

## U.S. MELGES 24 CLASS ASSOCIATION 2023 FLEET REPORT

2023 has been a fantastic year for the U.S. Melges 24 fleet. For the first time since 2019, since the pandemic, the Class anticipates completing every event scheduled for the National Ranking Series.

So far, 9 of the 11 events have played out successfully with the final events being the Atlantic Coast/Gulf Coast Championship at Pensacola Yacht Club on November 11-12, and the first event of the Bacardi Winter Series 2024 in December. To date, 81 teams have raced on the ranking which makes us super excited for 2024.

The USM24CA just wrapped up a very successful National Championship in Lake Geneva in early October which was amazing — celebrating the Melges 24s 30th Anniversary. We are looking forward to the next Nationals scheduled for Santa Barbara, CA on July 11-14, which should make for a great racing event and run-up to the Worlds in San Francisco, CA on August 14-17.

The Melges 24 Great Lakes Cup sponsored by Quantum Sails hit it out of the park again this year with four awesome events: Muskegon, Traverse City, Toronto and Lake Geneva. Also for the first time since the pandemic, all events on the QGLC circuit were completed and scored. In the end, it featured over 30 teams in the final scoring.

New in 2023, the USM24CA commenced a Collegiate Melges 24 Class membership, which is free for young, under 25 professionals, fresh out of college sailors that are looking to crew. The first SAISA (South Atlantic Interscholastic Sailing Association) Melges 24 event is scheduled for November 18 on Lake Lanier, just north of Atlanta, GA. This event will acquaint young sailors with the Melges 24 Class style of racing and provide opportunities to sail with owners who need additional crew options for future regattas.

The end of 2023 brings us to election time with a new slate of Class officers coming in for the 2024-2026 term. Voting closes on November 17th.

The 2024 North American Ranking (formerly the National Ranking Series) will be announced in the coming days via usmelges24.com channels.



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