

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

2011 Melges 32 Gold Cup

December 2-4 | Fort Lauderdale, FL



1. RULES

- 1.1 This Regatta will be governed by the current *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*, including US Sailing Prescriptions, the Notice of Race, the rules of the Melges 32 Class, these Sailing Instructions, and properly posted amendments thereto.
- 1.2 These Sailing instructions, including amendments, will take precedence in the case of conflict with the Notice of Race.

2. NOTICES TO COMPETITORS

- 2.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board located under the LYC Pavilion on the eastern side of the property.
- 2.2 The Race Committee will attempt to announce its intentions for the day on VHF channel 69 at 0830 and again at 0900 each morning of the event.
- 2.3 Race committee broadcasts concerning its intentions, the course to be sailed, starting times, course changes, 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).

3. CHANGES IN SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Any change in the sailing instructions will be posted on the Official Notice Board before 0830 on the day it will take effect, except that any change in the schedule of races will be posted by 2000 on the day before it will take effect.

4. SIGNALS MADE ASHORE

- 4.1 Signals made ashore will be displayed at the flagpole at the east end of the LYC property.
- 4.2 When flag AP is displayed ashore, "1 minute" is replaced with "not less than 60 minutes" in the Race Signal AP, and the scheduled time of the next warning signal will be posted on the Official Notice Board when AP is lowered.
- 4.3 Signals made ashore may be reported on the Bahia Mar Notice Board.

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5. SCHEDULE

- 5.1 Racing is scheduled each day from Friday, December 2 through Sunday, December 4. Eight races are scheduled of which three must be completed to constitute a series.
- 5.2 The scheduled time for the warning signal for the first race each day is 1100.
- 5.3 It is the intent of the Race Committee to run no more than three races each day. The Race Committee will signal its intent to run another race that day by displaying Flag R from the signal boat at the finish of the previous race. The Race Committee will attempt to broadcast its intentions over VHF channel 69.

6. BOW NUMBERS

- 6.1 Bow numbers shall be displayed on both sides of the bow with the number forward in accordance with Melges 32 class guidelines.
- 6.2 Event bow stickers shall be displayed on both sides of the hull with the forward edge of the sticker no farther than 10 inches aft of the aft-most portion of the bow number.
- 6.3 Boats failing to properly display event bow numbers may be subject to protest by the Race Committee only.

7. RACING AREA

- 7.1 The racing area is in the Atlantic Ocean, approximately 1.5 nautical miles south of Port Everglades Inlet and .75 miles offshore.
- 7.2 Competitors' attention is drawn to the Notice Regarding Threatened Species posted on the Official Notice Board.

8. COURSES AND MARKS

- 8.1 The courses are shown on the attached course diagram *MELGES 32 GOLD CUP COURSES*.
- 8.2 A leeward gate (two marks) will be used. 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. If one of the leeward gate marks is missing, boats shall round the one existing leeward mark to port.
- 8.3 A windward offset mark will be laid to port of the windward mark, approximately perpendicular to the course axis and approximately 75 to 100 yards distant. The windward offset mark is to be rounded to port. In the event of a course change, the offset mark may not be used.
- 8.4 The approximate magnetic compass bearing from the starting line to the windward mark, and the approximate distance from the leeward gate to the windward mark will be posted on the Race Committee signal boat at or prior to the warning signal.
- 8.5 The signal boat will display a numeral pennant corresponding to the course to be sailed at or prior to the warning signal.

9. MARKS

Marks W, L-s and L-p will be orange tetrahedrons. Mark W-o and the start and finish line marks will be yellow ovals.

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10. THE START

- 10.1 Races will be started in accordance with racing rule RRS 26.
- 10.2 The Class Flag will be a flag with the Melges 32 logo.
- 10.3 The starting line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee signal boat and the course side of the nearby yellow oval mark.
- 10.4 The Race Committee Signal Boat may be protected by a nearby inflatable limit mark, which shall rank as a starting mark. Boats shall not pass between a limit mark and the nearby committee boat when approaching the line to start. The area between the limit mark and the committee boat does not rank as an obstruction for the purposes of RRS 18 or 19.
- 10.5 The Race Committee will attempt to identify recalled boats by broadcast over VHF channel 69.

11. CHANGE OF COURSE AFTER THE START

- 11.1 To change the next leg of the course, the Race Committee will move the original mark (or gate or the finishing line) to a new position.
- 11.2 A change of course after the start will be signaled before the leading boat has begun the leg, although the new mark may not then be in position. Any mark to be rounded after rounding the new mark may be relocated to maintain the original course configuration.
- 11.3 A windward offset mark may not be set in the event of a course change.

12. THE FINISH

The finish line will be between a staff displaying an orange flag on the Race Committee boat and a nearby finishing mark to port of the Race Committee boat.

13. PENALTIES

- 13.1 RRS 44.1 is modified by adding the following: Except for a starting mark, the turns penalty for a Part 2 rule broken inside the Zone shall be a Two-Turns Penalty as prescribed in this rule without modification. The turns penalty for a Part 2 rule broken outside the Zone shall be One Turn, including one tack and one gybe. This changes RRS 44.1.
- 13.2 If a breach of Class Rules is found, penalties shall be at the discretion of the jury, in consultation with a non-competing Class Representative.

