

# MELGES 24 USA

The National Newsletter of the United States Melges 24 Class Association

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Photo Courtesy: Michelle Krembel

## 2004 MELGES 24 US NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

MAY 5 - 8, 2004 • SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA • US Ranking Event 5

The 2004 US National Championship is fast approaching and will be one of the most exciting National Championships in a long time. Hosted by the legendary Santa Cruz Yacht Club in Santa Cruz, California, a highly-competitive fleet of 13 boats (as of March 18, 2004) will be on the start line ready to go after what is one of the most sought after National titles on the International Melges 24 racing circuit.

Currently scheduled to make appearances are local California favorites Peter Dalton, Dave Emberson, Bret Gripenstraw, Dennis Bassano and Tim Hawkins. The Pegasus Teams of Phillippe Kahn and 2003 Melges 24 World Champion Shark Kahn will be out in full force. Bruce Ayres and Don Jesburg will also be on hand giving their all in an attempt to claim the 2004 US National Championship title.

The American teams are not unrivaled. 2003 Ocean Reef Regatta winner "Gill" will be present, making this one of many events they are attending across the US this year. They are a constantly reforming and revolving, strong, brotherly pairing of Simon Strauss and International Melges 24 Class Treasurer, Quentin Strauss. Another European team looking to deliver a National Championship performance is 2003 Melges 24 European Champion Luca Santella and his "Joe Fly" team.

If you have not submitted your entry, then get with the program! Go online now and pre-register for the event. It's really easy. Simply go to the SCYC Web site at [www.scyc.org/melges24/index.htm](http://www.scyc.org/melges24/index.htm) and fill out the pre-entry form. Entries close on April 23rd. Registration will begin on May 4th. A practice race will be held on

Wednesday, May 5th. And, official racing commences on Thursday, May 6th and continues on through Saturday, May 8th. Three races are scheduled each day to take advantage of the world-class racing conditions off of Lighthouse Point. Impressive, westerly winds have been known to push the Melges 24 to top speeds, so don't be surprised to find yourself continuously planing downwind.

Don't miss out on this world class event. Get registered today! Stay tuned to the Santa Cruz Yacht Club Web site as more information becomes available, not to mention keeping up with who you can anticipate beating to the finish! ★



**CHARLESTON RACE WEEK**  
MARCH 25 - 28, 2004

Charleston Race Week is by far, one of the largest and highly-anticipated events on the East Coast. Traditionally held in the later part of the month of March, the regatta brings out the best in camaraderie in cruising and professional sailing. Always

held in the very-southern and very-historic city of Charleston, South Carolina, Charleston Race Week brings an element of beauty and charm to the racing atmosphere. Off the race course is the best of accommodations, shopping, dining and nightlife enjoyment.

Visit the Charleston Race Week Web site at [www.charlestonraceweek.com](http://www.charlestonraceweek.com) and see for yourself just how outstanding of an event it is. Charleston is never disappointing. In fact, it will just keep you coming back for more southern hospitality and high-powered Melges 24 racing. ★



Photo Courtesy: Fiona Brown

#### 2004 TEXOMA LAKEFEST APRIL 16 - 18, 2004

The Gulf Coast region hosts a wide variety of events throughout the year and the 2004 Texoma Lakefest Regatta is no exception. Now in its 18th year, it is one of the largest events — boasting over 100 entries in 2003.

In addition to supporting a strong sailing community, the Texoma Lakefest Regatta has raised proceeds in the amount of over \$1,000,000. Ultimately, these proceeds are forwarded on to local children's charities.

This event is also well known for its highly-competitive racing atmosphere and great parties. Races are conducted on two courses split between the Melges 24's, other One-design classes and balances of PHRF fleets. This regatta is the perfect opportunity to race for a good cause and

get some quality sailing time in the Gulf Coast region. For more information, visit the Texoma Lakefest Regatta Web site at [www.texomasailing.org/tsclakefest.htm](http://www.texomasailing.org/tsclakefest.htm) or contact **Matt Mayo**, Gulf Coast District Governor at [mamayo@flash.net](mailto:mamayo@flash.net). ★

#### 2004 DETROIT NOOD

JUNE 4 - 6, 2004

AND

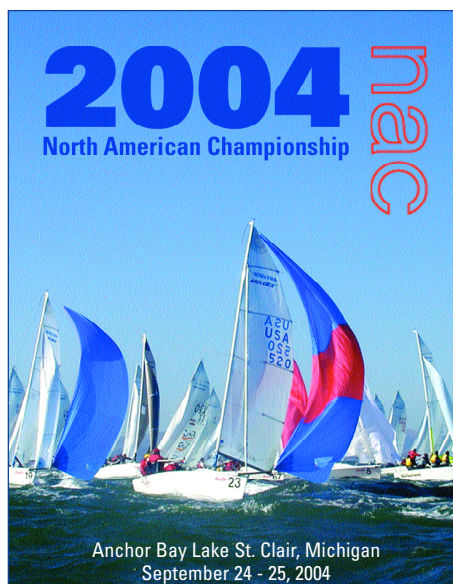
#### 2004 CHICAGO NOOD

JUNE 11 - 13, 2004 • US Ranking Event 6

The Detroit and Chicago NOOD regattas are the fourth and fifth of *Sailing World's* internationally acclaimed regatta circuit. They are back-to-back weekends so, if you're a die-hard, Midwest Melges 24 sailor here's your chance to prove it!

Held one-week apart, the regattas have proven to generate large turn-outs on the starting line. The NOOD regattas attract a major line-up of sailing classes, but it's always the Melges 24 fleet that everyone wishes they were on if they weren't on one already. As with other regattas, the Melges fleet delivers pure racing adrenalin and high-energy results that keep your blood pumping from start to finish.

Check out *Sailing World's* Web site for more information on all the NOOD regattas at [www.sailingworld.com](http://www.sailingworld.com). ★



#### UPCOMING SPRING EVENTS

**Texoma Lakefest**, Lake Texoma, TX  
April 16 - 18, 2004

**Annapolis NOOD**, Annapolis, MD  
April 30 - May 02, 2004

**US Nationals**, Santa Cruz, CA  
May 5 - 8, 2004

**SE Inland Championship**,  
Flowery Branch, GA on Lake Lanier  
May 8 - 9, 2004

**Detroit NOOD**, Detroit, MI  
June 4 - 6, 2004

**Chicago NOOD**, Chicago, IL  
June 11 - 13, 2004

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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