



# Notice of Race

The Organizing Authority (OA) is the Grand Traverse Yacht Club (GTYC) in conjunction with the US Melges 24 Class Association (USM24CA)

*[NP] denotes a rule that a boat may not protest or request redress under this rule. This changes Rules 60.4(a) and 61.3 as stated below.*

*[DP] denotes a rule that the penalty for breaking this rule may, at the discretion of the jury, be more or less than a single disqualification. This changes Rule 60.5(c).*

## 1. RULES

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- 1.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 1.2 The Equipment Rules of Sailing will apply.
- 1.3. The Rules and Regulations of the IM24CA will apply.
- 1.4 The IM24CS Standard Coach and Support Vessel Regulations will apply. These are attached as Addendum C.
- 1.5 The following US Sailing Prescriptions will apply: the Preamble to RRS Part 5, RRS 65.1, RRS 76.1, Appendix R.
- 1.6 These are attached as Addendum B.
- 1.7 The Race Committee (RC) will communicate with the competitors using VHF radio. Failure to make or hear a broadcast shall not constitute grounds for requesting redress. This changes RRS 61.1(a) and 61.4(b)(1). RRS Rule 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows, "(2) if it alleges breach of a rule of part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in and did not see the incident, or".
- 1.8 The protest committee may impose penalties less than disqualification (DPI) for violation of the Class Rules (CR) and RRS other than those of Parts 1 and 2.
- 1.9

## 2. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

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- 2.1 The regatta is open to all boats of the Melges 24 class that meet the obligations of the Class Rules and, when relevant, their Member National Authority.
- 2.2 Eligible boats may enter by completing online registration at [https://www.yachtscoring.com/event\\_registration\\_email/50630](https://www.yachtscoring.com/event_registration_email/50630) no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Entries may be accepted after this date only with approval by the OA on a case-by-case basis.
- 2.3 Only boats that have completed all registration requirements will be allowed to compete. Note – completed entry includes payment of entry fee.
- 2.4 The OA will acknowledge completed entries upon receipt via email and post on the official event website at <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu/50630>
- 2.6 The World Sailing Sailor Classification Code (Regulation 22) will apply to teams in the Corinthian division.
- 2.7 Classification for each sailor and the unique World Sailing sailor ID shall be indicated on the entry form if entering for the Corinthian division.
- 2.8 Each boat shall produce a valid measurement certificate before the close of registration, August 13<sup>h</sup>, 2026.
- 2.9 [NP] Each participating boat shall be insured with valid third-party liability insurance with a minimum cover of \$500,000 (USD) per event or the equivalent.

- 2.10 Liability Waiver Form - As a condition of entry, each owner, skipper and individual participating crewmember shall sign a liability waiver/media release. The fully executed Liability Waiver Form shall be submitted at registration prior to racing. The Liability Waiver Form will be posted on the regatta website and will be available at registration.
- 2.11 Following to WS's statement, competitors from Russia (RUS) and Belarus (BLR) are not eligible for this regatta.
- 2.12 Boats, support persons and support vessels are required to register with the Race Office no later than 1800pm on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

### 3. ADVERTISING

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- 3.1 Advertising will conform to World Sailing Regulation and the Class Rules.
- 3.2 Boats may be required to display sponsors' advertising for the duration of the event chosen and supplied by the OA.

### 4. EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

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- 4.1 The TC may weigh, measure, or inspect any boat and or her equipment and sails before, during, or after the races.
- 4.2 Registration of sails and limitation stamping will take place during periods stated in NOR 9.
- 4.3 There will be no facilities for initial measurement. Sails shall be measured and stamped by an approved measurer before arrival at the regatta.
- 4.4 [NP] A boat chartered or loaned for this event may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of the Class Rules, and must be reported to the OA at time of check-in.
- 4.5 [NP] Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 configured for RaceSense at check-in, which shall be mounted on the aft side of the mast at all times while racing. Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2 at check-in for configuration with RaceSense, or an Atlas 2 will be provided to any boat that does not have one available.
- 4.6 [NP] Competitors shall do their best to keep the system safe and active. They shall inform the Race Committee or designated party as soon as possible, on the water or ashore, about any problems encountered with the device.

