



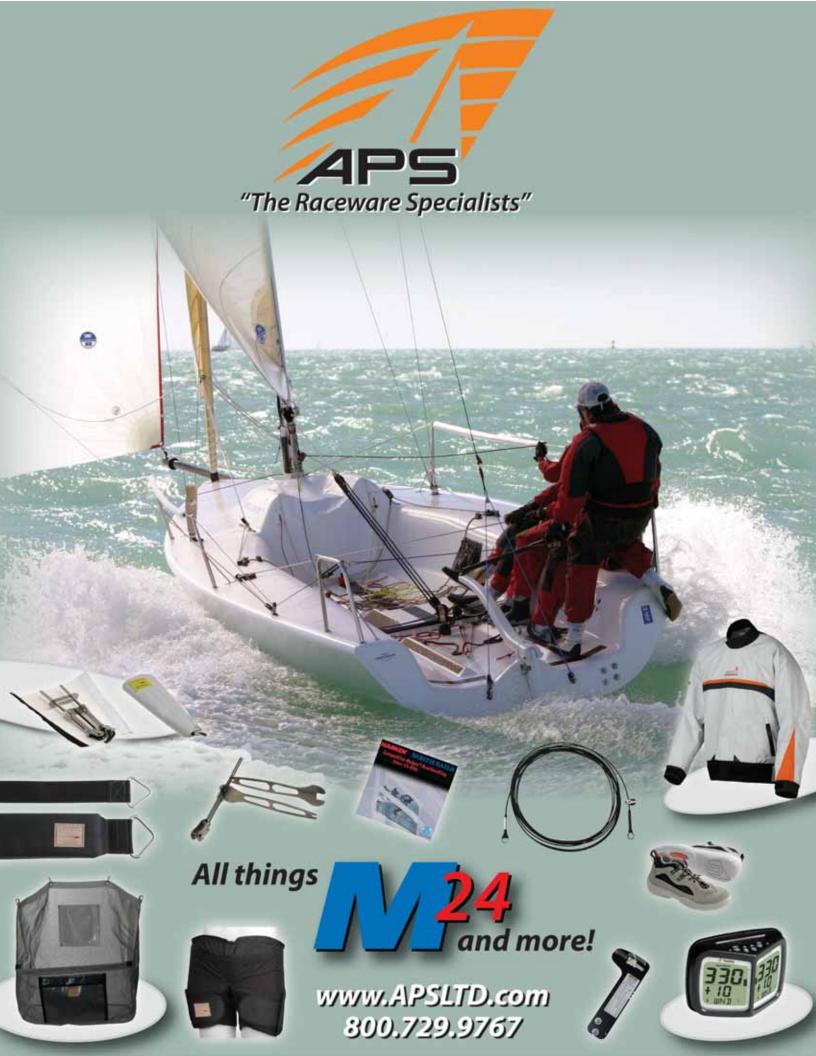
21-23 September 2007 * Bayview Yacht Club * Detroit, Michigan * www.melges24racing/nationals.com

North American Ranking Event

The 2007 Melges 24 National Championship, year-after-year delivers the ultimate in high-powered, sportboat racing and coming this September 21-23 at the Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit, Michigan the stakes will be high and the competition supreme — early participation estimates predict a minimum Fifty boot turnout. If that happens, this could be one of the the largest gatherings ever beyond Key West Race Week and Worlds! Visit the official National Championship website - www.melges24racing/nationals.com.

See Page 7 for complete details.











Contents: M24*USA

The Official Magazine of the US Melges 24 Class Association Volume 4 ★ Issue 3 ★ Summer 2007 ★ www.usmelges24.com



ON THE COVER: 2007 Melges 24 U.S. National Championship

The 2007 Melges 24 National Championship, year-after-year delivers the ultimate in high-powered, sportboat racing and coming this September 21-23 at the Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit, Michigan! Visit the official event website — www.melges24racing/nationals.com.