14. TIME LIMIT

- 14.1 Any race in which no yacht rounds the first windward mark within 20 minutes or finishes within 90 minutes of the start will be abandoned.
- 14.2 If a yacht finishes within the time limit, the time limit for all other yachts will be 15 minutes after the first yacht's finish. Yachts not finishing within the time limit will be scored DNF. This changes RRS 35.

15. PROTESTS AND REQUESTS FOR REDRESS

- 15.1 Protest forms are available at the jury desk near the Official Notice Board at the LYC Pavilion. Protests shall be delivered there within the Protest Time Limit.

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- 15.2 The Protest Time Limit is 90 minutes from the time the Race Committee signal boat docks at LYC on Friday and Saturday, and 60 minutes from that time on Sunday. The Protest Time Limit will be posted on the Official Notice Board as soon as possible.
- 15.3 Protest Notices will be posted on the Official Notice Board as soon as possible after they are delivered to the jury desk to inform competitors where and when there is a hearing to which they are party. Protest hearings will be scheduled to start as soon as possible after the notices are posted. The jury will attempt to hear protests in the order of receipt. Representatives of boats who are parties to hearings and their witnesses shall remain on call in the vicinity of the Official Notice Board at LYC.
- 15.4 Although the Committee will make every effort to post the Protest Time Limit and Protest Notices on the Bahia Mar Notice Board, it is each boat's responsibility to check the Official Notice Board at LYC by the end of the protest filing time to see if she is cited in a protest. Failure of any party to appear when called for a hearing will be considered by the jury as grounds for proceeding under rule 63.3(b).
- 15.5 Only the race committee may initiate a protest for a violation of Sailing Instructions 6, 17, 19 & 20.

16. SCORING

- 16.1 The Low Point System of RRS Appendix 'A', as modified below, will apply.
- 16.2 Three races are required to be completed to constitute a series.
- 16.3 When fewer than six 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.

17. SAFETY

- 17.1 All yachts must carry minimum equipment as required by the U.S. Coast Guard and the Melges 32 class rules.
- 17.2 Florida law requires that vessels underway maintain a 300 foot clearance from boats displaying a "diver down" flag (red flag with white diagonal stripe).
- 17.3 A boat that retires from a race or does not intend to start a scheduled race shall promptly report this to the Race Committee on VHF Channel 69 and receive acknowledgement.

18. REPLACEMENT OF CREW

In the event of a crew substitution, the substitute must have his or her Crew Substitution Card authorized and signed by the Class Secretary and submitted to the jury by 0830 of the morning they will first race. The substitute must comply with all class rules.

19. JUNIOR SAILOR REQUIREMENT

For all races on Saturday, December 3, yachts are required to carry an appointed Junior Sailor selected at random by the Organizing Authority. This sailor will not be counted against the crew weight limits or maximum crew limits. This modifies class rule C.7.2.

20. SUPPORT BOATS

- 20.1 Owners are responsible for the compliance of their support boats with these Sailing Instructions. The Race Committee only may protest a boat whose support boat violates these Sailing Instructions. This modifies RRS 60.1(a). The jury may assess penalties other than disqualification for violations of Section 20 of the Sailing Instructions.
- 20.2 Support boats are required by the Race Committee to monitor VHF channel 69 and provide assistance to any competitor in danger if notified to do so by the Race Committee.
- 20.3 Support boats shall comply with class rule I.5 "Outside Assistance." This includes the following:
- Individual coach or support boats shall not approach closer than 300 feet to any boat that is racing, except at mark roundings or the finish line where they shall not approach closer than 100 feet upwind of the windward mark or downwind of the leeward mark, and extensions of the finish line. At the warning signal for the start, individual coach or support boats shall leave the area being used by the racing boats and may station themselves outside of either the pin or committee signal boat, but no closer to either end than 100 feet.*
- 20.4 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. The penalty for infringing this rule shall be assessed at the discretion of the event Jury or Protest Committee. This rule is not intended as a deterrent to social interaction before and between races.

MELGES 32 GOLD CUP COURSES

Only windward-leeward courses will be sailed. The windward mark and windward offset mark are to be rounded to port. The windward offset mark will be laid to weather of the port tack layline and approximately 100-150 yards distant. A leeward gate will be used. Gate mark Ls shall be passed to starboard and Lp shall be passed to port and one of these marks shall be rounded. For all courses the leeward gate has no significance on the first leg of the course. For leeward finishes, the leeward gate has no significance on the last leg of the course. For windward finishes, the windward mark and windward offset mark have no significance on the last leg of the course.

COURSE ONE, SIGNALLED BY CODE FLAG "1"
START, W, Wo, Ls or Lp, W, Wo, FINISH (LEEWARD)

COURSE TWO, SIGNALLED BY CODE FLAG "2"
START, W, Wo, Ls or Lp, W, Wo, Ls or Lp, FINISH (WINDWARD)

