

2012

MELGES³²

U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Sail Newport & Newport Shipyard, Newport, R.I

July 27 – 29, 2012

NOTICE OF RACE



**Organizing Authority: Sail Newport in coordination with the
International Melges 32 Class Association (IM32CA)
Supported by Melges USA**

1. ORGANIZING AUTHORITY AND HEADQUARTERS

- 1.1 Sail Newport is the Organizing Authority (OA) in cooperation with the International Melges 32 Class Association (IM32CA).
- 1.2 The event headquarters will be at the Newport Shipyard. www.newportshipyard.com

2. RULES

- 2.1 This Regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).
- 2.2 The International Melges 32 Class Rules (IM32CR) shall apply except as specifically changed in this Notice of Race (NOR) or in the Sailing Instructions (SIs).
- 2.3 RRS 49.2 is changed in that the lower lifelines shall be considered hiking lines and tension may be modified. In addition, this changes any restriction in RRS 49.1 related to the use of the lower lifelines. IM32CR C.6.1(q) shall not apply.
- 2.4 RRS 42.3(c) is changed to allow the spinnaker sheet to be trimmed without restriction.
- 2.5 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.

- 2.6 All yachts must carry the minimum equipment as required by the U.S. Coast Guard and the IM32CR.
- 2.7 The Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS), Part I – Use of Equipment, shall apply.

3. ADVERTISING

- 3.1 IM32CR C.4.1 ADVERTISING shall apply.
- 3.2 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen and supplied by the organizing Authority. If provided, flags and/or decals shall be displayed beginning on Friday, July 27 through Sunday, July 29, 2012.

4. ELIGIBILITY & ENTRY

- 4.1 The Melges 32 U.S. National Championship Regatta is open to all boats of the International Melges 32 Class that meet the obligations of the IM32CR.
- 4.2 Eligible boats may enter by visiting www.yachtscoring.com and completing the online entry process, paying the required fee, and submitting the Crew Declaration Form (per IM32CR H.7 and Appendix 1) by Thursday, July 12 to be eligible to race.
- 4.3 Any entry submitted after Thursday, July 12 may be accepted at the discretion of the IM32CA.
- 4.4 All entrants must provide the Class Administrator with a completed Sail Declaration, an Owner Compliance Declaration Form and have satisfied the crew weigh-in requirement before the close of registration (1700) on Thursday, July 26, 2012. Original signatures must be provided at registration.

5. FEES

- 5.1 The entry fee is US \$1,175 if received by Thursday, July 12. For entries received after this date, the entry fee will be \$1,400.
- 5.3 Entries will not be valid until payment is received and all required documents are submitted.

6. CLASSIFICATION

- 6.1 The ISAF Sailor Classification Code (Regulation 22) will apply.
- 6.2 All Melges 32 entrants shall submit a completed Crew Declaration Form (Appendix 1) by Thursday, July 12 to the IM32CA via e-mail at classadmin@melges32.com or fax to 1 (912) 756-6728. The form should include ISAF ID. No.'s, Group Classifications and expiration dates for each crew member.
- 6.3 All submitted Crew Declarations will be posted online at www.melges32.com.
- 6.4 Classification protests may be submitted to the IM32CA beginning, Friday, July 13. The Classification Protest Time Limit under ISAF Regulation 22.1 is 1700 on Thursday, July 26.
- 6.5 A representative of the ISAF Sailor Classification Commission may be present during registration and may carry out spot checks.

7. SCHEDULE

Wednesday, July 25

1400 - 1730 Registration and Weigh-in at Newport Shipyard

Thursday, July 26

0900 - 1700 Registration and Weigh-in at Newport Shipyard

1300 Practice Race / Starts (See Event Website & Notice Board for location)

1730 Skippers Meeting at Newport Shipyard

1630 - 1730 Hoists at Sail Newport are not available during this time*

Friday, July 27

0830 - 0930 Crew Substitution Weigh-in

1100 Initial Warning Signal (3 Races Scheduled)

After Racing Cocktails, Newport Shipyard

Saturday, July 28

0830 - 0930 Crew Substitution Weigh-in

1100 Initial Warning Signal (3 Races Scheduled)

After Racing Cocktails, Newport Shipyard

Sunday, July 29

0830 - 0930 Crew Substitution Weigh-in

1100 Initial Warning Signal (2 Races Scheduled)

After Racing Awards Ceremony, Newport Shipyard

7.1 Eight (8) races are scheduled. The Race Committee may run fewer races at its discretion and may make up a race on Sunday if needed.