2007 U.S. Gold Cup Regatta 6 18-19 August
Charleston Yacht Club * Charleston, South Carolina
2007 U.S. National Championship
21-23 September
Bayview Yacht Club ★ Detroit, Michigan
2007 Worlds Recap in Pictures 8
Interview: Paul Hulsey
Paul Hulsey, USA-615 * Hoodlum Racing * 2007 Detroit NOOD
Corinthian Champion
Fleet Report: Southeast * Gulf Coast

Southeast: Reid Collins Gulf Coast: Matt Mayo

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2007 Hall of Fame 14



www.usmelges24.com 5

2007 U.S. GOLD CUP REGATTA

The Fall Racing Circuit is teaming with awesome events and venues in 2007. Lining up front and center is the famous Melges 24 Gold Cup Regatta in Charleston, South Carolina on August 17-19. Held in conjunction with the Charleston Harbor Challenge, it's never too late to get in on the fun at this regatta as the numbers keep on growing. This year as many as thirty Melges 24s are expected to attend making it one of the largest ever.

Each year, this famous American city serves up the max in great hospitality (including an amazing shrimp boil), superior racing conditions and delivers the best in friends, competition and fun.

This regatta showcases a Corinthian division so as you prepare the boat and the crew, remember that ISAF Classification will be required to qualify. Visit ISAF online at *www.sailing.org*. Weigh-in for this event is from 16:30-19:00 on Friday, August 17 in the afternoon and again on Saturday, August 18 from 08:00-0930. Valid measurement certificates are required for competition.

If you have any questions about the Gold Cup, contact Charleston Melges 24 fleet captain Reggie Fairchild on email at reggiefairchild@gmail.com or call 843-259-1717

The Gold Cup is just the beginning to some awesome Melges 24 racing! Mark your calendar and check out these other very cool, upcoming events:

Gulf Coast Championship/WFORC ★ Pensacola, FL ★ October 13-14

Melbourne Race Week ★ Melbourne, FL ★ October 27-28

ACC/King's Day Regatta ★ Jacksonville, FL ★ November 16-18

Key Largo Regatta ★ Key Largo, FL ★ December 8-9





★ FIFTY-NINE STRONG ★

The Gold Cup Regatta is the fourth event in the 2007 Melges 24 Southeast Circuit Standings sponsored by Quantum Sail Group. More than fifty boats (fifty-nine to be exact) are actively participating in this years' highly contested and very competitive circuit points race. Leading the pack with 95 points, Charleston local Steven Kopf on 'Blur' from Isle of Palms, South Carolina sits comfortably in the top spot. So far, Kopf has raced every regatta in the seven series competition. In second place is USMCA President, Scott Gregory from Marietta, Georgia and his team that demands nothing but satisfaction — 'Team Satisfaction' with 88 points and in third is Mike Krantz from Flowery Branch, Georgia on 'Lamorak' with 76 points.

Keep up with these standings online at the official web site for the US Melges 24 Class Association at http://www.usmelges24.com/fleets/southeast.asp





2007 U.S. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

★ SPEED SUPREME ★

Fast. Fun. Furious Melges 24 racing is the next big thing in Detroit this fall. As one of the largest local fleets in the country, the Midwest fleet is rock solid as it builds up to the 2007 National Championship event. "We've got the fastest-growing Melges 24 fleet in the country right now — and possibly the world," said Greg McCliment, regatta vice-chairman and local fleet captain. "I'll be surprised if we have less than fifty boats here, and we're shooting for sixty."

Melges 24 sailors are looked upon as the elite, and one of the reasons they love the M24 so much has to be the speed. Late September was specifically chosen for its traditional breeze on conditions, so the downwind rides will be spectacular. Be there!

★ EVENT SCHEDULE ★

Thursday, September 20th Registration & Clinic

Friday, September 21s Registration, Skippers Meeting,

Racing & Nightly Entertainment

Saturday, September 22nd Racing & Dinner Party

Sunday September 23rd Racing & Awards

For more information, check out all the latest news, racing documents and register online at www.melges24racing.com/nationals.

