



National Class Report 2024 - Melges NORWAY

2024 has been a normal year for the Norwegian Melges Class.

There has been a lot of good racing and good conditions. We had four main events this season. Our fleet started racing in May with a training camp in Kristiansand where several of the southern based boats participated. The next event took place in Risør (May) and was the official season opener for the class. We had two wonderful days of racing in sunny conditions and light breeze. We had 6 boats participating and a lot of fun. The third event this season was the Hankø Race Weekend. This event was part of the Melges 24 European Sailing Series 2024 and offered two days of wonderful racing with conditions ranging from medium to really heavy winds. 14 teams competed and the winner of the event was Team Storm Capital NOR 751, followed by BLOW NOR787 and Team Baghdad Prospects NOR600. Great to see a lot of new teams also joined this event and that there was tight racing throughout the fleet.

The last regatta of the season was the Norwegian Championship held in Tønsberg. In late September the winds are normally southerly and known to be strong. Nevertheless, this time around a northern wind of cold breeze made the conditions tricky. Even the best teams did have some bloopers during the three days of racing. But in the end, it was Team Baghdad II NOR697 who took the victory in front of Team Storm Capital NOR751 and Team RRH NOR732.

The Norwegians were able to participate in the European Championship in Split with one team (Team HTB Racing Party Girl NOR826). It is very far to travel for many of the teams although we are certain that several of us have high wishes to sail in what seems to be the Melges 24 capital of Europe.

Furthermore, we want to express that our fleet is currently on an upward trend and we are growing each year. New young teams are eager to join and we are desperately helping them and sharing every piece of information to make them accelerate into the fleet. The biggest and most active fleet as of now is in Trondheim, where 9 boats are frequently racing every week. We try to accommodate as best as we can and Trondheim will be honored with the NC in 2026.



This year we have made efforts to identify where the Norwegian Melges 24s are hiding. Through calling and emailing different associations we have been able to locate 44 boats, of which only about 15 participate in the national competitions. The general feedback is that there are challenges with crew handling and, due to our country having its renowned topology, it is challenging to travel long distances. Next year we will actively look into possibilities to engage more of the teams and help build a strong community in Norway.

As of the annual meeting, many teams are also preparing to go south next year, to sail the World Championships in Trieste. This will be an absolute blast and we are definitely looking forward to sailing with you all again.

On behalf of the
Norwegian National Class,
Vemund Baltzer Gransæther

Date/place:

Vemund Baltzer Gransæther

07.11.2024 / Ålesund, Norway