

The Official Magazine of the U.S. Melges 24 Class Association

Volume 6 ★ Issue 2 ★ Spring | Summer 2009

www.usmelges24.com

Melges 24 USA



SLAM
2009
MELGES 24
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

EVENT : SE SERIES NO. 4 | SEC NO. 7



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CREDITS AND CONTRIBUTORS: Concept/Design/Editorial: JOY

On The Cover: Porsche Cup of Naples Melges 24 Champion Gary Schwarting aboard *USA-622 Obsession* downwind. The name says it all. Photo by JOY Photography: JH Peterson, Joy Dunigan
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2009 MELGES 24 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

SLAM

The U.S. Melges 24 Class Association extends a very special thanks to SLAM, title sponsor of the 2009 U.S. National Championship Series. Filippo Bovio and his team at Regata U.S.A. LLC have graciously supplied the fleet with SLAM gear prizes at multiple events around the country. Now at the half way point of the series, the USMCA wishes to recognize and congratulate the teams who have participated and been lucky enough to take home the goods — jackets, vests, hats, polos and belts!



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Event 1: SE (1) St. Petersburg NOOD

Winner: Dave Ullman, Overall

Winner: Rob Butler, Corinthian

The USMCA enjoyed another fantastic St. Pete's NOOD with the largest congregation seen thus far in 2009. Forty-five teams assembled in Florida for the first of *Sailing World Magazine's* NOOD (National Offshore One Design) Regattas. Kudos to former 2007 World Champion Dave Ullman on *USA-505* who took top honors. Heading up the Corinthian division was Rob Butler on *USA-177 Eager Beaver*.

Event 2: WC (1) Spring Keel Regatta

Winner: Loren Colehan

The 2009 Melges 24 West Coast season kicked off with congratulating Loren Colehan on *USA-556 Lounge Act*. Historically, Colehan's team are Corinthian and were fresh off of a 13th overall finish in Key West.

Event 3: GC (1) Melges 24 Open

Winner: Event cancelled due to inclement weather.

Event 4: SE (2) Porsche Cup of Naples

Winner: Gary Schwarting

Ten boats total participated at this relatively quaint, local regatta. Congratulations goes to long-time Melges 24 owner and class stalwart Gary Schwarting on *USA-622 Obsession*, taking the win over Jeff Duval on *USA-348 Doc Holiday* in second, and in third, James Whatmore's *USA-656 Goux Get Moma*.

Event 5: SE (3) Charleston Race Week

Winner: Scott Nixon

Charleston Race Week rocked on with 2008 North American Champion tactician Scott Nixon at the helm of *USA-751 Quantum Racing* winning overall. John Kolius on *USA-776 KO Sailing* was second, and placing third was Argyle Campbell on *USA-795 Rock n' Roll*.



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Event 6: GC (2) Lakefest Regatta

Winner: Scott Holmgren

Event 7: PNW (1) Puget Sound Regatta

Winner: Dan Kaseler

Event 8: NE (1) Annapolis NOOD

Winner: Lorenzo Bressani | Lorenzo Santini

It was practically a carbon copy performance from Sardinia and Key West for 2008 Melges 24 World Champion Lorenzo Bressani at the helm of *ITA-787 Uka Uka Racing*, owned by Lorenzo Santini.

Event 9: MW (1) Gateway Melges 24 Regatta

Winner: Mike Dow

Event 10: PNW (2) Seattle NOOD | Pacific Coast Championship

Winner: Dan Kaseler

Event 11: MW (2) Muskegon Regatta

Winner: Brian Poppert



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Event 12: MW (3) Detroit NOOD

Winner: Alan Field, Overall

Winner: Charlie Hess, Corinthian

The Detroit NOOD is the pinnacle event of the year for the Midwest fleet. Melges 24s usually come out of the woodwork. 2009 presented 26 teams collected with honors going to Alan Field and his sensational team aboard *USA-587 WTF* for a second consecutive year. John Podmajersky on *USA-511* was second and in third was Charlie Hess on *USA-615 Funtech Racing*, who also took the first place position in the Corinthian division.