ULLMAN TO CONDUCT RACING CLINIC PRIOR TO NATIONALS

Reigning World Champion Dave Ullman has confirmed that he will hold a pre-Nationals Melges 24 racing clinic on September 20th generously sponsored by Latis Yachting Solutions. Boat-handling and starting drills on the water will commence the clinic, then afterwards, Ullman will lead a post-sailing debrief session.

This will be an opportunity you will not want to miss. Dave is one of the most approachable sailors in the world and he is by far one of the most knowledgeable and charismatic personalities within the class. "Many class members have been talking about setting up this kind of clinic for a long time, and I'm excited we're finally making it happen," Ullman said. "The best classes always work to improve themselves, and we hope this type of clinic will become and annual tradition for every USMCA National and North American event."





WORLDS in pictures

The Santa Cruz Worlds this past May not only showed off the power, speed and competitiveness of the Melges 24, the event also delivered some amazing photographs as seen in this feature collection from IMCA Official and world-renown photographer Paul Todd with Outside Images. West Coast photographer Serge Zaravin (who also captured whales leaping at the weathermark) created some dynamic images of his own.



















Interview: Paul Hulsey

Paul Hulsey, USA-615 * Hoodlum Racing * 2007 Detroit NOOD Corinthian Champion



1.) How old were you when you started sailing and what classes of boats did you learn to sail on?

I started sailing in 1982 (Age 11) at Bayview Yacht Club's Junior Sailing program. What started as a cheap form of day care for my parents quickly grew into my passion. I ended up staying in Bayview's sailing program until I graduated from high school and then taught sailing at Grosse Pointe Yacht Club through college. I would say that I mostly sailed Flying Juniors and Lasers during that time.

2.) Who has been the most influential person when it comes to sailing? The Melges 24 or sailing in general?

I would say that the most influential Melges 24 sailor would have to be our Midwest governor, Mike Dow. Mike has put together an incredible program that seems to have the right balance between having fun, on and off the water, and performing well on the race course all the time. He also contributes a great deal of time and effort into growing our local Midwest fleet. In the last five years we have tripled our fleet size in Michigan and great part of that success is due to Mike's efforts.

3.) How long have you had your Melges 24 and what first attracted you to the class?

I have been in the class for five years now and have owned two boats (USA 347 and now USA 615). Personally, I have always been attracted to the Melges 24 because of its performance; however, the decision to buy one was really a group effort. There was a strong need for a small keel boat in Detroit area after a very strong Etchels fleet diminished during the late 90's. A group of sailors including Chuck Holzman, Greg McCliment, Marc Hollerbach, Rob and Laurie Bunn and a few others held a meeting during the fall of 2002 that featured the Melges 24. We all made the decision to purchase a boat that following winter. Our Lake St. Clair fleet has been growing ever since and we are now at 19 boats just five years later.

4.) What turns you on the most about your Melges 24?

The Melges 24 is obviously a very fun boat to sail, however, the best part about the Melges 24 are the people in the class. I have never met a more talented group of sailors that are so willing to share information. The class truly makes the boat.

5.) What top three Melges 24 speed tips are you willing to share?

(1) Shifting gears as the wind goes up and down is critical. The Melges 24 gets over powered really fast as the breeze comes up. When you think you are hard enough on the rig chances are you're not. We are now maxing out our rig tension in winds over 25 knots (30 full turns on the uppers and lowers). As quick as you go up on the rig it is important to power up as soon as the wind gets softer. (2) Hike hard. (3) Try to sail consistently with the same crew and practice a lot.

6.) To date, what has been your greatest experience on the Melges 24?

There have been so many it is hard to single out just one. If I had to pick one I would say last years Red Fox Regatta in Charlevoix, Michigan. Not just one moment – the whole regatta. I would love to tell you some of the stories but I'm not sure that they would not be appropriate for all of the readers. All I can say is that we ran into the local authorities on more than one occasion.