### 5. COMMUNICATION

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- 5.1 Notices to competitors will be posted on the Official Notice Board Online (ONB) at [https://www.yachtscoring.com/notice\\_board\\_summary/50630](https://www.yachtscoring.com/notice_board_summary/50630).
- 5.2 All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on channel 69.
- 5.3 From the first warning signal until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency or as required by a rule, a boat shall not make voice nor data transmissions and shall not receive voice nor data communication that is not available to all boats.
- 5.4 The RC may broadcast on the designated VHF Channel the course, bearing and distance information before the warning signal, start times, course changes and any other information important to racing.

5.6 The Organizing Authority (OA) will include the Vakaros Atlas 2 RaceSense as required equipment for this event. Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2 at check-in for configuration with RaceSense, or an Atlas 2 will be provided by the Organizing Authority (OA) for a fee. See Addendum RS for more information.

## 6. FEES

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6.1 The Entry Fee will be:

- a) \$650 up to May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026
- b) \$750 from June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 onwards. This will apply to all boats registering after May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026, or for all boats who have registered but not paid their entry fee by May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

6.2 Entry Fee includes (5) dinners for Saturday evening at GTYC Clubhouse. Additional tickets will be available for purchase.

6.3 Payment of entry fees may be made by observing the guidance for online registration.

## 7. CREW LIMITATION

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7.1 The World Sailing Sailor Classification Code will apply to teams competing for the Corinthian division (see RRS 79).

7.2 For boats that qualify for the Corinthian division, sailors shall submit a Corinthian Declaration Form that includes sailor classifications, World Sailing sailor ID numbers and date of expiration to USM24CA administration no later than August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, by emailing to [communications@usmelges24.com](mailto:communications@usmelges24.com). The Corinthian Declaration Form is posted online at: <https://usmelges24.com/corinthian-declaration-form>

7.3 Full details for the Corinthian division can be found in the IM24CA Championship rules that can be found at: <https://www.melges24.com/im24ca-corinthian-division>

7.4 Should a boat whose Corinthian entry has been checked and accepted need to change a crew member between the closing date of entries and the start of the regatta, the name of the new crew member with their valid World Sailing sailor ID and group number shall be submitted to the OA for approval by the USM24CA Championship Representative.

8. SCHEDULE

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8.1 The program is as follows:

DAY	DATE	TIME(s)	EVENT
Wednesday	August 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	1600 – 1900	Check In
		1800 – 1930	Wed. Night Club Race (all welcome)
		1730 - 2030	Club Dinner and Bar Service
Thursday	August 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	1300	Practice Race
		1600 – 1800	Check In
		1800 – 1830	Competitors' Meeting
		1730 – 1900	Club Dinner and Bar Service
Friday	August 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	0930 – 0945	Opening Ceremony
		1100	First Warning Signal Competitors'
		1700 – 2030	Club Dinner and Bar Service
Saturday	August 15 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	1100	First Warning Signal
		1830	Regatta Dinner
Sunday	August 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	1000	First Warning Signal
		1500	No Warning after this time
		ASAP after races	Awards

8.2 Ten (10) races are scheduled for the regatta.

8.3 The RC shall attempt to complete up to four (4) races per day.

8.4 The OA reserves the right to modify the program due to weather conditions or other causes.

9. VENUE – RACING AREA

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9.1 The venue host address: Grand Traverse Yacht Club, 13653 S W Bay Shore Dr. Traverse City, MI 49684.

The location of the racing area is on the southern portion of the West arm of Grand Traverse Bay. See Addendum A.

9.2. [NP] Routine movement of robotic autonomous marks will not be grounds for redress. This includes minor readjustments, marks returning to station after having been pushed away by a competitor, and collisions with

9.3. marks that are not actively marks of the course presuming these collisions do not cause damage. This changes RRS 61.1(a). RRS 31 still applies.

## 10. PENALTY SYSTEM

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- 10.1 RRS Appendix T will apply.
- 10.2 Rule 44.1 is changed as follows: A boat may take a One-Turn Penalty when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 or Class Rule C.11 while racing. However, when she may have broken a rule of Part 2 while in the zone around a mark other than a starting mark, her penalty shall be a Two-Turns Penalty.
- 10.3 Unless the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. (This changes RRS 44.2.)

