

# **2011 Audi Melges 20 National Championship**

Hosted by Coconut Grove Sailing Club  
Supported by Shake-A-Leg Miami, and  
Melges Performance Sailboats



## **SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

November 10 - 13, 2011 (3 days of racing)

### **1. RULES**

- 1.1 The 2011 National Championship will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (*RRS*). The “class rules” for purposes of the definition of “rules” are the International Audi Melges 20 Class Rules.
- 1.2 These Sailing Instructions (SI’s), including amendments, will take precedence in the case of a conflict with the Notice of Race (NOR). This changes RRS 63.7.
- 1.3 Boats shall not put trash in the water.

### **2. RADIO COMMUNICATION**

- 2.1 All competing boats shall carry a hand held VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving VHF channels (US) for safety purposes and Race Committee communication.
- 2.2 The Race Committee's VHF channel will be provided at the Skipper's Meeting and posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 2.3 Race Committee broadcasts concerning its intentions, the course to be sailed, starting times, course changes, OCS hails, etc. are a courtesy only. Failure of the Race Committee to make a broadcast, the timing of a broadcast, or the failure of a boat to hear a broadcast shall not be grounds for redress under rule 62.1(a).

- 2.4 Except from the specified Race Committee VHF channel, no competitor shall make or receive radio, cell phone or computer communications commencing from the first Warning Signal of the day until the conclusion of the day's racing, except in the case of an emergency.

### **3. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS**

- 3.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the official notice board located on the first floor of the Coconut Grove Sailing Club (CGSC).
- 3.2 The Race Committee will attempt to announce its intentions for the day on the Race Committee VHF radio channel at 0900 each morning of the event.

In the event of an onshore Postponement, the Race Committee shall make update announcements on the Race Committee VHF radio channel.

### **4. CHANGES TO SAILING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 4.1 Any changes will be posted by 0830 on the day they will take effect, except that any changes in the Schedule of Races will be posted no later than one (1) hour after the latest protest time limit on the day before they take effect (SI 16.2). In the event of no racing on a day, any changes in the Schedule of Races will be posted no later than 1700 hours on the day before they take effect.
- 4.2 Oral changes to the Sailing Instructions may be given on the water. The Race Committee Signal Boat shall display Code Flag "L" and announce the change on the Race Committee VHF Channel in accordance with rule 90.2(c). Competitors may also approach the Committee Boat and verbally receive the change while Code Flag "L" is displayed.

### **5. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE**

- 5.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed from the main flagpole at the Coconut Grove Sailing Club.
- 5.2 Code Flag "L", when displayed ashore signifies that a change in Sailing Instructions or other notice to competitors has been posted on the Official Bulletin Board.
- 5.3 Code Flag "AP" when displayed ashore means that the start has been postponed. The Warning Signal will be made not less than 60 minutes after the lowering of this signal.
- 5.4 Code Flag "N" over "A" and 3 sounds when signaled ashore means that all racing is abandoned for today.

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

- 6.1 November 11 - 13, 2011 Up to 8 races are scheduled
- 6.2 The scheduled time for the Warning Signal for the first race each day is 1100 hours.
- 6.3 The Race Committee Finishing Boat will signal its intent to start another race that day by displaying Code Flag "R" at the finish of a race. Code Flag "R" will be lowered with one sound one minute before the next Warning Signal is made. The maximum number of races that may be sailed on any given day is four (4).
- 6.4 On the final day of the regatta, the Initial Warning Signal for the final race will not be made after 1400 hours. However, after this Initial Warning, any Warning Signal that follows one or more General Recalls or Postponements may occur after 1400.

**7. RACING AREAS**

7.1 All racing will be on Biscayne Bay in an area approximately 1 to 3 miles SSE of Brennan Channel Marker "1" (Fl.G 5sec 8ft).

