



INTERNATIONAL MELGES 24 CLASS ASSOCIATION

INTERNATIONAL MELGES 24 CLASS ASSOCIATION (IM24CA) WORLD COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

Saturday, 22 November 2025

Open Building Research S.r.l., Via Ciovasso 4, 20121 Milan, Italy and Zoom

1:30 PM CET | 12:30 PM UK | 7:30 AM ET | 4:30 AM PT | 11:30 PM Sydney

MINUTES

[2025 IM24CA World Council AGM website and paperwork](#)

[Attendance and voting basis](#)

The meeting was held in hybrid format. The following World Council, Executive Committee, Technical Committee, class, event and observers were recorded:

- Laura Grondin – Chair
- Paolo Brescia – Vice Chair Europe
- Chelsea Simms – Vice Chair, Americas
- Michael Tarabochia – Member Europe
- Scot Zimmerman – Member Americas
- Miles Quinton – Treasurer
- Mike Gozzard – Executive Committee Member and Technical Committee Chair
- Duncan Stamper – Technical Committee member and Chair nominee
- Branko Parunov – Chief Measurer and Technical Advisor
- Piret Salmistu – Administrator and Media Coordinator
- Carol Ewing – Championship Coordinator, Americas
- David Bartol – Championship Coordinator Europe
- Arto Kiiski - Technical Committee member and Rules Advisor
- Michael Schineis - Austrian Class Association
- Dan Berezin - Canadian Class Association
- Pablo Gallyas – Chilean Class Association
- Luka Šangulin – Croatian Class Association
- Botond Weores - Hungarian Class Association
- Vemund Gransæther – Norwegian Class Association
- Alan Mahne Kalin - Slovenian Class Association
- Marianna Matteotti – Observer, Italian Class Association
- Mauro Melandri – media partner, Zerogradinord
- Joy Dunigan – US Class Communications Director
- Cate and Allan Terhune – Melges Performance Sailboats
- Hein Ruyten – Melges representative in Europe
- George Peet – 2026 World Championship organising team
- Tudor Bilic – Sailing Club Trogir

Apologies were recorded from Erik Fudahl, Event Chair for the 2026 European Championship, who was unable to attend because of a regatta. Stefano Bareggi of Yacht Club Adriaco provided the 2025 World Championship report through the meeting materials.

[illegible]

Australia, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, France and Ukraine had no country votes under the 2025 membership calculation.

AGENDA

- **Session 1 – Approval of the 2024 AGM minutes and National Class reports**
- **Session 2 – Marketing and communications, financial report and 2026 budget, technical and builders’ reports, and Melges Performance Sailboats**
- **Session 3 – Championship reports, future events and the bid for the 2027 World Championship**
- **Session 4 – Class Rule and Constitution changes, Executive Committee elections, appointment of the Technical Committee Chair and other business**

Session 1

Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting

The World Council approved the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting by hand vote.

National Class reports

Written reports had been received from Austria, Croatia, Norway, Switzerland and the United States. Representatives also provided updates during the meeting:

- Austria reported seven members and 12 boats at the Austrian Championship and discussed opportunities to host future events.
- Canada reported 12 members and plans to hold the 2026 Canadian Nationals in Halifax.
- Croatia proposed an international under-25 championship within its national championship programme.
- Italy reported a record 48 participants in its class activities and successful events in Riva and Monfalcone, with further events planned at Riva and Yacht Club Adriaco.
- Hungary reported two boats racing internationally and continued development at Corinthian level.
- Great Britain reported renewed interest from J70 sailors and the possibility of rebuilding activity in the class.
- Norway reported four successful regattas and preparations for the 2026 European Championship.
- Slovenia reported the addition of a boat from Greece and positive participation by young sailors.
- The United States reported strong membership and an active programme leading into the 2026 World Championship in Harbor Springs.

Session 2

Marketing and communications report

[The media report](#) reviewed IM24CA social-media and communications activity. Facebook and Instagram results had declined following platform algorithm changes. The Council discussed increasing short-form video and reels, reusing strong material from earlier events, producing interviews and technical sailing content, and maintaining winter activity through clinics and other targeted content.

A communications working group was agreed, comprising Chelsea Simms and Miles Quinton for the Executive Committee, Vemund Gransæther, Mauro Melandri, Joy Dunigan and Piret Salmistu. The group will prepare a 2026 content plan focused on distinctive material, reels and current boat-handling and crew-role content.

Financial report and 2026 budget

The Council reviewed the [2025 financial position and the 2026 projection](#). Income and expenditure were broadly stable, but members noted that current membership and sail-label fees may not remain sustainable as costs rise. Possible fee increases will be brought to the 2026 AGM, alongside work to improve value for Corinthian and non-racing members and to revisit sponsorship opportunities.

Following a motion and second, the World Council approved the 2026 budget by hand vote.

Technical and builders reports

Technical Committee Chair Mike Gozzard reported on continuing jib-halyard failures and repairs. The Committee will continue its work on the issue, including the possible elimination of 7x19 wire, and will raise awareness of regular forestay and backstay checks. The Council also discussed updating sail-measurement standards following observations at the 2025 World Championship.