## 11. SCORING

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- 11.1 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute the regatta.
- 11.2 When fewer than six (6) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.
- 11.3 When six (6) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores excluding her worst score.

## 12. SAFETY

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- 12.1 Before the first warning signal of each day, all boats shall sail past the stern of the RC Signal Vessel on starboard tack and check in by hailing their sail/bow number. They shall continue to do so until their sail/bow number is verbally acknowledged by the RC.
- 12.2 Except in an emergency, all Melges 24 boats shall proceed to and from the racing area under their own power.
- 12.3 A boat that retires from a race shall notify the RC before leaving the course area or immediately after arriving ashore via radio contact from Regatta Director or staff.

## 13. LAUNCHING AND BERTHING

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- 13.1 Arrangement will be made independently by competitors. Available options are attached as Addendum V.

## 14. PRIZES

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- 14.1 Prizes will be given to the top 5 teams overall and the top 5 Corinthian teams.
- 14.2 Other prizes from the OA will be posted in the Notice Board.

## 15. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

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- 15.1. Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. See RRS 3, Decision to Race. The OA will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the regatta.
- 15.2. Sailing is by its nature an unpredictable sport and therefore inherently involves an element of risk. By taking part in the event, each competitor and the responsible adult agree and acknowledges that:
- a) They are aware of the inherent element of risk involved in the sport and accept responsibility for the exposure of themselves and their boat to such inherent risk whilst taking part in the event;
  - b) They are responsible for the safety of themselves, their boat and their other property whether afloat or ashore;
  - c) They accept responsibility for any injury, damage or loss to the extent caused by their own actions or omission;
  - d) Their boat is in good order, equipped to sail in the event and they are fit to participate;
  - e) The provision of a race management team, patrol boats and other officials and volunteers by the event organizer does not relieve them of their own responsibilities.
  - f) The provision of patrol boat cover is limited to such assistance, particularly in extreme weather conditions, as can be practically provided in the circumstances.

## 16. MEDIA RIGHTS AND MEDIA VESSELS REGULATIONS

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- 16.1. By participating in this event, competitors automatically grant to the OA and the event sponsors the right, in perpetuity, to make, use, and show, at their discretion, any photography, audio and video recording, and other reproductions of them made at the venue or on the water from the time of their arrival at the venue, until their final departure, without compensation.
- 16.2. All Press and official spectator boats shall be registered by the race organizing authority during registration.
- 16.3. Press and spectator vessels shall display any flag, or other identification symbol as may be required by the Race Committee.
- 16.4. The race organizers may appoint one or more photo vessels, which will be allowed within the race course. The position of these boats shall not be grounds for redress. (This changes rule RRS 62.1)
- 16.5. Press and spectator vessels shall not interfere with boats racing or the Regatta Direction in any way.

## 17. KEY CONTACTS

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Regatta Chair: Scot Zimmerman, [zimmerman2209@gmail.com](mailto:zimmerman2209@gmail.com)

Race Management: Jordan Owen, [jo@qtyc.com](mailto:jo@qtyc.com)


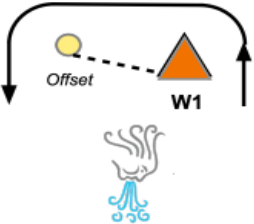

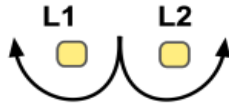

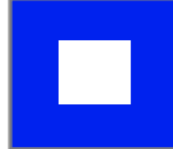
Principal Race Officer: Jon Ledsworth, [jonledsworth@gmail.com](mailto:jonledsworth@gmail.com)

Chief Judge: Clifford Black, [studiodelmar@mac.com](mailto:studiodelmar@mac.com)