7.) Tell us a little bit about your crew. From time-to-time we'll see you compete as a Corinthian and other times not? Why is this?

Bottom line is I sail with my friends. I am not a professional sailor and really never hope to be. My goal is to put together a crew that I enjoy sailing with and place as well as we can each race. A few of my friends are in the marine industry and when they fill in from time to time I will register as a CAT 1 team. 90 percent of the time I sail in the Corinthian division. Putting together a steady team is probably the toughest challenge as a boat owner. I have a group of core people that have been with me for the past few years that I really enjoy sailing with them. The core group consists of; Geoff Speelman (Hollywood), Todd Jones, Geoff Kimmel, Karl Trost, Jen Lech and Blair Ross. Currently I'm trying to convince my girl friend, Rychee, to quit her current Melges 24 program and join mine. So far I have not had much luck.

8.) You have served as the fleet captain for the Melges 24 in the Detroit area for quite some time. The number of boats in your area and the caliber of sailor has increased as has the overall participation level at Midwest events. Tell us a little more about the M24 in your area and the subsequent growth of the fleet, most especially what do you do to keep the momentum going?

I would never take the credit for the incredible growth that our fleet has experienced. In my opinion our success is due to a collective effort of our whole Lake St. Clair fleet. We really try and help the new members get up to speed as quickly as possible. As everyone knows there is a bit of a learning curve when starting to sail these boats. Many really good sailors can quickly become frustrated if they do not see any significant gains in performance. We have done a few things that are really helping to reduce the gap between our more experienced teams and the new ones. We are now running a series that we call "Friday Night Lights." We picked 11 Fridays during the summer that we run practices from 6:00 pm until dark that are coached by some of the accomplished fleet members such as Bora Gulari. Right now our goal is to work on starts and mark roundings so we are running six to seven races with really short lines and windward legs. After one lap we roll into another sequence. In between we are also running tacking and gibing drills. So far this summer we have had an incredible turnout drawing at least 15 to 18 boats each night. I think that other fleets are really beginning to take notice of these types of activities and that is drawing new members to our local fleet. We are also contemplating setting up coaching for the newer crews by switching drivers from time to time.

9.) As the Regatta Chair for the upcoming National Championship at the Bayview Yacht Club this September, what are your expectations for the event?

We are really expecting a large turnout for the 2007 Melges 24 National Championship in Detroit. If the Detroit N00D was any indication I think that we could expect to see 50 to 60 teams registered. A few things that I think are going to make this years Nationals exceptional. First we are having a Clinic Thursday September 20, hosted by Latis Yachting and run by Dave Ullman. As our current Melges 24 World Champion, Dave, brings a wealth of knowledge that I'm sure any team could greatly benefit from. Along with Dave we will have a group of professional coaches that are the who's who of the Melges 24 fleet on the water running the practices. This clinic in and of firstelf should be worth the trip to Detroit. We also have full support of our club so expect the accommodations to be first class. Sailing conditions in Detroit are fantastic in September. I certainly can't promise this but we generally see warm temperatures about 80 degrees and fairly windy conditions. The race committee that we have assembled is fantastic so I expect to see some really great sailing on the water. If anyone is interested please check out our website at www.melges24racing.com for more details.

10.) What advice would you have for someone looking to get into a Melges 24 for the first time?

Find a boat and buy it. Trust me you will not regret your choice. If that is a little too scary for you just look me up and I will be happy to take you out on mine any day. I'm sure that there are 700 plus other owners that feel the same way I do

11.) What other events can we expect to see you at this year, in 2008 and beyond?

This year we plan to sail in all of the Midwest events including. Traverse City Invitational, Red Fox, US National Championships and Lake Geneva. We will also do the winter circuit in Florida starting in November with Jacksonville followed by Key West and St. Pete NOOD. After that I'm not sure accept that I am really looking forward to the World Championships in Annapolis in 2009.