Event 13: GC (3) Mid-region Challenge

Winner: TBN

Event 14: WC (2) Autonet Mobile U.S. National Championship

Winner: Brian Porter, Overall

Winner: Bruce Ayres, Corinthian

The 2009 National Championship, despite the lower than normal turnout was simply amazing. For the first time ever in USMCA history, the class crowned its first four-time National Champion Brian Porter on *USA-749 Full Throttle*. It was also the first time the class had encountered a three-way tie in points for first place overall. Porter, alongside Vince Brun and Dave Ullman, finished with 20 points each.

The Corinthian division was just as heated as the overalls. Bruce Ayres on *USA-747 Monsoon* placed first, Matt MacGregor on *USA-401 Elwood* was second, and in third was Loren Colehan on *USA-556 Lounge Act*.

Event 15: GC (4) Lighthouse Regatta

Winner: TBN

2009 COASTAL LIVING SAIL NEWPORT REGATTA

JULY 10-12, 2009 • SAIL NEWPORT • NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

EVENT : NE SERIES NO. 2

Gold Cup Regatta



GRAND TRAVERSE INVITATIONAL REGATTA
AUGUST 22-23, 2009 • GRAND TRAVERSE YACHT CLUB
TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

EVENT : MW SERIES NO. 4

San Francisco Race Week

September 18-20, 2009 • San Francisco, California



EVENT : WC SERIES NO. 5

MORE SLAM SERIES EVENTS ARE ON THE WAY:

- 7/10 - 7/11 **[WC]** Trans Tahoe Regatta Lake Tahoe, CA
- 7/12 - 7/17 **[PNW]** Whidbey Island Race Week Seattle, WA
- 7/25 - 7/26 **[WC]** Fiesta Regatta Santa Barbara, CA
- 7/31 **[NE]** Heart Cup Ocean City, NJ
- 8/22 - 8/23 **[MW]** Gold Cup Regatta Traverse City, MI
- 9/18 - 9/20 **[WC]** San Francisco Race Week San Francisco, CA
- 9/19 - 9/20 **[SE]** Charleston Harbor Challenge Charleston, SC
- 9/26 - 9/27 **[GC]** George Griffith Memorial Regatta Dallas, TX

Visit usmelges24.com for race reports, results and more details about how to participate.

Preparing For World

The Eastport Yacht Club and the International Melges 24 Class Association is getting ready for Worlds. Are you? The checklist can be a million items long and there is no time to waste.

ENTRY

Have you registered online to compete at the 2009 Melges 24 World Championship? Technically speaking this should be the first item on your list. The Eastport Yacht Club, supported by an amazing team of individuals are steady making preparations every single day. By getting your entry in as quickly as possible, you only ensure a greater race experience.

Go online at the official event website at melges24worlds2009.com and register today! Please don't wait until the last minute.

Entries are slowly but surely coming in. The current entry list already consists of Terry Hutchinson, Alan Field, Simon Strauss, Steve Kopf, Peter and Kristen Lane. International entries include Riccardo Simoneschi, and at latest check Lorenzo Bressani at the helm for Lorenzo Santini on the infamous *Uka Uka Racing* is expected.

EARLY ENTRY

The early entry deadline for the 2009 Melges 24 World Championship is September 23, 2009. Past this date a late fee will be incurred.

CORINTHIAN ENTRY

The entry deadline for Corinthian competition is October 9, 2009 as detailed in the Notice of Race.

If you think that your team may qualify for this special, amateur division looking into the formalities now is highly advised.

Per the published 2009 WORLDS NOR:

- 4.1 The ISAF Sailor Classification Code will apply to teams in the Corinthian Trophy. Please refer to ISAF's Web site: www.sailing.org**
- 4.2 Classification for each sailor must be indicated on the entry form if entering for the Corinthian Trophy and the unique ISAF ID.**
- 4.3 The closing date for the registration of Corinthian entries shall be as in 3.3**
- 4.4 Sailors must be registered with ISAF prior to the date identified in 4.3 and be able to declare their User ID number on the entry form.**
- 4.5 Classification will be checked at registration. A final list will be published at the close of registration.**
- 4.6 Protests regarding ISAF classifications must be submitted by the end of the protest time limit on the first day of racing of the World Championship.**

4.7. Full details for the Corinthian Trophy can be found in IMCA Championship rules.

Further clarifications:

Do remember that every crew member of the team that wishes to compete at the Corinthian level must possess a valid ISAF ID No. and must be classified with ISAF.