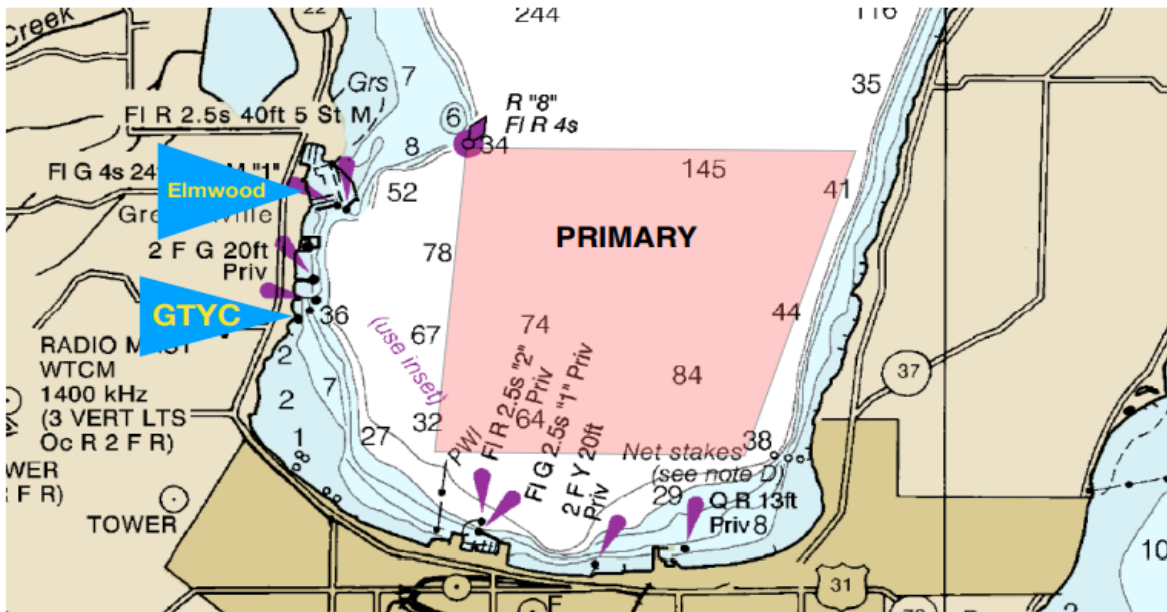
US Melges 24 Class Admin: Joy Dunigan, [communications@usmelges24.com](mailto:communications@usmelges24.com)

# Addendum A

## Race Area

			<p>Class Flag</p>
<p>Four Leg Windward/ Leeward, Downwind Finish</p>		<p>Start Flag</p>	<p>Finish Flag</p>
		<p>Prep Flag (RRS 26: Up at 4 min, Down at 1 min.)</p>	

*Primary Race Area, 1 sq mile east of Red 8, 1 mile south*



# Addendum B

## *US Sailing Prescriptions that Apply*

Add to the preamble to Part 5:

US Sailing prescribes that no fees shall be charged for protests or requests for redress.

Add to rule 65.1:

US Sailing prescribes that:

(a) A boat that retires from a race or accepts a penalty does not, by that action alone, admit liability for monetary damages.

(b) A protest committee shall find facts and make decisions only in compliance with the rules. No protest committee or US Sailing appeal authority shall adjudicate any claim for monetary damages. Such a claim is subject to the jurisdiction of the courts

(c) A basic purpose of the rules is to prevent contact between boats. By participating in an event governed by the rules, a boat agrees that responsibility for monetary damages arising from any breach of the rules shall be based on fault as determined by application of the rules, and that she shall not be governed by the legal doctrine of 'assumption of monetary damages resulting from contact with other boats.

Add to rule 76.1:

US Sailing prescribes that an organizing authority or race committee shall not reject or cancel the entry of a boat or exclude a competitor eligible under the notice of race and sailing instructions for an arbitrary or capricious reason or for reason of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or age. However, an organizing authority or race committee may exclude a competitor who is a citizen of, or holds a World Sailing ID as an MNA member of, a country listed on the US Sailing website under 'Exclusion' at [ussailing.org/rules](http://ussailing.org/rules).

### APPENDIX R

#### PROCEDURES FOR APPEALS AND REQUESTS

This appendix is a US Sailing prescription.

See rules 70 and 71. This appendix replaces Appendix R as adopted by World Sailing for the purpose of creating a two-level appeals system. The US Sailing Appeals Committee acts as the national authority under rule 71.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on the appeals system and their answers, including advice on how to prepare an appeal, can be found on the US Sailing website.

