

The Buddy Melges Challenge

NOTICE OF RACE

September 11 - 13, 2009
US Sailing Center Sheboygan
Sheboygan, WI, U.S.A

1) ORGANISING AUTHORITY

The Organizing Authority (OA) will be the US Sailing Center Sheboygan (USSCS) with cooperation and advice from the Women's International Match Racing Association.

2) VENUE

The venue will be Sheboygan, Wisconsin

3) EVENT GRADING

This event has applied for an ISAF Grading of 3. This grading is subject to review by the ISAF Match Race Advisory Board. The event may be re-graded when there is clear reason for doing so.

4) PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

4.1) The provisional schedule of events is:

- a) Race office opens Thursday, September 10, 1400
- b) Registration/weigh-ins will be; Thursday, September 10, 1400 - 1800
- c) Practice from: Thursday, September 10, 1500 - 1800
- d) First briefing at: Thursday, September 10, 1900
- e) First meeting with umpires; Thursday, September 10, 1830
- f) Racing days from: Friday, September 11 – Sunday, September 13
- g) Time of the first attention signal each day will be; 0900
- h) Prize giving will follow ASAP after racing on Sunday, September 13
- i) No attention signal will be made after: 1500 on Sunday, September 13

4.2) Unless excused by the OA, attendance at the following is mandatory:

- a) Initial briefing, for skippers.
- b) Daily briefing, for skippers.
- c) Umpires Debrief for skippers.
- d) Announced Press Conferences
- e) Regatta social events, for skippers and crews.
- f) Prize giving, for skippers and crews.

5) SKIPPERS ELIGIBILITY

- a) Up to twelve (12) skippers will be invited. Only skippers invited by the OA will be eligible to enter this event.
- b) "Requests for Invitation Forms" may be downloaded from <http://www.ussailingcentersheboygan.org>. Requests must be submitted by e-mail to melgeschallenge@ussailingcentersheboygan.org before 00:00 CDT on August 1, 2009.
- c) Invitations will be issued August 1, 2009.
- d) To remain eligible a skipper shall confirm acceptance of invitation by e-mail.
- e) All skippers shall be members of the Women's International Match Racing Association and of their National Authority.

- f) Online payment by major credit card or electronic check of a \$250.00 (US) non-refundable entry bond shall accompany the acceptance of invitation for this to be valid. Instructions for payment will be provided with a skipper's invitation. At registration, this money will be credited to the registration fee.
- g) All competitors shall meet the eligibility requirements of ISAF Regulation 19.2.
- h) The registered skipper shall helm the yacht at all times while racing, except in an emergency. All skippers shall obtain an ISAF Sailor ID by registering online at www.sailing.org/isafsailor.

6) ENTRIES

6.1) Entry Completion -- The team shall be entered on completion of registration, crew weighing and the payment of all fees and deposits. All payments at the venue shall be made by credit card, cash, or check in US dollars.

6.2) Entry Fee -- The entry fee for this regatta is \$500.

6.3) Damage Deposit

- a) An initial damage deposit of \$500 (US) shall be paid at registration, unless extended by the OA. This deposit is the maximum payable by the skipper as a result of any one incident.
- b) In the event that a deduction from the damage deposit is made by the OA, it may require that the deposit be restored to its original amount before the skipper will be permitted to continue in the event.
- c) If no deposit is used, the damage deposit will be refunded when the OA's equipment is returned. If a deposit is used damage deposits will be refunded after all repair work is completed, and final bills have been paid.

7) RULES

7.1) Basic Rules

a) The event will be governed by the rules as defined in the Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), and including Appendix C.

b) The rules for the handling of boats will apply, and will also apply to any practice sailing and sponsor races.

7.2) The prescriptions of US SAILING will not apply, except the US SAILING prescriptions to rules 68, 76.1, and new rule 76.3, which are stated in full in paragraph 18 below.

8) BOATS AND SAILS

a) The event will be sailed in Elliott 6m type boats.

b) 8 boats will be provided.

c) The following sails will be provided for each boat: mainsail, jib, and spinnaker.

d) Boats will be allocated by draw, either daily or for each stage as decided by the Race committee.

e) US Coast Guard approved wearable life jackets will be provided for each boat. Competitors may wish to bring their own for fit and comfort.

9) CREW (INCLUDING SKIPPER)

a) The skipper and all crew shall be female.

b) The maximum number of crew (including the skipper) shall be 3. All registered crew shall sail all races.

c) The maximum total crew weight, determined prior to racing shall be 204 kg, when wearing at least shorts and shirts.

d) When a registered skipper is unable to continue in the event, the OA may authorize a crew member to substitute.

e) When a registered crew member is unable to continue as crew member in the event, the OA may authorize a substitute, a temporary substitute or other adjustment.

10) EVENT FORMAT

a) The event will consist of the following stages:

Stage 1 Round Robin

Each skipper will race against each other skipper once. The eight skippers with highest total score after tie breaks have been applied will advance to Stage 2.

