



J/70 and MELGES 24 BACARDI WINTER SERIES

Event #1 January 22-24, 2027 (J/70 + M24) 3 days

Event #2 February 19-21, 2027 (J/70+M24) 3 days

NOTICE OF RACE

POSTED – SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

The organizing authority (OA) is Twelve USA, Inc. The host facility and regatta office are at Shake-A-Leg-Miami (SALM), 2620 South Bayshore Drive, Miami, FL, 33133.

1. RULES

- 1.1 These events will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (RRS).
- 1.2 The following US Sailing prescriptions will apply: The prescription to RRS 88.2, Appendix R and V, the prescription to the preamble to Part 5, and the prescriptions to rules 65.1, 70.3(b) and 76.1. The full text of the prescriptions will be posted on the Online Notice Board (ONB).
- 1.3 In accordance with RRS 60.5(c)1, except for breaking a *rule* of Part 2 and RRS 2, 28 or 31, the protest committee may impose a discretionary penalty less than disqualification.
- 1.4 Boats shall be in compliance with class rules, except at they may be changed by the notice of race, sailing instructions or amendments.
- 1.5 If there is a conflict between the notice of race and sailing instructions, the sailing instructions will take precedence. This changes RRS 63.5(c).
- 1.6 The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the Race Committee for the entire series (WS1, WS2 and Bacardi Invitational) and the relevant information will be available to the J70 and the Melges 24 Classes in the Sailing Instructions.

2. COMMUNICATION

- 2.1 The ONB will be online at:

Event #1 - https://www.yachtscoring.com/notice_board_summary/50960

Event #2 - https://www.yachtscoring.com/notice_board_summary/50960

All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating with the race committee on US VHF



Marine Channels.

- 2.2 On the water, the race committee will make courtesy broadcasts to competitors on a VHF radio channel to be specified in the sailing instructions.
- 2.3 From the first warning signal until the end of a boat's last race of the day, a boat shall not make or receive voice or data communication not available to all boats, except in an emergency.
- 2.4 In order to communicate with the fleets on each racing circle, the OA will organize a WhatsApp group for each fleet/racing circle.

3. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

- 3.1 The sailing instructions will be available on-line on the ONB on January 15th, 2027 for WS1 and February 12, 2027 for WS2.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 4.1 The event is open to J/70 and Melges 24 boats.
- 4.2 Entry for Bacardi Invitational Winter Series Event #1 & 2 will be online at:
 - WS1: https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_registration_email/50959
 - WS2: https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_registration_email/50960
- 4.3 Entry is not completed until all fees are paid, all crew have signed the waiver of liability and proof of insurance has been provided.
- 4.4 Per RRS 46, the Person in Charge shall submit, at check-in, a cell phone number for immediate communication with the boat while ashore.
- 4.5 All competitors are required to check in at Shake a Leg no later than 9:00 am , prior to the competitor's meeting on Thursday January 21, 2027 for WS1 and Thursday February 18, 2027 for WS2. The following documents must be presented at check-in:
 - Proof of current class membership.
 - Crew list.
 - Support boat information.
- 4.6 Helm and crew may be substituted during the series only for good and sufficient reason and if approved by the Race Committee. Sailor classification and crew weight must be consistent.
- 4.7 Per RRS 46, the Person in Charge shall submit, at check-in, a cell phone number for immediate communication with the boat while ashore.

5. FEES

- 5.1 The deadline for entry and payment for WS #1 is December 21, 2026 and for WS2 is January 18, 2027.
- 5.2 Late entries will be subject to an additional \$100.00 late fee.
- 5.3 Entry Fees are as follows:

Winter Series 1 -	Fee
J/70 - Event Entry (daily Bacardi open bar, Saturday night dinner, Thursday, Friday and Sunday happy hour snacks)	\$525

Winter Series 2 -	Fee
J/70 & M24 - Event Entry (daily Bacardi open bar, Saturday night dinner, Thursday, Friday and Sunday happy hour snacks)	\$525

- 5.4 Entry fees are refundable if written notice of cancellation is received and acknowledged by the organizing authority no later than December 21, 2026 for WS1 and January 18, 2026 for WS2. After these dates, each entry will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 5.5 The event will be capped at 50 boats for WS1 and 50 boats for WS2. Once these limits have been reached, a waiting list will be established.