- **MELGES 24 Class Rule Change Proposals and Highlights for 2025**
- **A white paper on the forestay topic,**

Cate and Allan Terhune, the new owners of Melges Performance Sailboats, outlined their plans to support the class, improve production and ensure spare-parts availability before major championships. Hein Ruyten reported on European support at the Trieste Worlds. Four new boats had been launched in 2025 and further orders were in place; timely orders remain important for delivery before major events.

Session 3

2025 World Championship in Trieste Italy <https://2025worlds.melges24.com/en/default/races/race>

Stefano Bareggi of Yacht Club Adriaco provided the overall event report. The Council praised the organisation, media coverage, live broadcasting, youth-team initiatives and positive local impact. Branko Parunov presented the [Technical Committee report](#) and described a well-organised championship with successful inspections. Some sail-measurement issues were identified for further review. The Council also noted backstay and forestay breakages and the need for regular inspection and sailor awareness.

2025 North American Championship in Miami - <https://www.melges24.com/northamericans2025>

Carol Ewing and Scot Zimmerman reported on the North American Championship scheduled for 23–25 January 2026 in Miami. Preparations were continuing in coordination with the broader winter racing programme. [Report](#)

2026 World Championship in Harbor Springs Michigan

George Peet reported that organisational meetings with local councils and harbormasters had been completed. Dockage was planned on the main pier, and the organising team was budgeting for 40–60 boats. Early accommodation booking was encouraged because a city book festival would take place at the same time. The organisers were also planning live-stream coverage using Starlink. The event website was expected to launch within three to five weeks. [Report](#)

2026 European Championship in Tønsberg Norway

The Council received the event report from Erik FUSDahl and an update from Vemund Gransæther. Tønsberg Sailing Club was rebuilding its clubhouse. The Race Committee, Technical Committee and International Jury compositions had been confirmed, with additional personnel still to be agreed. The organisers were working on costs and sponsorship and planned to finalise entry fees and publish the Notice of Race by the end of 2025. [Report](#)

2027 World Championship bid

Tudor Bilic presented [Sailing Club Trogir's bid to hold the 2027 World Championship in Pula, Croatia](#), in cooperation with Marina 21 – Marina Polesana. The proposed dates were 29 May to 5 June 2027. The presentation emphasised Pula's accessibility, onshore facilities, berthing, logistics, proximity to major European sailing areas and expected wind conditions. Luka Šangulin supported the proposal.

The World Council approved the bid by 48 votes to none, with seven abstentions, and awarded the 2027 Melges 24 World Championship to Pula, Croatia, hosted by Sailing Club Trogir.

Session 4

Class Rule change

The World Council approved the Technical Committee proposal by 53 votes to none, with two abstentions, [to amend Class Rule A.6.1](#) and correct the reference to the applicable World Sailing Regulation. The change will proceed through the required World Sailing review and approval process before taking effect.

Constitution changes

The World Council approved the Technical Committee proposal by 53 votes to none, with two abstentions, [to amend Section 2](#), Purpose, subsections 2.2(b) and 3.14. The amendment clarifies that an IM24CA-sanctioned event is a World Championship, Continental Championship, or an event where IM24CA is listed as part of the Organising Authority in the Notice of Race.

By 35 votes to 18, with two abstentions, the Council approved the Executive Committee proposal [to change the committee's composition](#) by adding a Member World, also described as a Member At-Large. The Executive Committee will refine the position's role and responsibilities before submitting the constitutional amendment to World Sailing.

Executive Committee elections

The World Council elected the following officers and members to the [Executive Committee](#):

- Chair – **Duncan Stamper** (Canada): 53 votes for, none against and two abstentions
- Vice Chair, Americas – **Chelsea Simms** (United States), re-elected: 52 votes for, none against and three abstentions
- Member Americas – **Scot Zimmerman** (United States), re-elected: 52 votes for, none against and three abstentions
- Member Europe – **Luka Šangulin** (Croatia): 49 votes for, none against and six abstentions
- Member World / At-Large – **Michael Tarabochia** (Germany): 35 votes for, 18 against and two abstentions

The Council thanked outgoing Chair Laura Grondin for six years of leadership, including her work through the COVID-19 period and her support for membership, championship planning and the builder relationship.

Annual approval of the Technical Committee Chair

The World Council re-appointed **Mike Gozzard** of Canada as Technical Committee Chair by 53 votes to none, with two abstentions.

Other business and follow-up actions

- The Executive Committee will consider membership incentives, including value for non-racing members, and will bring membership-fee and sail-label-fee proposals to the 2026 AGM.
- The Executive Committee will determine a future trophy policy and decide the award category for the Sabrina Trophy donated by Luca Ferrone.
- Michael Tarabochia will finalise the 2026 European Sailing Series calendar and work to resolve conflicts with other classes and circuits; Joy Dunigan will share the relevant conflict calendar.
- The Technical Committee will continue work on the jib-halyard issue and possible alternatives to 7x19 wire.
- The Norwegian organisers will finalise entry fees and publish the 2026 European Championship Notice of Race by the end of 2025.

- The Croatian organisers will proceed with detailed planning for the 2027 World Championship in Pula.
- The 2026 World Championship organisers will launch the Harbor Springs event website.

The meeting concluded after completion of the agenda.