7.2 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.

*Please refrain from using the lifts at this time. The hoist area at Sail Newport (Admiral's Pier) will be utilized by J/24 Fleet 50. Please also avoid the gin pole area and remove your boats from any floating docks near either hoist. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

8. MEASUREMENT

8.1 Crew Weigh-ins will be conducted at the Newport Shipyard during specified registration times on Wednesday, July 25 and Thursday, July 26 (NOR section 7).

8.2 An IM32CA representative may weigh, measure, or inspect any boat and/or her equipment and sails before, during, or after the races, for compliance to class rules.

- 8.3 There will be no facilities available for initial measurement. Sails shall be measured and stamped by an approved measurer before arrival at the regatta.
- 8.4 Chartered or loaned boats may display national letters and sail numbers in contravention of class rules.

9. BOW NUMBERS

- 9.1 All Melges 32s competing shall race with International Melges 32 Class Association Bow Numbers affixed as instructed in IM32CA Bow Number Policies and Procedures.

10. REPLACEMENT OF CREW

- 10.1 Crew substitutions before and during the event are permitted with the prior written approval of the IM32CA Administrator.
- 10.2 A revised crew list must be submitted to the IM32CA for approval prior to the race to which it applies.
- 10.3 Crew substitutions may weigh-in during the designated Substitute Crew Weigh-in period from 0830 to 0930 daily. Weigh-in must be completed no later than 0930 on the first day that the substitute will compete.

11. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 11.1 The SIs will be available on the event website prior to the event and at registration.

12. RACING AREA AND THE COURSES

- 12.1 Racing will take place in the waters of Narragansett Bay and Rhode Island Sound off Newport, Rhode Island.
- 12.2 The course to be sailed will be a Windward/Leeward configuration. Specific course details will be provided in the SIs.

13. SCORING

- 13.1 The Low Point Scoring System of RRS Appendix A will apply.
- 13.2 When fewer than six races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 13.3 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. This changes RRS A2.
- 13.4 Three races are necessary to constitute a series.

14. COACH AND SUPPORT BOATS

- 14.1 Restrictions on Support Boats shall apply as described in IM32CR H.5 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE.
- 14.2 Only support boats that have registered with the OA at registration will be allowed in the racing area.
- 14.3 Additional coach and support instructions may be included in the Sailing Instructions.

15. LAUNCHING AND BERTHING

- 15.1 Docking and boat and trailer storage is available at Sail Newport at the direction of the Sail Newport staff. For specific arrangements, contact Vinnie at Sail Newport via phone (401-846-1983) or email (vinnie@sailnewport.org)
- 15.2 The Sail Newport Hoist will be available between the hours of 0830 and 2000 on Wednesday, July 25 and Thursday, July 26 with the exception of a one-hour black out on Thursday to accommodate local J24s between 1630 and 1730.
- 15.3 Docking and launching arrangements can also be made by contacting the Newport Shipyard at (401) 846 - 6000.

16. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

- 16.1 All competing boats shall be afloat by 1800 on Thursday, July 26. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the IM32CA. Violations of this clause will not be protestable by another boat. This changes RRS 60.1.
- 16.2 Other than in an emergency, boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with and according to the terms of prior permission from the Class Administrator or the Principle Race Officer.

17. RADIO COMMUNICATION

- 17.1 Each boat shall carry a radio capable of transmitting and receiving VHF channels. The Race Committee's VHF communication channel shall be posted on the Official Notice Board and announced at the Skipper's Meeting.

18. PRIZES

- 18.1 Prizes will be awarded to the top three finishers overall with the top finisher to be named the U.S. National Champion.

19. INSURANCE

- 19.1 All boats are required to hold adequate third-party insurance and it is the owner or owner's representative's sole and inescapable responsibility to ensure that the insurance is in place and is adequate.

20. MEDIA RIGHTS

- 20.1 Competitors give absolute right and permission for video footage or photographs of themselves or their boat to be published in any media for press, editorial or advertising purposes.

21. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

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 include the OA, Race Committee, Protest Committee, the State of Rhode Island, sponsors, volunteers, or any other affiliated organization or official who 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 during shoreside or on-the-water activities. 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.

22. FURTHER INFORMATION

Sail Newport (www.sailnewport.org)

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