



U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OUTLINE FOR HOST CLUB

Held annually on the second or fourth weekend in September, the Melges 15 Class Association will sponsor a US National Championship Regatta. The event will have up to nine races over three days, on a Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The regatta venue will be rotated regionally. The rotation will attempt to follow this pattern but it is at the discretion of the organizing authority as to what region will host the Nationals.

In order to facilitate both the Association and local host club coordination, regatta bids are solicited and typically awarded two years in advance. Information regarding the schedule is available from Melges. Exceptions to the regional sequence are made to foster and encourage Melges 15 sailing at various new sites around the country.

Organizations and clubs are encouraged to submit bids and invitations to the M15 Class. The Nationals Bid form is available at melges15.com/submit-a-bid.

National Championship invitations are received, and regatta bids are awarded pursuant to the following requirements.

In the event either the host organization or IM15CA feels any of these provisions should be modified or may be inadequate for any particular site, it should be clearly presented.

Otherwise, the bids and invitations are accepted pursuant to these provisions as follows:

TIMELINE OF RESPONSIBILITIES - The “Host Club Timetable” is provided in this document as the schedule and template for the Host Club’s and the Association’s responsibilities for organizing and running the National Championship Regatta. The purpose of identifying these items is to preclude any misunderstanding as to responsibilities and relative obligations. If there is any question, it should be directed at the earliest opportunity to the M15 Class. The Host Club should advise the M15 Class at the time of bid, or immediately upon awareness, of any anticipated difficulty in meeting these responsibilities.

PRO and JUDGES - The M15 Class will appoint or must approve the regatta’s PRO and Chief Judge. The PRO may bring additional race committee personnel as necessary for key positions as part of the overall race committee team. Race committee personnel will be appointed in a coordinated effort with the PRO and host club based on experience and expertise. A second

National Judge and the third member of the protest committee will be appointed in a coordinated effort with the Chief Judge and Host Club.

FEES AND EXPENSES - The host club will set up and collect the entry fees for the participants in the regatta. Onsite assistance to collect fees at the registration desk should be provided by the host club. **All such fees will be collected in the name of the M15 Class through Clubspot's software.**

The host club shall pay 20% of the collected registration fees to the Melges 15 Class Association. This sanctioning fee will be applied towards regatta promotion/advertising, media, and event coverage along with onsite support for Melges 15 Sailors.

Local publicity will be the responsibility of the host club.

The club will provide meals for the traveling race committee and judges, rental of cranes, fuel for committee boats, and similar items, as needed.

In as much as the variety of sites may range from a large public park to an established yacht club facility, local expenses may vary. If this arrangement is not satisfactory, a proposed modification to this financial arrangement must be made at the time of the bid. The regatta should not be run at a loss by the host club; oppositely, it should not be undertaken as a significant profit maker.

The Host Club will pay for all trophies. The Host Club is responsible for acquiring appropriate one-time award trophies. The proposed take-home trophies must be approved by the M15 Class. (See Article IX – Trophies, for more explanation).

HOST REQUIREMENTS FOR M15 CLASS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

1. Facilities needed at or near Yacht Club/Regatta Headquarters:

- Parking for cars and trailers.
- Crane(s) and/or launching ramp/beach suitable for launching and hauling 100 boats each day.
- Space for dry sailing up to 100 Melges 15s on dollies.
- Tables for registration.
- Adequate bathroom facilities for approximately 160 people.
- Having larger boats near the racing area with adequate toilet facilities for competitors to use between races is appreciated if possible.
- Room for Protest Committee to meet and host hearing protests.
- Secure space for trophies, equipment, and supplies to be stored.
- Power source for sailors' repairs.
- Wireless internet access for registration, scoring, regatta reports, competitor use, and general communication.
- RC Equipment including, marks, powerboats, and other equipment required by the PRO.

2. Facilities required for M15 Class/MPS:

The Club must provide a central location for Melges Performance Sailboats Event/Charter Trailer. Size TBD.

The Club must allow Melges Performance Sailboats and the Melges 15 Class to place flags, banners, and other promotional items on club grounds during the event.

2. Social Events & Food

Host Club will arrange the following:

Friday Night

Casual party with light hors d'oeuvres and alcoholic refreshments immediately following the last race. No cost to the competitors.

Saturday Night

- Annual Banquet (Cost included with registration)
- PA system with Microphone
- Live music and space for post-dinner dancing/party

Other:

- Provide lunches and beverages as well as entry to all competitor social events for all RC members on practice and race days (free of charge).
- Host Club will arrange a space for the M15 Class Annual Meeting.
- Lunches may be provided for competitor purchases, but should not be included in the registration fee.

IMPORTANT: The IM15CA does not cover the financial cost of meals or social events (this is a Host Club expense).

3. Housing

The Host Club will provide housing in private homes, rentals, or hotel rooms for: the PRO, traveling RC team, traveling Judges, and the IM15CA management. The PRO will work with the Regatta Chair on the specifics of the housing needed.

The policy of the IM15CA is to keep the cost of competitor housing as low as possible. Housing in private homes is desirable, if practical (with preference to traveling RC members and judges, IM15CA management, and the sailors traveling the longest distance).

