



MELGES 24 ITALIAN CLASS REPORT FOR AGM 2025

21/11/2025

The Melges 24 Italian Class currently counts 48 members, comprising 14 associate members, 7 professional (Pro) members, and 27 full members. In 2025, we instituted the Gaudi Trophy as a perpetual award, which now lends its name to the Italian circuit. The trophy commemorates Enzo “Gaudi” Bonini, a pivotal member of our fleet whose contribution we are proud to honor.

During the year, we organized three regattas, two of which were included in the ESS. The Italian Championship in Riva del Garda, held from 22 to 25 May and hosted by Fraglia Vela Riva, drew 28 boats—an important increase compared with 2024. This momentum was supported by Italy’s role as host country for the 2025 World Championship and by the careful scheduling undertaken by Fraglia Vela Riva and the Class to ensure adequate lake capacity, enabling racing in different areas of the lake as conditions required.

The second ESS event was held in Monfalcone. Although it was not originally on our calendar, we stepped in to support the International Class following the cancellation of the Slovenia regatta and took responsibility for organizing the event. Nineteen boats, primarily local, participated. Despite logistical challenges created by overlapping activities at the venue, sailable conditions were present on two of the three days. We reiterate our recommendation that the protest committee be present on the water whenever possible; in light-wind conditions, on-site presence is particularly important.

Our third event, not part of the ESS, was the Pre-Worlds in Trieste, hosted by Yacht Club Adriaco. This test regatta, with 27 boats, was essential to assess the racecourse and operational setup ahead of the World Championship. The event was widely appreciated by participants and organizers and proved highly useful in final preparations.

The season culminated with the Melges 24 World Championship, hosted in Trieste by Yacht Club Adriaco from 20 to 27 September 2025.

Seventy-two boats registered to compete in the 2025 World Championships, setting a record in the recent history of the class. This milestone is significant both for the international class and for the Italian class.

The 2025 World Championships were originally scheduled to take place in France; however, in August 2024 IM24CA decided to relocate the event. The Italian class was asked to step in and proposed YCA after careful consideration of where the Italian fleet is currently concentrated and where the other major European fleets are based.

Since October 2024, the Italian class has worked closely with YCA, conducting multiple site visits and coordination meetings. Moreover, the class proactively chose to serve as a co-organizer of the event. In less than one year, the Italian class, IM24CA, and YCA delivered one of the standout sailing events of 2025, executed to an exceptional standard.

This outcome demonstrates both the continued strength of the class and the high level of trust placed in the Italian class. It is therefore essential to maintain momentum in the coming year to show that this success was not incidental. Internal coordination and mutual trust have been fundamental

2026 will be a complicated year. Scheduling dates is consistently challenging given the crowded sailing calendar. The class is strong, but competition is intense, for these reasons, and with the “Worlds” effect fading, we expect a lower number of members in 2026.

We will have two events as part of ESS: 22–24 May and 3–5 July. The final Italian event will take place on 16–18 October. Note: Swan 28 has moved its date, so we should consider adjusting ours accordingly.

Regarding venues, IM24CA strongly suggested staying with the same locations. We understand this recommendation; however, looking ahead, we believe rotation is essential to keep the circuit attractive, especially in Italy.

- 22–24 May: YCA
- 3–5 July: Fraglia Vela Riva
- 16–18 October: Sanremo

As in 2024, the event in Riva del Garda was held jointly with Melges HQ, featuring Melges 19, Melges 15, and possibly Melges 20. This combined event, called “The Reunion,” was strongly wanted by Melges HQ.

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For the future, we will prioritize maintaining engagement and interest in the class. We recognize the importance of the onshore experience and will ensure an appropriate

level of comfort to foster a strong community. A vibrant community will be a key factor in attracting participants and differentiating our class from others.

We should also consider securing an international sponsor for the Melges 24, enabling us to maintain low fees while enhancing all aspects of event operations and hospitality.

As a class, we extend our sincere thanks to all IM24CA members, with special appreciation to Laura Grondin for her leadership and service as International Class President.

Best regards,

Marcello Caldonazzo Arvedi.

President

Italian Melges 24 Class Association