Stage 2 Quarter Final Knockout Series

The winners of each series of stage 2 will be the first boat to score 3 points. The winning 4 skippers advance to stage 3.

Stage 3 Semi Final

The first skipper to score two points will advance to the Finals. The remaining skippers will advance to the Petit Finals

Stage 4 Final/Petit-Final Series

The winner in the Final series will be the first skipper to score 3 points. The winner in the Petit-Final series will be the first boat to score 2 points.

b) The OA may change the format, terminate or eliminate any round when conditions do not permit the completion of the intended format.

11) COURSE

- a) The course will be windward/leeward with starboard roundings, finishing downwind.
- b) The intended course area shall be immediately to the North, or South of the Sheboygan Harbor, as close to shore as wind and sea conditions will permit.

12) ADVERTISING

- a) The OA intends to supply the following equipment: boat and sails. ISAF Regulation 20.3.2 will apply and Category C advertising as supplied by the OA is to be displayed on this equipment.
- b) Competitors may be required to wear clothing or a logo of an event sponsor while racing or at official functions.
- c) Competitors may be permitted to display advertising ashore at the venue, but this is subject to individual negotiation with the OA.
- d) Boats shall not be permitted the right to protest for breaches of any rules regarding advertising (changes RRS 60.1).

13) PRIZES

- a) Prizes will be awarded to the skipper and crew of boats placing first through third.
- b) The names of the winning team will be engraved on the perpetual trophy.

14) MEDIA, IMAGES AND SOUND

The OA may require television personnel and equipment to be carried on board while racing and may require competitors to be available for interviews. The OA shall have the right to use any competitor's name, and/or likeness as well as any images and/or sound recorded during the event free of any charge.

15) COACH BOATS

- a) Coach boats shall conspicuously display the identification of the team being coached. A coach boat is any boat that is under the direction or control of a person gathering information or giving material support for the benefit of particular competitors either on or off the water.
- b) The OA may have coach boats for charter on a first come first served basis, or may be able to provide launching, and berthing for coach boats that are brought to the event. Teams needing coach boat support should contact the OA as soon as possible to make appropriate arrangements.
- c) Any interference by a coach boat with the racing or event organization may result in a penalty applied at the discretion of the Protest Committee to the appropriate skipper or team.

16) OTHER INFORMATION

- a) Housing will be provided by the OA, either in the private homes of Sheboygan Area Residents, or at Lakeland College. If a skipper wishes to arrange for her own housing, please advise the OA as soon as possible.
- b) Continental breakfast, lunch and cold drinks will be provided to all competitors on all race days

17) DISCLAIMER

All those taking part in the event do so at their own risk. The OA, its associates and appointees accept no responsibility for any loss, damage, injury or inconvenience incurred, howsoever caused.

18) APPLICABLE US SAILING PRESCRIPTIONS

18.1)After RRS 68 add: "US SAILING prescribes that:

- a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for damages.
- b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US SAILING appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts.
- c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of risk' for monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats."

18.2)After RRS 76.1 add: "US SAILING prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age."

18.3)Add RRS 76.3: "US SAILING prescribes that a boat whose entry is rejected or cancelled or a competitor who is excluded from a race or series shall be, upon written request, entitled to a hearing conducted by the protest committee under rules 63.2, 63.3, 63.4 and 63.6."

19) INVITATIONS

19.1)Only skippers invited by the OA will be eligible to compete.

19.2)Invitations will be issued according to the following procedure.

- a) **August 1, 2009**
 - (i) Initial Invitations will be issued.
 - (ii) Those not initially invited will be placed on a wait list and notified of their position.

(iii) If a skipper notifies the OA that they do not intend to accept their invitation, the OA will rescind her invitation, and invite the next skipper on the wait list. In consideration of competitors on the wait list, invited skippers who do not intend to compete should advise the OA as soon as possible of their change in plans.

b) **August 7, 2009**

- (i) The OA may rescind the invitation of any skipper who has not accepted her invitation, and issue an invitation to the next skipper on the wait list.
- (ii) Skippers invited after August 1, 2009 will have 1 week from the date their invitation is issued to accept or decline their invitation after which time the OA may rescind their invitation.

20) CONTACTS

Hans Graf
Regatta Chairman
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WIMRA Event Representative
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Jeff Borland
Chief Umpire
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Buddy Melges Challenge

Request for Invitation

Elliott 6m Women's Match Race Regatta
Sheboygan, Wisconsin
September 11 - 13, 2009

Competitor Information

First Name:

Primary Phone#:

Last Name:

Secondary Phone #:

Street Address:

Date of Birth:

City:

ISAF Sailor ID:

State/Territory:

MNA Authority Membership #:

Postcode:

E-mail:

Country:

Please describe your recent sailing accomplishments:

To submit this completed request, you may:

- Press the "Submit Form" button at the top of this page
- Save the form, and e-mail to melgeschallenge@ussailingcentersheboygan.org