**8. THE COURSES**

8.1 Courses will be as described below and in "ADDENDUM #1- COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS".

8.2 Course Designations:

**COURSE # 4** - Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Finish

**COURSE # 5** - Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Leeward Gate - Finish

8.3 The Windward Mark (W) and the accompanying offset mark (OS) shall be left to port.

8.4 Courses will be posted on a Race Committee Signal Boat course board prior to the Warning Signal of each race. The number of the course to be sailed, the approximate magnetic compass bearing, and distance from the starting line to the first mark will be displayed (This changes *RRS* 27.1).

**9. MARKS**

9.1 The original Windward Mark (W) and the Leeward Gate will be 5 ft. orange inflatable tetrahedron marks.

9.2 The windward offset mark (OS) will be a round inflatable mark. The offset mark will be laid to port of the Windward Mark, approximately 100 feet away.

9.3 A Leeward Gate will be used. Except when there is a change of course, the Gate will be located to windward of the Starting Line. Boats shall sail between the Gate marks from the direction of the previous mark and round either Gate mark.

9.4 If one of the Leeward Gate marks is missing, boats shall round the one existing leeward mark to port.

**10. THE START**

10.1 Races will be started in accordance with *RRS* 26.

10.2 The class flag will be the Audi Melges 20 Insignia on a white flag.

10.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee Signal Boat and a staff displaying an orange flag on a port end Line Boat. In the event that the Pin End Boat is not on station, it will be replaced by an inflatable mark.

10.4 An inflatable buoy may be tethered to the stern of the committee boat(s) and will function as an extension of the Race Committee boat. Boats shall not pass between the Race Committee vessel and an inflatable buoy tethered to it.

10.5 A boat starting later than eight (8) minutes after her starting signal will be scored Did Not Start (DNS) without a hearing. (This changes *RRS* A4.1)

**11. RECALLS**

11.1 In the event of an individual recall, the sail numbers, bow numbers or identification of any boat or boats that are identified as OCS may be announced on the Race Committee VHF

channel. Failure of a boat to see or hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such hails, or the length of time it takes to make a notification on the Race Committee VHF channel will not be grounds for redress. (This changes *RRS* 62.1 (a).)

- 11.2 The Race Committee may hail the bow numbers or sail numbers of boats that are over the line in the last one (1) minute of the starting sequence after the I or Z Flag has been lowered. Failure of a boat to hear her recall notification, and the timing and order of such hails will not be grounds for redress. (This changes *RRS* 29.1 and 62.1 (a).)

## **12. CHANGING THE NEXT LEG OF THE COURSE**

- 12.1 If the change is for a windward leg, the new mark will be a yellow inflatable tetrahedron, unless the change is for the final leg of Course 5, which in that case, the finish line will be in the new position.
- 12.2 If the change is for a leeward leg, the new gate marks will be yellow inflatables, unless the first change is for the final leg of Course 4, which in that case, the finish line will be in the new position.
- 12.3 The Race Committee will attempt to broadcast any course changes over the Race Committee VHF channel.

## **13. FINISH**

- 13.1 The Finish Line for leeward finishes (Course 4) will be on the opposite side of the Race Committee Boat from the Starting Line. The Finish Line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee Boat and a nearby inflatable mark or between staffs displaying orange flags on Race Committee Boats.
- 13.2 The Finish Line for windward finishes (Course 5) will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on a Race Committee Boat and a nearby inflatable mark to port of the Committee Boat or between staffs displaying orange flags on Race Committee Boats.

## **14. PENALTY SYSTEM**

- 14.1 A boat that may have broken a rule of *RRS* Part 2 may take a One-Turn Penalty including one tack and one jibe. (This changes *RRS* 44.1.).
- 14.2 The penalty, if any, for a violation of a rule other than a rule of *RRS* Part 2 or Rule 31 will be at the discretion of the Protest Committee and may be other than disqualification. This changes *RRS* 64.1(a).
- 14.3 If a breach of Class Rules is found, penalties shall be at the discretion of the Protest Committee, in consultation with a non-competing Class Representative.

## **15. TIME LIMITS**

- 15.1 Any race in which no boat rounds the first windward mark within 45 minutes, or finishes within two (2.0) hours of the start shall be abandoned.
- 15.2 Boats still *racing* 30 minutes after the first boat sails the course and finishes will be scored Did Not Finish (DNF) without a hearing. This changes *RRS* 35 and A4.2.