September 21-23 • Bayview Yacht Club • Detroit, MI

Go to www.melges24racing.com/nationals to register or view the current entries and event documents



SOUTHEAST: Reid Collins

With 59 boats currently competing for the SE circuit title, the spring season has come to a close here in the Southeast. The series started in February in St. Pete where John Pollard helming 'Xcellent' showed the 40 boat fleet how it was done in a wide variety of conditions. Amongst a long list of awesome people who always make St. Pete a great event, Tom Single helped to organize a great social at the pier. Following St. Pete, our own US class president Scott Gregory aboard Team Satisfaction took over the top spot in the SE circuit with a win at Lake Lanier, GA. This win followed an impressive 3rd place finish in St. Pete for the Satisfaction posse. Through a string of consistent regatta finishes, Steve Kopf sailing Blur has now taken over the lead of the SE circuit and the opportunity to win a brand new Quantum jib after a string of consistent finishes ending with the most recent SE event, Charleston Race Week. Scott Nixon and Quantum Sails continue to actively support the M24 class and SE circuit through the generous contribution of this jib that will be awarded in Jacksonville in November.

The SE circuit is on a short break for the summer until Gold Cup/Charleston Harbor Challenge to take place the weekend of August 18-19. If you haven't already heard, this is a date change from the original date published. This regatta should prove to be the excellent regatta it always is with the added bonus of being a nationally ranked event this year. I believe this event will easily pass the 30 boat mark, so begin making your plans now. For more information, please contact Reggie Fairchild at reggiefairchild@gmail.com or (843) 259-1717. After Charleston, the remaining schedule is as follows:

Oct. 13-14 - Gulf Coast Championship/WFORC - Pensacola, FL Oct. 27-28 - Melbourne Race Week - Melbourne, FL

Nov. 16-18 - Atlantic Coast Championship/King's Day - Jacksonville, FL

Although not on the 2007 SE circuit, plan to attend the M24 Key Largo Regatta the weekend of December 8-9. This event will likely be included in the 2008 season. Look for more details in the very near future.

All details on the SE circuit information including standings, schedule, past champions, and SE e-mail group can be accessed at http://www.usmelges24.com/fleets/southeast.asp

If you have any suggestions on how to make the circuit the best it can be, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail me at (404) 259-4346 or rcollins@northhighland.com



GULFCOAST: Matt Mayo

This spring, racing has been close under varied conditions in the Dallas area of the Gulf Coast region. We started out with some big breeze but the last two events(first events of the circuit) have been less extreme.

Southern Yacht Club near New Orleans just had the One Design Regatta in southern Louisiana. Tim Maloney, Sam Vasquez and Dale Steinkamp are the local hosts of this event with a lot of interest from people displaced from older boats damaged from the storm. What a place to race and enjoy the local scene and food. SYC will have another regatta in December.

Saturday, started out with light to non-existent air, the RC had a course set, but then the wind died. Everyone headed back to the club house for lunch and to wait for the wind to develop. The 1st race started at 2:45 with NW winds at 3-7 and some dead spots in the middle of the course. Jack Kern on *Devil Dog* led the way from the start. The second race was started just a few minutes before the 4:00pm time limit with the wind shifting to the North Again Jack Kern was able to find the fast way around the course.

Sunday, we again started the day with the AP flag. At 10:45 we got the first race of the day started, winds from the South at 5-8 and this time Matt Mayo on *Trick Monkey* built a huge lead over the rest of the fleet. Matt did his best to slow down and let the fleet catch up when his spinnaker somehow found its way to the mainsail batten, but they managed to get it clear and his lead was cut in half, but was able to stay in first for his first win of the weekend. Jack Kern and Matt were now tied for the lead with one more race to go. The last race Jack Kern regained his winning ways and finish first which gave him the regatta win also.

Congratulations to Jack and crew of Devil Dog.

