



Audi

MELGES²⁰

2012 U.S. NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP

October 5 – 7, 2012



Hosted by Corinthian Yacht Club
Sponsored By Melges Performance Sailboats

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1 The 2012 Audi Melges 20 U.S. 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.

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 channel 72.
- 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 or cell phone communications commencing from the first Warning Signal of the day until the conclusion of the day's racing for that competitor, 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 Corinthian Yacht Club (CYC).
- 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.
- 3.3 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 Signal 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 CYC.
- 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 Notice 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 Racing is scheduled from Friday, October 5 through Sunday, October 7.
- 6.2 The scheduled time for the Warning Signal for the first race each day is 1100 hours. Additional races to follow ASAP.
- 6.3 Eight races are scheduled. The Race Committee may run fewer races at its discretion.
- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 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 The primary racing area will be located in the vicinity of the Berkley Circle in the areas marked Circle 1 and Circle 2 in Addendum #2.
- 7.2 In the event that Race Circle #3 is to be used as an alternative racing area prior to leaving the dock, Code Flag L and numeral pennant #3 will be displayed on the flagpole at CYC prior to 9:00am.
- 7.3 In the event that the race area is changed out on the water, the Race Committee Signal Boat will display Code Flag L and make an announcement on the Race Committee VHF Channel regarding the new sailing area location.

8. THE COURSES

- 8.1 Courses are 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) will be an orange inflatable mark.
- 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 and the original Leeward Gate marks will be orange inflatable marks.
- 9.4 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.
- 9.5 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 four (4) 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 Flag and / 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 mark, 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(a)).
- 14.2 Unless the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties within 3 boat lengths of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes *RRS* 44.2.
- 14.3 *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).*

14.4 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 failing to finish within 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 CYC. Protests and requests for redress shall be delivered to the Jury within the protest time limit. The time limit is one (1) hour after the Race Committee Finish Boat docks. Protest hearings will be conducted at CYC 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 Protest 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 Regatta 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 of *RRS* Appendix A will apply, with the following modification:

when fewer than six races have been sailed, a boat's series score will be the total of all her race scores. When six or more races have been sailed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

17.2 Three races are necessary to constitute a series.

18. BOW NUMBERS

18.1 Each Melges 20 shall have clearly visible bow numbers as provided by the manufacturer. Boats failing to properly display bow numbers may be subject to protest by the Race Committee only.

19. LAUNCHING & HAUL OUT REQUIREMENTS

19.1 All boats must be in the water by 1730 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 Principal Race Officer or 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 their 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 Prizes will be awarded to the top five finishers overall.

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 front desk at CYC.

22.2 All competitors shall wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) while on the water, except for brief periods while adding or removing clothing. Failure to comply with this rule can result in disqualification as deemed appropriate only by the protest committee.

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, Corinthian Yacht 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.

Regatta Chairman: Mark Thompson

AM20CA Administrator: Joy Dunigan

Principal Race Officer: Bruce Golison

Audi Melges 20 Local Class Representative: Seadon Wijsen

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

COURSE # 5 (Windward Finish)

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

Finish  -----  R/C


(OS) (W)


(Leeward Gate)

Start  -----  R/C

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Addendum #2

Racing Areas

Corinthian Yacht Club is marked by "A" below