All too often crew members assume because they have an ISAF ID No. that their classification is up-to-date and valid. If classified with ISAF, a sailor will have completed the classification questionnaire online at sailing.org. Based on the responses of the survey, ISAF will provide the sailor with a classification of Category 1 (amateur), 2 (semi-pro) or, 3 (pro). ISAF Classification is valid for two year terms. If a sailor's classification has expired, or listed as UNDER REVIEW, per ISAF and Melges 24 rules the sailor is considered without classification, therefore by default a Category 3. In the event of an expired ISAF Classification, the sailor must renew online at sailing.org.

If a sailor has questions regarding their classification, the sailor needs to contact ISAF direct through their website. Only the sailor can sort this. Unfortunately, the class cannot resolve classification issues.

Where renewals and UNDER REVIEW status' are concerned the class urges sailors to address these issues well in advance of the event. Sometimes these instances can take as few as 2 days to as long as 10 working days depending on the case.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Make your accommodations now. Do not wait until the last moment to address any accommodation needs you and your team may have, especially if you plan to arrive early for training and practice. Teams will be competing with the Annapolis Boat Shows (October 8-18) as well as the Naval Academy Homecoming on October 24 preceded by a week of activities for out-of-town alumni. Housing will be difficult, so everyone is encouraged to take action now.

MEMBERSHIP

Class membership is required for competition. USMCA Membership runs from October 15 thru October 14 of the following year.

- All Owners must possess a valid USMCA Owner (Full) Membership
- All Co-owners in the boat must possess a valid USMCA Partner Membership
- All Drivers that are not owners must possess a valid USMCA Driver (Associate) Membership
- All crew aboard competing boats must possess a valid USMCA Crew Membership

Visit usmelges24.com to join the U.S. Melges 24 Class Association. For

lds 2009

October 23-31

Eastport Yacht Club | Annapolis, Maryland

www.melges24worlds2009.com

for further information or any questions, please contact USMCA Executive Secretary Joy Dunigan by phone at +1 (912) 756-6706 or e-mail at communications@usmelges24.com.

MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATES

This is the single piece of documentation that declares your Melges 24 class legal and will be required for competition at the World Championship in Annapolis.

HOW DO I KNOW IF MY MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATE IS VALID?

A valid measurement certificate is:

- Signed by and in the name of the current owner
- Signed and stamped by the USMCA

Please look for these signs of validity on your measurement certificate.

If you have a measurement certificate that is not in your name, or do not possess a measurement certificate at all and require further assistance, please contact USMCA Executive Secretary Joy Dunigan by e-mail at communications@usmelges24.com.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

There are plenty of practice opportunities forthcoming to the Annapolis area. Plan, prepare and practice in the surroundings, conditions and waters that will host the World Championship.

Visit the 2009 events listing online at usmelges24.com and plan on attending the Heart Cup on July 31, and be sure to race CBYRA Annapolis Race Week on September 5-7.

Just prior to Worlds on October 8-11, the Sail 22 Melges 24 Worlds Tuning Regatta happens in Annapolis, Md. All the details, NOR and registration is available at www.sail22.com. Contact Sail 22 direct by phone at +1 (585) 230-3560, or +1 (616) 304-8312 and by e-mail at info@sail22.com.

BE IN TOUCH & STAY IN TOUCH

The 2009 Melges 24 World Championship has established various portals of keeping everyone abreast of all the latest news and regatta developments. Check out and bookmark all of the following points of contact for the event:

Worlds Website: melges24worlds2009.com

Worlds Twitter: [Melges24Worlds](https://twitter.com/Melges24Worlds)

Worlds Facebook: 2009 Melges 24 World Championship

International Melges 24 Website: melges24.com

International Melges 24 Blog: blog.melges24.com

U.S. Melges 24 Class Website: usmelges24.com

U.S. Melges 24 Twitter: [USMelges24](https://twitter.com/USMelges24)

Heart Cup

JULY 31, 2009

OCEAN CITY YACHT CLUB • OCEAN CITY, NEW JERSEY

EVENT : NE SERIES NO. 3



C • B • Y • R • A

SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2009

ANNAPOLIS YACHT CLUB • ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

EVENT : NE SERIES NO. 4

2009 CHARLESTON HARBOR CHALLENGE

SEPTEMBER 19-20

CHARLESTON YACHT CLUB • CHARLESTON, SC

EVENT : SE SERIES NO. 4

LAKE GENEVA

Fall Championship



OCTOBER 3-4, 2009

LAKE GENEVA YACHT CLUB • LAKE GENEVA, WISCONSIN

EVENT : MW SERIES NO. 5

First-time, **Four-time** U.S. National Cham

For the first time in U.S. Melges 24 Class racing history, it has crowned Brian Porter on *USA-749 Full Throttle* a National Champion for the fourth time. Porter's first win was in 1999 and he acquired three more consecutively in 2007, 2008 and 2009. Another first.