Go to [Appeals - US Sailing](#) and click the 'Appeals FAQ' link. Appeals FAQ may also be accessed here: [Appeal-FAQ-rev-2.14.19-1.pdf\(ussailing.org\)](#)

# Addendum C

## IM24CS Standard Coach and Support Vessel Regulations

### SECTION A

**A1** Coach and support vessels shall register with the race office during registration. They shall declare which boat or boats they are attached to.

**A2** Coach and support vessels shall display a numbered flag representing the boat to which it is attached and/or other identification symbol, as may be required by the OA.

**A3** No coach or support vessel shall pass information in any way to a boat that is racing. RRS 41 (outside help) infringements of this will be taken very seriously.

**A4** Coach and support vessel personnel shall not communicate with competitors (by any means) from the warning signal of the first race of the day until the competitor has finished the last race of the day. If the race committee is signaling AP over H, section A4 does not apply until further warning signal.

**A5** Coach and support vessels shall not go alongside their Melges 24 boats and there shall be no transfer of any goods or equipment until after the finish of the last race of the day.

### SECTION B

**B1** All Melges 24 boats shall proceed to and from the racing area under their own power.

### SECTION C

**C1** Coach and support vessels shall keep clear of the racing area at all times during which boats are racing. Except when participating in rescue operations, coach/support vessels shall stay more than 100 meters from any point where a boat might sail during normal racing.

**C2** Any coach or support vessel that interferes with another competitor or the racing in any way, including creating excess wash, or hindering an official vessel carrying out its duties, shall have the competitor(s) to which they are attached, liable to a penalty at the discretion of the jury.

**C3** Any boat may protest under the rules in this addendum.

**C4** The penalty given by the jury is at their discretion. (DPI)

(*Racing*: A boat is racing from her preparatory signal until she finishes and clears the finishing line and

marks or retires, or until the race committee signals a general recall, postponement or abandonment.)

**CHANGES TO THESE RULES** IM24CA standard coach vessel/ appendix ***shall not be altered***. Any changes for these rules will be the subject for decision by IM24CA Executive Committee.

# Addendum RS (RaceSense) RRS Changes

## **[NP] Rules and Instructions for Using the Vakaros and RaceSense System**

1. Each boat shall have a working Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge configured for RaceSense at check-in. Boats without a configured Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge may have one provided by the OA, for applicable fees. This shall be mounted as required by the OA or class at all times while racing.
2. Competitors shall calibrate their Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge before registration/check-in. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure their device remains in proper calibration throughout the event.
3. The Vakaros RaceSense system will be used by the Race Committee (RC) and the relevant information will be available to all boats.
4. Instructions for using the electronic Atlas 2 can be found here [Atlas 2 User Guide](#) or Atlas Edge can be found here [Atlas Edge User Guide](#)
5. Competitors shall take all reasonable measures to keep the Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge safe and operational and promptly notify Vakaros staff on the water or ashore of any device issues.
6. The countdown to the start on the Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge from RaceSense will be the official time. Signal flags will only be used for information purposes. This changes RRS 26.
7. The visual identification of boats infringing RRS 29 and 30 by the RC is replaced with electronic identification through the Vakaros RaceSense system, modifying RRS 29.1, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3, and 30.4.
8. Any alleged failure of the Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge, RaceSense system, or communication systems will not constitute grounds to request redress by a boat or the Protest Committee. This changes RRS 61.1(a), 61.1(c).
9. If the RC vessel displays flag Oscar (Old School) with a long sound signal before the warning signal of a race, RS.6 and RS.7 inclusive will not apply to that race.
10. If the RC vessel displays flag Romeo (Re-Boot) with a long sound signal before the warning signal of a race, Competitors shall restart their Vakaros Atlas or Atlas Edge unit by switching it off, waiting 10 seconds and then switching it back on to reconnect to the RaceSense network. Flag R will remain displayed for a minimum of 2 minutes and will be removed with the next warning signal.
11. If firmware updates to Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge devices are required between scheduled race days, notice will be sent to all boats via email and/or SMS and or the Regatta What's App Group.