PLEASE NOTE: Traveling Race Committee and Judges receive no compensation for their services.

4. Concessions

The Host Club has the exclusive right to sell or arrange to sell food, liquor, and beer. However, subject to the host club's budget, free beer for the immediate period after the day's racing is a congenial practice.

5. Race Committee Boats and Other Boats – the Host Club will arrange for:

- Signal Boat (25-foot or larger powerboat with enclosed or covered area).
- Mark Set Boats - As PRO dictates depending on fleet size - 18-25 foot powerboats.
- Safety/Rescue boats – 16-20 foot boats (total number dependent on fleet size)
- Having larger boats near the racing area with adequate toilet facilities for competitors to use between races is appreciated if possible.

Please advise as to the expected availability of rescue and spectator boats by Aug 1 so that competitors/spectators can be encouraged or discouraged from bringing their own boats. Launching/mooring facilities and gas for powerboats brought by sailor spectators are not the responsibility of the host club.

6. Race Committee Equipment

The Host Club will arrange for the following race time items (Check with PRO):

- Arrangements for race committee boats to re-fuel as needed.
- Protest forms.
- 8 Marks of uniform size and color.
- 2 Marks of a different size and color.

7. The M15 Class Will Provide the Following:

- Perpetual trophies. It will also pay for traveling awards that are chosen and approved in partnership between the Host Club and M15 Class.
- Up-to-date membership lists.
- M15 Class regatta flag.

8. Regatta Software

The IM15CA requires host clubs to use Clubspot for registration and scoring.

SPONSORSHIP

The Host club must abide by the below sponsorship guidelines:

- The Melges 15 Class/ Melges reserves the right to solicit sponsorship for its class-sanctioned events.
- The host club has the right to solicit and book sponsorship so long as the sponsor is not in the marine industry.
- Melges Performance Sailboats shall be the only onsite boat, parts, and sailing gear vendor allowed at M15 Class Sanctioned events.

HOST CLUB TIMETABLE

By February 15, Year of Nationals:

Conference Call:

- PRO to schedule a conference call with the Regatta Chair(s) and Class Manager (or other class representatives) to cover regatta specifics to be included in the NOR • An event logo, provided by the Host Club and approved by the Class will need to be sent to MPS for the NOR and the event website.
- Determine who the Host Club contact will be for coordinating with the PRO about the RC team and what the RC boats need to be. Housing for the RC traveling team and Judges will also be discussed.

- Discuss the plan for Safety boats.

Host Club to Supply:

- The host club is to provide a draft budget to the M15 Class in alignment with understanding and the expectations of both organizations.

First Week of March

- NOR to be posted on the regatta website.

By August 1

- Overall person(s) in charge of Host Club's arrangements.
- Housing.
- A regatta reporter to write TIMELY articles for publication about the ongoing event and results (may be provided by Melges.)
- A person to update social media feeds about the regatta before, during, and after the Event. (may be provided by Melges.)
- General estimate of expected availability of housing and camping, parking, food, bathrooms, and any expected problems due to local conditions.
- Permits, etc. – the Host Club will arrange for:
 - All permits to use lake/bay for the event.
 - Notifying all local officials concerning the regatta and obtain any necessary permission for parking, launching, etc.
 - Medical emergency arrangements and procedures, telephone numbers, etc.
- Host Club's Race Committee coordinator to provide the PRO with an update on the club's RC staffing progress and what RC boats they have lined up. If there is a shortage of either, a plan is to be developed on how to fill any "holes" there are for people and RC boats.
- Supply MPS with the following items for posting on the regatta website for competitor information:
 - Map of lake/bay area showing roads, yacht club location, etc.
 - Directions to yacht club and launching areas from freeways.
 - Safety equipment required by local conditions.
 - List of hotels and accommodations.
 - Location and availability of campsites.
 - Name, address, and phone number of persons to assist in housing.
 - Any other information on the area, such as ferry boats, airports, etc.
 - Place to launch power boats and to get gas.
 - Desirability of bringing power boats.
 - Availability of sail and boat repair.
- Supply PRO with map of sailing area relative to the yacht club.

By September 1

- Host Club's RC coordinator to confirm with the PRO who the club has commitments from for RC staffing and what their experience levels are (and age) and what RC boats they have lined up for duty.
- Host Club RC coordinator to provide to the PRO - the contact information for all the club's RC volunteers and boat owners.
- Confirm with Host Club what safety boats have been arranged for.

Two Days Before First Race (Wednesday)

- Arrange for all race committee BOATS to assemble at Regatta Headquarters for installation of equipment.
- Place suitable signs to help guide incoming sailors on where to go.

On Day Before First Race (Thursday)

- Host registration and check-in
- Assemble launching crew as local conditions require. Relief crews also needed.
- Hold a full Race Committee meeting for all RC team members at 11am onsite.
- Host an afternoon practice race for competitors using the same Race Committee personnel, equipment, and procedures that will be used for the event. This should be considered a practice session for the RC team also.

CONTACT

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