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Champion Brian Porter

The 2009 Autonet Mobile Melges 24 U.S. National Championship took place in early June on San Francisco Bay, hosted by the St. Francis Yacht Club. Only 21 teams competed, but the caliber of racing was unparalleled, climactic and classic. The Melges 24 totally delivered.

Recognized as yet another impressive first in the class was the three-way tie for first place. In the past, the overall winner has been obvious, but in 2009 Porter had a monumental final race in the series. His dead last start, and fifth place finish gave him 20 points in the overall standings. Right behind him in second and third, respectively, were two of the greatest sailors in the world and former Melges 24 World Champions, Vince Brun and Dave Ullman. They too possessed 20 points each.

It is not certain which is more difficult to deal with, losing by one point or losing with equal points and having to settle for second and third on countback. For Brun it was so close. He has never won a U.S. National Championship. Ullman has only won once, in 1996.

Although these sailing world superstars somewhat stole the show, the heated contest of Corinthians prevailed with Newport Beach, Calif. native Bruce Ayres on *USA-747 Monsoon* winning the division. Matt MacGregor on *USA-401 Elwood*, Loren Colehan on *USA-566 Lounge Act* and Kevin Clark on *USA-24 Smokin'* battled it out, all finishing respectively.

Other teams that managed to get in on a piece of the action were Guy Mossman on *USA-786 Battle Rhythm*, who travelled across the country from Charleston, SC to compete; fleet newcomer Dan Kaseler on *USA-379 pTeron*, Kristen Lane on *USA-623 Brickhouse 623* and Daniel Wilhelm on *USA-540 Wilco!* all finished in the top ten.

The USMCA would like to extend a very special thanks to title sponsor Autonet Mobile, USMCA West Coast Governor Neal Ruxton and the local San Francisco fleet, especially Kristen Lane. Thanks to all the competitors who came out to race and the St. Francis Yacht Club, especially John Craig and Melanie Roberts. Everyone worked incredibly hard to make this championship a huge success.

The Class is also appreciative of the unwavering support of advanced technology sportswear manufacturer SLAM. They are the 2009 U.S. National Championship Series title sponsor and official apparel sponsor of the U.S. Nationals. Special thanks to Melges Performance Sailboats, who not only supplied the event with some awesome swag, but serviced the fleet onsite at the regatta with parts and product support.

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Now Accepting Bids For 2010 & 2011

The U.S. Melges 24 Class is always in search of a great venue for its premiere event of the year - Nationals.

Besides, we love and appreciate suggestions.

Would your club be interested in hosting a stand-alone event for the Melges 24?

Send bids, proposals and any inquiries to the USMCA via e-mail: communications@usmelges24.com or call +1 (912) 398-5776.

2010

NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Rochester Yacht Club | Rochester, New York
September 17-25



Event schedule is posted online.

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2008 Key West Race Week

1st* ★ 2008 Sail Newport Regatta

1st* ★ 2008
Sperry Top-Sider Detroit NOOD

1st* ★ SNIM Marseille

1st ★ 2007
Gulf Coast Championship

*Partial Inventory

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Ullman Sails, Newport Beach USA | T: +1 714 432 1860 | E: info@ullmansailsnewportbeach.com

Corpus Christi Yacht Club To Host Melges 24 Texas Gulf Coast Championship, May 12-15, 2010

The Corpus Christi Yacht Club is very excited about hosting the Melges 24s in 2010 and 2011. They are in full preparation mode for the 2011 World Championship and to get everyone ramped up and ready to race, they are also hosting a major warm-up event — the 2010 Melges 24 Texas Gulf Coast Championship on May 12-15.

Primo conditions prevail in the Gulf Coast region during the month of May. This event is being held around the same time frame as the 2011 Worlds, so it offers a perfect opportunity to try out the venue, check out the club and enjoy some really amazing Melges 24 racing!