## **Addendum V - Local Logistics**

### *Information Not Part of the Notice of Race*

#### **Regatta Office:**

The office for the event organizers will work from is the GTYC Commodore's Room, which is the meeting room to the immediate left of the main entrance of the club. This is where you will check in on arrival and receive your Skipper's packet. This room will also be the location for all protest hearings.

#### **Parking:**

Parking at GTYC itself is a sparse commodity. During a regatta, that means there will be very few parking spots in the actual club lot. We ask that these be used for loading and unloading. Day-long parking should be next door at the Viridian building, or across the street at the Westport building (the one with the blue roof). Also, do not park in the grass lot across the street and southwest of the club. There is no parking on the shoulder of M-22/Bay Shore Drive.

#### **Club Launch Ramp:**

The launch ramp will be a very busy place over the course of the event. Please keep an eye open for cross traffic of boats, vehicles, & people when near the ramp. The ramp itself can be very slippery with algae. Please be especially careful when at the water's edge while launching boats. There are rubber traction mats that are very useful for maintaining good footing.

#### **For Guest Boats, Elmwood Township Marina is your primary launch & storage venue**

13051 S W Bay Shore Dr, Traverse City, MI 49684, 231-946-5463

**Temporary Boat Storage with the mast down is available** – please contact the club manager (see below)

#### **Ice & Drinking Water:**

There is a cooler with ice for your use in small amounts on the porch of the club (facing the water). Next to it, there is a dispenser for filtered water. There will also be a self-serve water cooler inside next to the bar. The club does not provide or sell ice in large amounts – both the Dockside Party Store and the Circle K sell bagged ice (see below for more info).

#### **Club Access:**

The club will open for access from early in the morning (8:00 am) until at least 8:00 pm each evening

#### **Showers:**

There is a single shower in both the men's and women's rooms. You are more than welcome to use the club facilities.

#### **Courtesy Notice Board:**

There will be an unofficial regatta notice board maintained directly opposites the bathrooms at GTYC. This board will mirror the information posted on the official Notice Board hosted on the event site at [YachtScoring.com](http://YachtScoring.com).

#### **Bar Service:**

The GTYC bar will be open each day after racing. On Saturday, the bar will be open for the duration of the dinner. On Sunday, the bar will close by 6:30. If you would like to establish a tab for the duration of the event, you must have a credit card authorized by the bartender.

#### **Club Merchandise:**

GYTC would be happy to let you purchase club logo gear to take home. Ask the bartender or club staff.

**Nearest Party Store** (Michigan for Liquor Store):

Dockside Party Store -- less than a quarter mile north on M-22, next to Bluewater Hall. Party store, plus good pre-made sandwiches. Excellent jerky.

**Nearest Coffee Places:**

Aroma's -- In the ground floor office building on the southwest corner of M-22 & M-72

Bigby's -- Next to Tom's West Bay Supermarket on the northwest corner of M-22 & M-72

**Nearest Convenience Stores/Gas Stations:**

Circle K (has Rec Gas)-- quarter-mile south of the club on M-22

Speedway -- half-mile north of the club on M-22

**Nearest Restaurants:**

Apache Trout Grill -- next door (expensive)

Harringtons -- quarter mile south on M-22, next to the Holiday (more moderate)

The Burrow -- half-mile north on M-22, past the Speedway, across from the Marina (more moderate)

Glendale Burgers -- Four doors south, across M-22 -- Excellent smashburgers & fries (moderate)

**Nearest Fast Food:**

McDonald's, KFC, & Taco Bell are all approximately 1.5 miles away by taking the Grandview Parkway east. All of them are in the area across the street from the Delamar Hotel, the large waterfront hotel just over the bridge crossing the Boardman River.

**Nearest Dispensary** (*because you can do that in Michigan, but not at the Club*):

Lume -- recreational dispensary at the intersection of Front. St. & Wadsworth (401 W. Front St)

**Nearest West Marine:**

South on Division St -- 3500 Marketplace Cir, Traverse City, MI 49684,

**CLUB CONTACTS:**

Race Management & Club Manager: Jordan Owen, 231-883-5741

Club Phone: 231-946-9779

**CLUB ADDRESS:**

GTYC

13653 S. West Bay Shore Drive (that's M-22)

Traverse City, MI, 49684