

23 October 2012

Subject: IMCA AGM 2012: USMCA Counter-Proposals

Dear Executive Committee, National Class Officers, IMCA Professionals, and Builders:

The U.S. Melges 24 Class Association Executive Committee and Board of Governors humbly submit the following counter-proposals for our members and your consideration.

A. Counter-Proposal to Finnish Proposal One and German Proposal One: Championship Days and Schedule.

We recognize that different venues may have different needs and conditions. Rather than increase the number of days or further delineate the championship schedule in the Class' regatta regulations, we propose that the Class should have the flexibility to deal with such variability on a venue-by-venue basis by: i) setting the current number of days as the *minimum* number of days; ii) making the regulation's current schedule the *suggested* standard for Organizing Authorities; and iii) providing the Class' Championship Coordinator the *flexibility* to negotiate the precise days and schedule with each venue's Organizing Authority, as appropriate, subject to IMCA over-sight and approval.

B. Counter-Proposal to Italian Proposal Seven: Sail Limitations.

We believe this idea will be of considerable help to both Corinthian and professional competitors alike. Further, that the proposed rule change should include National championships as well, in order to prevent the cost of participation in Continental and National regattas from diverging further. Consequently, the following refinements are suggested:

10.2 LIMITATIONS

- (a) Not more than 1 mainsail, 1 headsail and 2 spinnakers shall be carried aboard.*
- (b) For World, Continental, and National ~~events~~ championships not more than 1 mainsail, 1 headsail, and 2 spinnakers shall be presented for registration and used during an event of less than 8 consecutive days, except when a sail has been lost or damaged beyond repair, subject to the prior written approval of the Race Committee.*
- (c) For any other event ~~and for Corinthians Division boats only~~, not more than 1 mainsail, 2 headsails, and 2 spinnakers shall be presented for registration and used during an event of less than 8 consecutive days, except when a sail has been lost or damaged beyond repair, subject to the prior written approval of the Race Committee.*
- (d) ~~Sails~~ Headsails shall not be changed or substituted whilst underway or away from the dockside.*

C. Counter-Proposal to Norwegian Proposal Four: Fixed Solar Panels.

We suggest removing any ambiguity by making the proposed rule change as specific as possible.

C.6.1 WEIGHT

. . . *All batteries and power sources shall be removed, with the exception of fixed solar panels powering instruments.*

D. Counter-Proposal to IMCA Executive Committee Proposal Eight: Rear Gate.

We believe that the proposed Solution B, permitting either a shackle or carabineer, would allow deflection to remain limited to the current 100mm (already an increase over the prior year).

*The rear gate line across the transom shall be closed whilst racing. It shall be in one continuous piece, fixed using shackles **or carabineer** of optional design. The deflection at the centre when measured from a straight line between the attachment points shall not be more than ~~150mm~~ 100mm.*

E. Counter-Proposal to Melges Performance Sailboats Proposal Four: Bridle.

We recommend that the World Council refer this proposal to the IMCA Technical Committee for study and public comment during the 2013 season, and request that the Committee provide the results of its study, along with a formal recommendation, no later than sixty (60) days before the 2013 AGM.

F. Counter-Proposal to IMCA Executive Committee Proposed Constitutional Changes.

We support the various changes proposed, except the addition of 10.7, which we feel is unnecessary and inflexible.

G. Withdrawal of US Class Proposal Two: Sail Limitation.

Lastly, we would like to formally withdraw the above proposal. Given the limited time available to the AGM, we feel that there is already enough on the table.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



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U.S. Melges 24 Class Association

Enc.

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