6. CREW LIMITATIONS

- 6.1 Boats will comply with class rules regarding the number of crew. There will be no weigh-in or crew weight limitations.
- 6.2 Substitution of crew during the event is not allowed without written permission of the protest committee.
- 6.3 For a boat to enter the Corinthian class, all competitors on the boat must be Category 1 eligible as defined in World Sailing Sailor Categorization Code and meet the requirements of their class for Corinthian status.
- 6.4 'Mixed+' gender teams shall be comprised of at least 50% female crew.

7. ADVERTISING

- 7.1 Boat may be required to display the event sponsor's advertising in accordance with World Sailing Advertising Code. Materials and instructions for application may be provided at check-in. Display of any other advertising on a boat, that conflicts with the event sponsor, requires the written consent of the OA.

8. SCHEDULE

- 8.1 Eight (8) races for Winter Series 1 and the same number for Winter Series 2.
- 8.2 Up to three (3) races are scheduled per day

8.3 EVENT #1

Thursday, January 21, 2027

1600-1900 Check-in @ SALM
1600-1900 Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM

Friday, January 22, 2027

0900 Competitor's Briefing @ SALM
1055 Melges 24 First Warning Signal; J/70 Warning Signal to follow
Post-Racing Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM

Saturday, January 23, 2027



0900 Competitor's Briefing @ SALM
1055 Melges 24 First Warning Signal; J/70 Warning Signal to follow
Post-Racing Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM
1700 Bacardi Complimentary Dinner @SALM

Sunday, January 24, 2027

0900 Competitor's Briefing @ SALM
1055 Melges 24 First Warning Signal; J/70 Warning Signal to follow
1400 No warning signal will be made after this time.
Post-Racing Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM
1730 Prize Giving @ SALM

8.4 EVENT #2

Thursday, February 18, 2027

1600-1900 Check-in @ SALM
1600-1900 Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM

Friday, February 20, 2026

0800-0900 Late Check-in @ SALM
0900 Competitor's Briefing @ SALM
1055 Melges 24 First Warning Signal; J/70 Warning Signal to follow
Post-Racing Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM

Saturday, February 21, 2026

0900 Competitor's Briefing @ SALM
1055 Melges 24 First Warning Signal; J/70 Warning Signal to follow
Post-Racing Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM
1700 Bacardi Complimentary Dinner @SALM

Sunday, February 22, 2026

0900 Competitor's Briefing @ SALM
1055 Melges 24 First Warning Signal; J/70 Warning Signal to follow
1400 No warning signal will be made after this time
Post-Racing Bacardi Happy Hour @ SALM
1700 Prize Giving @ SALM

- 8.5 A schedule with locations for check-in and additional event information will be available online:
<https://bacardiinvitational.com/>

9. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

- 9.1 A boat shall be prepared to submit a valid class measurement certificate to the protest committee upon request.
- 9.2 There will be no formal inspection process, however, a boat may be inspected by the OA at any time for compliance with class rules, if so directed by the protest committee.

10. VENUE

- 10.1 The sailing venue will be on Biscayne Bay, in the vicinity of Dinner Key Channel marker Fl G 2.5s 5M "1."



11. COURSES

- 11.1 The courses will be windward-leeward with a weather offset mark and leeward gates. A racing area chart and course diagrams will be appended to the sailing instructions.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

- 12.1 Appendix V1: Penalty At The Time Of An Incident. The first two sentences of RRS 44.1 are changed to: "A boat may take a One -Turn Penalty when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 in an incident while racing. However, when she may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two -Turns Penalty."
- 12.2 Arbitration (appendix T) may be available as will be described in the Sailing Instructions Appendix V2: Provided that rule 44.1(b) does not apply, a boat that may have broken one or more rules of Part 2 or RRS 31 in an incident may take a Post-Race Penalty at any time after the race until the beginning of a protest hearing involving the incident. RRS 44.1(a) applies.
- 12.3 The Post-Race Penalty is 30%, or 25% for fleets with 20 or more boats, or 20% for fleets with 30 or more boats, as calculated in RRS 44.3(c). This changes Appendix V2 and T1 (b).
- 12.4 A boat requests a Post-Race Penalty by delivering to the protest desk a written statement that she accepts the penalty and that identifies the race number and where and when the incident occurred.
- 12.5 Penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg shall be delayed and taken at the first reasonable opportunity on the downwind leg after clearing the zone of the offset mark. This change is added to RRS 44.2.

13. SCORING

- 13.1 Each boat's series score shall be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score if five (5) or more races are successfully completed.
- 13.2 RRS A2.1, the word "series" is deleted and replaced by "event."
- 13.3 RRS A2.2 shall not apply.
- 13.4 Points for the Corinthian class boats will be based on fleet scores.
- 13.5 A boat's overall score for the 2027 BACARDI WINTER SERIES will be her score for Event #3 added to her lowest score from Event #1 or #2.
- 13.6 To qualify for the top Corinthian or top Mixed+ series trophies, the boat's crew status
- 13.7 (Corinthian or Mixed+) must be the same in each of the boat's two best qualifying events.

