGHT July 19 - Aug 23 1800 hrs**

**FALL Sept 6 - Sept 27 1800 hrs**

#### **7. THE COURSE**

**7.1** Course sheets for the race, all of which will take place in the South portion of West Grand Traverse Bay, are provided on **Attachment A**.

**7.2** The course selection will be displayed from the RC Boat no later than one (1) minute before the 1st warning signal.

**7.3** – The RC may also select a course not found in Attachment A by displaying Code Flag L, with the course and announcing it on VHF Channel 69.

## **8. THE START**

**8.1** – Section 1 Melges 24. Section 2 & Section 3 will be split by the race committee and will be spinnaker classes. Section 4 may race under their spinnaker or non-spinnaker LM-PHRF Handicap respectively and may change from Spinnaker or Jib & Main by notifying the Race Committee one day prior to the start of a series.

**Section 1** - This section is intended for Melges 24 One Design

**Section 2** – This section is intended for smaller Spinnaker boats.

**Section 3** – This section is intended for larger Spinnaker boats.

**Section 4** – The Grand Touring section is for JAM boats and Spinnaker boats that would like to start racing Spinnaker or race JAM. They will race under their spinnaker or non spinnaker LM-PHRF rating respectively. At the end of each series the Race Committee will evaluate each of the two top finishers in Section 4 and may, at their option, require the boat to move to a another section.

**8.2** In the event of excessive boats in a single section, that Section will be split by PHRF ratings or length by the race committee.

**8.3** Races will be started using rule 26, utilizing the following class flags:

### **a. All Series**

**WHITE w/ RED X - Section 1**

**RED - Section 2**

**BLUE - Section 3**

**GREEN - Section 4**

**8.4** The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag or shape on the RC Boat and the course side of the starting mark for the course. The position of the RC Boat will depend on water depth around the start mark (i.e., the line may be reversed).

**8.5** Boats whose preparatory signal has not been made shall keep clear of the starting area and of all boats whose preparatory signal has been made.

## **9. RECALLS**

**9.1.** If an Individual Recall has been signaled, the RC will attempt to notify On Course Side (OCS) competitors over VHF Channel 69 or by hail.

**9.2.** If a General Recall is signaled, the starting sequence for any subsequent classes will not be affected and the start for the recalled class will be after the last regularly scheduled class. This changes RRS 29.2.

## **10. THE FINISH**

**10.1** The finishing line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag or shape on the RC Boat and the course side of the nearby mark of the course. The position of the RC Boat will depend on water depth around the finish mark (i.e., the line may be reversed).

**10.2** The RC will remain on station at the finish until the time limit unless conditions dictate otherwise. If the RC is not on station, competitors shall take their own time when their bow crosses a line through the finish mark that is perpendicular to the last leg of the race and they are within 50 yds of the mark.

**11. TIME LIMIT** — Will be two and one-half (2 1/2) hours. Boats failing to finish within one (1) hour after the first boat in her class, but still racing, will be scored "Time Limit Failure" (TLF) and will receive one (1) more point than the last boat to finish. This changes RRS 35.

## **12. PROTESTS**

**12.1** Protests shall be written on forms available on the Fleet Official Notice Board and delivered to the Race Committee Chair within Protest Time which will begin when the RC Boat docks and end one (1) hour later.

**12.2** Protests will be heard in approximately the order of receipt as soon as practical, but not necessarily the night of the event.

**12.3** Protest notices will be posted within 30 minutes of the protest time limit to inform competitors of the time and location of a hearing in which they are parties to or named as witnesses.

## **13. GROSS MISCONDUCT**

**13.1** Verbal abuse of the RC and/or Protest Committee will be considered an act of Gross Misconduct.

**13.2** When a competitor and/or crew is found to have committed an act of Gross Misconduct, the penalty shall be a scoring penalty equal to 40% of the entries in the race for each incident. Additionally, the competitor and/or boat that was responsible for the crew may not discard this race in the series.

## **14. MEASUREMENT AND RATING**

**14.1** All competitors will use, or be assigned, PHRF Handicaps. For those participants who, at the time of registration, provide a LMPHRF certificate no older than two years and which still accurately represents the vessel's current configuration, their assigned rating will be as listed on the certificate (Spinnaker or Non-Spinnaker). All other participants will be assigned a rating at the Race Committee's discretion.

**14.2** One Design yachts shall be sailed according to their one design class rules in order to receive the PHRF rating accorded to their design by LMPHRF.

## **15. SCORING**

**15.1** The Low Point scoring system, RRS Appendix A, will apply, except as modified below.

**15.2** One race constitutes a series, applicable to the Spring, Summer, Twilight, Fall series. After the completion of a fourth race in a series, a throwout will be calculated removing a yacht's high score within the series.

**15.3** The GTYC Wednesday Night Season Championship Series will be scored from the total of the low point totals scored in the individual series.

**16. SAFETY** — Competitors who withdraw from a race shall notify the RC over **VHF Channel 69**.

**17. RADIO COMMUNICATION** — A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. VHF Channel 69 will be monitored by the RC and they will only respond to competitors who identify themselves.

**18. PRIZES** — Will be awarded at the Club after each race at the direction of the RC and will be based on prizes available, but remember . . . **YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!!!** Series awards will be presented at the GTYC Wednesday Night Awards Night! Details to be announced as the season goes on.... All boats and crews invited!

### **19. Disclaimer of Liability**

**19.1** - 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 (organizing authority, race committee, protest committee, host club, host club employees or volunteers, 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 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.

**19.2** - The safety of a boat and its crew is the sole and inescapable responsibility of the Skipper who shall ensure that the boat is fully sound, thoroughly seaworthy, and manned by an experienced and physically able crew. Neither the establishment of regulations or inspection of a boat in any way limits or reduces the complete and unlimited responsibility of the Skipper.

**19.3** - The Organizing Authority, Grand Traverse Yacht Club, their employees and volunteers do not accept responsibility for the loss of life or injury to participants or others, or for the loss or damage to any vessel in any way or from any cause during or relating to this series.

**19.4** - The Skipper shall be responsible for the conduct of his crew. In the event of a serious breach of conduct, the destruction of property or the failure to comply with a reasonable request of any Race Officer or Committee Member, the Skipper will be responsible for all damages and the boat may be subject to protest, which may include disqualification from the series.

**20. INSURANCE** - Each participating boat shall be insured with valid, third party liability insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 USD, to compete in the 2017 GTYC Wed Night Series.

**21. PARKING** - Help maximize available space and park all cars and boats within the marked spaces. Parking is also available across M-22 behind the Westport building & at the Bluewater Hall. Parking in the Viridian parking lot north of the club is not allowed; the owner will remove unauthorized vehicles. Also, parking along the right-of-way on M-22 is illegal and very dangerous and is not allowed. Drive carefully on the grounds especially after dark. M-22 is a high traffic area; show extreme caution when exiting the club.