## **16. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS**

- 16.1 A boat intending to protest is requested to notify a Race Committee Finish Boat of its intention and the identity of the protested boat(s) as soon as possible after finishing.
- 16.2 Protest forms will be available at the Regatta Desk at CGSC.

Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the Regatta Desk within the protest time limit. The time limit is one (1) hour after the Race Committee Finish Boat docks or when a race is abandoned ashore. Protest hearings will be conducted at CGSC as soon as possible and in the approximate order in which they were filed.

- 16.3 It is each boat's sole responsibility to check the official notice board at the end of the protest filing time to see if she is cited in a protest. Should any party fail to appear when called for a hearing, the Protest Committee may proceed in accordance with *RRS* 63.3(b). Representatives of boats who are parties to hearings and their witnesses shall remain on call in the vicinity of the Jury desk until excused by the Protest Committee.
- 16.4 The representative from each yacht who attends the hearing shall be the owner or the Category 1 helmsman. Category 3 sailors are not allowed in the hearing, or to be in contact with the representatives at the hearing per class rules.
- 16.5 Video and photos taken from any support and/or coach boat shall not be used as evidence at protest hearings. This alters *RRS* 63.6.

## **17. SCORING**

- 17.1 The Low Point Scoring System, as provided in *RRS* Appendix "A" shall apply, except as changed in this Section of these Sailing Instructions as follows.
- 17.2 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores. When six or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.

## **18. BOAT IDENTIFICATION**

- 18.1 Each boat shall have clearly visible bow numbers.

## **19. LAUNCHING & HAUL OUT REQUIREMENTS**

- 19.1 All boats must be in the water by 1700 on the day before racing begins.
- 19.2 All boats are to remain in the water for the duration of the regatta except according to the terms and with permission of the Regatta Chairman in the event of a required emergency repair.

## **20. TEAM AND PRIVATE SUPPORT BOATS**

- 20.1 Competitors are responsible for the compliance of their support boats with the Class Rules concerning their activities on the water.
- 20.2 Support boats are required by the Race Committee to monitor the Race Committee VHF Channel and provide assistance to any competitor in danger if notified to do so by the Race Committee.

## **21. PRIZES**

- 21.1 The top five boats shall receive prizes. The winner will be named the 2011 Audi Melges 20 U.S. National Champion, and receive the National Championship trophy.

## **22. SAFETY REQUIREMENTS**

- 22.1 A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to start a scheduled race shall promptly report this to the Race Committee via hailing or calling on the Race

Committee VHF channel, and receive acknowledgement. If this is not possible, she shall promptly report her actions to the Regatta Desk on shore at CGSC.

**23. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY**

23.1 Sailing is an activity that carries with it an inherent risk of damage and injury. Competitors participate in this regatta entirely at their own risk and are reminded to pay special attention to RRS 4, Decision to Race. The race organizers, including the OA, Coconut Grove Sailing Club, Melges Performance Sailboats, Race Committee, Protest Committee, sponsors, volunteers, or any other affiliated 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 practice for or participation in this event on the water or ashore. 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.

CGSC Regatta Chair/Principal Race Officer:  
AM20CA Administrator:

Ron Rostorfer  
Joy Dunigan

## ADDENDUM #1 - COURSE ILLUSTRATIONS

**EXAMPLE: COURSE BOARD DISPLAYED ON R/C SIGNAL BOAT**

Course: 4  
Distance To W: 1.0  
Bearing To W: 120

### **COURSE # 4 (Leeward Finish)**

Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Finish

● ●  
(OS) (W)

● ●  
(Leeward Gate)

Start  -----  R/C  -----  Finish

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### **COURSE # 5 (Windward Finish)**

Start - W - OS - Leeward Gate - W - OS - Leeward Gate - Finish

(Finish)  
● ●  
(OS) (W)

● ●  
(Leeward Gate)

Start  -----  R/C