14. SUPPORT PERSON AND SUPPORT BOATS

- 14.1 A support person agrees while on the water to monitor the race committee on VHF channel to assist the race committee, if requested, and agrees to accept the provisions of RRS 4.1(b), Acceptance of The Rules.
- 14.2 All support and coach boats must register with the Organizing Authority (OA) by email prior to the regatta and comply with the Class Coach and Support Boat Rules (Attachment A). Storage and dock space at Shake-A-Leg Miami are not guaranteed for support boats, as priority will be given to

competing sailboats. To register, support and coach boat operators must send an email to info@bacardiinvitational.com before the event, including the following information:

- Driver's name
- Driver's mobile phone number
- Boat make, model, and color

14.3 Failure to submit this information in advance may result in limited or denied access to the venue for storage or docking during the event.

14.4 Team leaders, coaches, and other support personnel shall stay outside the racing area (defined as 100 meters outside the lay lines of the course including the start area) and comply with other requirements as specified in the Sailing Instructions. These requirements begin from the warning signal of the first race of the regatta until the finish of the last race of each day of the regatta. Individual competitors may not use support boats at any time during this time unless such support is available to all competitors or is authorized by the Race Committee. Failure to comply with any of these requirements may result in all boats associated with the infringing support persons being penalized without a previous written warning. This changes RRS 62.4.

14.5 Spectator boats shall not communicate with competitors on the water unless the RC requests that they do so for safety reasons.

14.6 Full support person/vessel rules will be given in the SIs.

14.7 Towing to and from the racecourse is not permitted.

15. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

15.1 Boats will be afloat prior to the first warning signal of the event and will not be hauled-out until the final race of their class, except with the written permission of the principal race officer or protest committee.

16. LAUNCHING – BERTHING – HAULING – TRAILER STORAGE

16.1 Launching, berthing, hauling, and trailer storage will be available at Shake-A-Leg Miami. Additional storage may be available at Biscayne Bay YC, Coconut Grove Sailing Club and the US Sailing Center.

16.2 Additional storage information will be available at www.bacardiinvitational.com. Each boat will be responsible for reserving and paying for its own storage. More details will be available in September. Competitors will receive an email notification once the storage arrangements are finalized and reservations can be made.

17. RISK STATEMENT

17.1 In addition to RRS 3, by participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. Among other these risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform and fatigue among others resulting in increased risk of injury. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury by or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.

18. WAIVER OF LIABILITY

- 18.1 Signed liability waiver (skipper and crew) which can be completed at the online registration site at yachtscoring.com . When registering, each competitor will be required to sign a waiver for loss, damage or injury to persons or property incurred in conjunction with the regatta, on the property of the club, or on the water, or during participation in any individual race of the regatta, or from the actions of the Organizing Authority, its officers, the protest committee, the technical committee, the race management team and any sponsors of the Regatta and their members, officers, governors and agents, from liability for such damage or injury.

19. INSURANCE

- 19.1 A boat shall be insured with current third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of not less than \$100,000/300,000 per incident. A copy of the boat's insurance coverage page shall be submitted prior to or at check-in. Please send to info@bacardiinvitational.com

20. PRIZES

- 20.1 For each event, Class event prizes will be given for overall first, second and third place.
- 20.2 For each event, Corinthian class event prizes will be given for first, second and third place.
- 20.3 For each event, trophies will be awarded to the top Mixed+ team and top One-Pro Division.
- 20.4 For the OVERALL 2027 BACARDI INVITATIONAL WINTER SERIES, a trophy will be awarded to the Overall Series winner, the Overall top Corinthian Series winner and the Overall top Series Mixed+ team and Overall top Series One-Pro Division.
- 20.5 Additional prizes may be awarded.

21. MEDIA RIGHTS

- 21.1 Competitors give absolute right for video footage and photographs of themselves or their boat to be published in any media for press, editorial, or advertising purposes.

22. EVENT MANAGEMENT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Event Director: Sara Zanobini sara@bacardiinvitational.com

Regatta Chairman: Mark Pincus mwpincus@aol.com

Winter Series PRO Mark Foster mfoster1053@gmail.com

Event information can be found at: www.bacardiinvitational.com info@bacardiinvitational.com