The 2011 World Championship is scheduled for the May 11-21. Check out the official website: www.melgesworlds.com.



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2009-2011 U.S. MELGES 24 CLASS ASSOCIATION SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2009 NORTH AMERICAN RANKING EVENTS

6/27 - 6/28	SLAM [GC] Lighthouse Regatta	Oklahoma City, OK	Andy Walford • awalford@cox.net
7/10 - 7/12	SLAM [NE] Sail Newport Regatta	Newport, RI	JC Raby • jcr@bostonmeridian.com
9/5 - 9/7	SLAM [NE] CBYRA Annapolis Race Week	Annapolis, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburon@gmail.com
10/3 - 10/4	SLAM [MW] Lake Geneva Fall Championship	Lake Geneva, WI	Andy Burdick • andy@melges.com
10/23 - 10/31	2009 Melges 24 World Championship	Annapolis, MD	Liz Filter • emfilter@verizon.net
11/21 - 11/22	SLAM [SE] Melges 24 Atlantic Coast Championship	Tampa, FL	George Haynie • ghaynie@tampabay.rr.com

2009 REGATTAS

7/10 - 7/11	SLAM [WC] Trans Tahoe Regatta	Lake Tahoe, CA	Neal Ruxton • nealruxton@jamjam.com
7/12 - 7/17	SLAM [PNW] Whidbey Island Race Week	Seattle, WA	Dave Brede • DaveBrede@ZAAZ.com
7/25 - 7/26	SLAM [WC] Fiesta Regatta	Santa Barbara, CA	Neal Ruxton • nealruxton@jamjam.com
7/31	SLAM [NE] Heart Cup	Ocean City, NJ	Brad Jungels • aoma.com@att.net
8/8 - 8/6	Verve Cup	Chicago, IL	Augi Hernandez • augih@yahoo.com
8/22 - 8/23	SLAM [MW] Gold Cup Regatta	Traverse City, MI	Mike Dow • mdow@chartermi.net
9/5 - 9/8	Red Fox Regatta	Charlevoix, MI	Mike Dow • mdow@chartermi.net
9/18 - 9/20	SLAM [WC] San Francisco Race Week	San Francisco, CA	Neal Ruxton • nealruxton@jamjam.com
9/19 - 9/20	SLAM [SE] Charleston Harbor Challenge	Charleston, SC	Steve Kopf • skopf@peventuresllc.com
9/19 - 9/20	Star & Bar Regatta	Seattle, WA	Dave Brede • DaveBrede@ZAAZ.com
9/26 - 9/27	SLAM [GC] George Griffith Memorial Regatta	Dallas, TX	Karen Rosenbaum • karosenbaum@yahoo.com
10/10	SLAM [NE] Columbus Day Regatta	Westbrook, CT	JC Raby • jcr@bostonmeridian.com
10/10 - 10/11	SLAM [PNW] Puget Sound Sailing Championships (PSSC)	Seattle, WA	Dave Brede • DaveBrede@ZAAZ.com
10/10 - 10/11	Oi' Man Of The Sea	Ft. Worth, TX	Mark Smith • mark@verticaldatacom.com
10/23 - 10/25	SLAM [PNW] Melges 24 Grand Prix	Seattle, WA	Dave Brede • DaveBrede@ZAAZ.com

2010 REGATTAS

5/12 - 5/15	2010 Texas Gulf Coast Championship	Corpus Christi, TX	Teri Ficken • Ficken78374@aol.com
9/17 - 9/25	2010 North American Championship	Rochester, NY	Peter Cucci • peter.cucci@xerox.com

2011 REGATTAS

5/11 - 5/21	Melges 24 World Championship	Corpus Christi, TX	Teri Ficken • Ficken78374@aol.com
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2009 HALL OF FAME

Key West Race Week* Lorenzo Bressani/Lorenzo Santini (ITA)	Annapolis NOOD Lorenzo Bressani/Lorenzo Santini (ITA)
St. Petersburg NOOD* Dave Ullman (USA)	Sperry Top-Sider Detroit NOOD* Alan Field (USA)
Charleston Race Week Scott Nixon (USA)	Melges 24 U.S. National Championship* Brian Porter (USA)

U.S. MELGES 24 CLASS CONTACT INFORMATION

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	Northwest: Paul Bennett • paul_bennett@k2sports.com

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