Results

- 1. Jack Kern 1, 1, 4, 1, 7
- 2. Matt Mayo 2, 3, 1, 2, 8
- 3. Steve Wingard/Bryan 4, 2, 3, 5, 14
- 4. Bryan Bayerdorffer 3, 4, 5, 4, 16
- 5. Rick Mallinson dns, dns, 2, 3, 17

Championship standings after two Gulf Coast events:

- 1. Matt Mayo 18
- 2. Jack Kern 17
- 3. Rick Mallinson 16
- 4. Bryan Bayerdorffer 15
- 5. Mark Bryan 14







2007-2008 U.S. Event Schedule

DATE		EVENT	OCATION	CONTACT
2007 NORTH <i>A</i>	AMERICAI	N RANKING EVENTS		
8/18 -	8/19	Charleston Harbor Challenge/Melges 24 Gold Cup	Charleston, SC	Reid Collins • rcollins@northhighland.o
9/21 -	9/23	2007 Melges 24 U.S. National Championship	. Detroit, MI	
10/06 -	10/08	Fall Championship	. Lake Geneva, WI	Andy Burdick • andy@melges.o
10/13 -	10/14	Melges 24 Gulf Coast Championship/WFORC		
		(West Florida Ocean Racing Circuit)	. Pensacola, FL	
10/19 -	10/21	2007 Melges 24 Northeast District Championship/Chesapeake Cup	. Annapolis, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburon@gmail.o
11/16 -	11/18	Atlantic Coast Championship/King's Day Regatta	. Jacksonville, FL	Reid Collins • rcollins@northhighland.o
2007 REGATTA	IS			
7/14 -	7/15	2007 Newport Regatta	. Newport, RI	
7/14 -	7/15	Lake Union/Lake Washington Regatta		
8/03 -	8/05	2007 Heart Cup		the state of the s
8/04 -	8/05	Pacific Northwest Melges 24 Gorge Regatta		
8/26 -	8/27	Melges 24 Grand Traverse Invitational		
9/01 -	9/03	Spud Cup		
9/01 -	9/03	CBYRA Race Week	. Annapolis, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburon@gmail.
9/01 -	9/02	Melges 24 Red Fox Regatta	Lake Charlevoix, MI	Mike Dow • mdow@charterm
9/15 -	9/16	Star & Bar Regatta	. TBD	Paul Bennett • paul_bennett@k2sports.
10/13 -	10/14	PSSC/Fleet Championships	. TBD	
10/27 -	10/28	Melbourne Race Week	Melbourne, FL	
11/02 -	11/04	2007 Melges 24 Pacific Northwest Grand Prix	. TBD	
12/08 -	12/09	Key Largo Regatta	. Key Largo, FL	Jim Creaseman • jim@keylargorealtyinc.o
2008 NORTH <i>i</i>	AMERICA	N RANKING EVENTS		
10/20 -		2008 Melges 24 North American Championship	. Annapolis, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburon@gmail.r
2008 REGATTA	AS			
1/21 -	1/25	2008 Key West Race Week	Key West, FL	
5/28 -	6/9	2008 World Championship	. Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, Porto Cervo, Italy	www.melges24
			For a full listing of 2006-2007 U.S. Melges 24 events, visit www.usm	

*North American/World Ranking Points Events 2007 Hall of Fame

ACURA Key West Race Week* Riccardo Simoneschi (ITA) St. Petersburg NOOD* John Pollard (GBR) Charleston Race Week Simon Strauss (USA) Pacific Coast Championship* Brian Porter (USA)	2007 Fullpower Melges 24 World Championship* David Ullman (USA) Sperry Top-Sider Detroit NOOD* John Podmajersky (USA) 2007 Ullman Sails Race Week David Ullman (USA) 2007 Newport Regatta David Ford (USA)
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	WEST COAST:Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
Joy Dunigan	NORTHWEST: Paul Bennett • paul_bennett@k2sports.com





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