

# Melges 24 USA

The National Newsletter of the United States Melges 24 Class Association

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Photo Courtesy: Fiona Brown

## KEY WEST RACE WEEK

JAN 19 - 23, 2004

US Ranking Event 1

Terra Nova Trading Key West Race Week is held in fantastic Key West, Florida, during the third week of January. It's one of the premiere events to attend each year if you are a serious Melges 24 racer. The week amounts to five action-packed days of world-class, high-performance one-design sailing. The Melges fleet can easily exceed 55 boats or more which makes it an ideal venue for sharpening those team sailing skills in the large fleet arena. Adding to the venue is the wonderful warm weather in the winter months. At the end of every day are the great parties and dining. And, for the family— that is, if they are not racing— shopping, sandy beaches and a multitude of various water sports are fun alternatives.

The best of the best go to Key West such as, 2003 Melges 24 World Champion Shark Kahn, 2002 Melges 24 World Champion and repeated Key West Race Week

Champion Harry Melges, as well as 2001 Melges 24 World Champion and past Key West Champion Flavio Favini. Others that make it a regular event is Dave Ullman, Argyle Campbell, John and Brian Porter, US Class President; Jeff Jones, Bruce Ayres and Phillippe Kahn. From across the pond and beyond are Phillippe Ligot, IMCA Treasurer; Quentin Strauss, North Sails One-Design expert; Nigel Young, Rob Smith, Stuart Rix, Paul Brotherton, Ian Cleaver and Richard Thomson.

Key West is a big event with big presence in the sailing world. If you have never been, you should definitely go. This event will not disappoint! Key West is also listed as the first of ten events on the International Melges 24 Class Association's North American Ranking events and is a points regatta counting toward regional and national ranking titles. For more

information on Key West Race Week go to [www.premiere-racing.com](http://www.premiere-racing.com). This site is regularly updated with it's own supporting stories, events and results at the end of each day. ★

**ST. PETERSBURG NOOD REGATTA**

**FEB 13 - 15, 2004**

**US Ranking Event 2**

The St. Petersburg NOOD Regatta is a welcomed cool down from the red-hot competition in Key West. The regatta is hosted at the legendary St. Petersburg Yacht Club. The club itself is worth traveling to see. Seated on the waterfront, it has a long running history of excellent facilities, outstanding personal service and dining, not to mention the best of top-notch sailing in the area.

Most would never suspect St. Petersburg, Florida to be the hot spot that it is, however if you are a Melges 24 sailor you have to visit St. Pete's to get a real feel for the fantastic sailing conditions that frequent the fleets. The Melges 24 is among a handful of one-design fleets sailing during the event and proves every time that to be a part of the Melges armada is to be on the ultimate edge. Just about everyone that travels to Key West moves on



Photo Courtesy: Michelle Krembel



to St. Pete's. So don't be surprised to find yourself racing alongside the best of the best. The fleet can reach 30+ on the line with competition on the Southeast regional level that's hard to beat!

Visit the St. Petersburg Yacht Club website at [www.spyc.org](http://www.spyc.org) and see for yourself the

excellent facilities and sailing that awaiting your arrival this coming February 2004! For more information about this event or the Southeast schedule of events contact **Scott Gregory**, Southeast District Governor at [sgregory@hlclaw.com](mailto:sgregory@hlclaw.com). The Southeast Region is one of the fastest growing Melges 24 regions in the USA. ★



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### SAN DIEGO NOOD REGATTA

MAR 19 - 21, 2004

US Ranking Event 3

A fantastic event to attend on the Westcoast is The San Diego NOOD, the second in a series of NOOD regattas held across the country. Three days of sailing is hosted by the hospitable and well-organized San Diego Yacht Club in San Diego, California. The club is no stranger to bringing the best of sailing from around the world and offering the best in amenities. Check out their site [www.sdyc.org](http://www.sdyc.org) that contains a wealth of information about their spa, pool, tennis courts and vast docking facilities. It hosts close to 50

events every year and the NOOD regatta is one of them, offering the best in National Off-shore One-Design racing. Stay tuned to the US Melges 24 Class Association website [melges24.com/usmca](http://melges24.com/usmca) for further information about this and other NOOD regattas scheduled for 2004. Additional information can be found at Sailing World's website [www.sailingworld.com](http://www.sailingworld.com). ★

### UPCOMING SPRING EVENTS

**Annapolis NOOD**, Annapolis, MD  
April 30 - May 02, 2004

**US Nationals**, Santa Cruz, CA  
May 05 - 08, 2004

**Chicago NOOD**, Chicago, IL  
June 13 - 15, 2004

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