

Pre-Regatta Checklist: Boat, Trailer and Gear

SailZing.com
Online sailing education

Boat: _____ **Sail #:** _____ **Event:** _____ **Date:** _____ Walk once, hitch to rudder. Fix it or write it down.

1 Hull Prep

- ☐ Hull prep: wash the bottom and wipe it dry
- ☐ Check for nicks, gouges and stress cracks
- ☐ Melges 15: sand 600 grit, no finer
- ☐ Melges 15: board plate caulked flush
- ☐ Drain plugs and inspection ports in and tight
- ☐ Hull dry inside
- ☐ Melges 15 in storage: vented port cover in (Shop.SailZing.com)
- ☐ Optional: wax the bottom, if class allows

2 Trailer and Towing

- ☐ Hubs lubed
- ☐ Jack each wheel and spin it
- ☐ Hitch latch lubed
- ☐ Coupler pinned or locked
- ☐ Safety chains crossed under the tongue
- ☐ Lights working
- ☐ Tires at right pressure
- ☐ Good tread, no sidewall cracks
- ☐ Lug nuts tight
- ☐ Trailer lock
- ☐ Bolsters clean
- ☐ Melges 15: bunks 81 in. apart, hull sits evenly
- ☐ Winch strap, bow line and transom straps snug and not chafed
- ☐ Tongue jack up and locked
- ☐ Mast supports and covers tied down
- ☐ Mast shackles and fittings wrapped or taped
- ☐ Melges 15: mast-foot bag on for the tow
- ☐ Spare tire, lug wrench and jack

3 Rig and Standing Rigging

- ☐ Shrouds and forestay
- ☐ Swages and terminals free of cracks and rust
- ☐ Turnbuckles or shroud adjusters turn, and they're secured
- ☐ Spreaders tight at the mast
- ☐ Mast step and mast base clean
- ☐ Halyards and halyard locks work
- ☐ Rig tension set to your class tuning guide
- ☐ Melges 15: rig tension wrenches on the shrouds (Shop.SailZing.com)

4 Pins, Rings and Shackles

- ☐ Every clevis pin has its ring or cotter pin
- ☐ Rings closed or lightly taped
- ☐ Tape lightly, and look under old tape
- ☐ Shackles tight
- ☐ Replace bent or worn pins and old rings

5 Running Rigging and Lines

- ☐ Lines frayed?
- ☐ Sheets, halyards and control lines
- ☐ Line ends whipped or melted
- ☐ Outhaul, vang/GNAV and cunningham run their full range
- ☐ Shock cord and retrievers still stretch and pull back
- ☐ Knots and stopper knots in place

6 Blocks and Cleats

- ☐ Blocks lubed with McLube and spinning freely?
- ☐ Clean the cams and teeth with soap and water
- ☐ No lube unless your cleat maker says so; never the teeth
- ☐ Teeth worn into grooves? They slip: replace the cams
- ☐ Cam springs snap the jaws shut
- ☐ Block shackles, swivels and stand-up springs move freely
- ☐ Screws on every fitting tight
- ☐ Traveler car rolls the full track

7 Sails and Battens

- ☐ Check the spinnaker for holes
- ☐ Seams, leech and corners
- ☐ Battens all present, not cracked
- ☐ Sail numbers legible
- ☐ Sail telltales on, untangled and readable
- ☐ Sails folded or rolled dry

8 Foils (rudder, boards)

- ☐ Leading and trailing edges free of nicks
- ☐ Pintles and gudgeons tight
- ☐ Melges 15: no shims on daggerboard
- ☐ Melges 15: pivot bolt tight; tiller strap grips, not fuzzed
- ☐ Rudder retaining clip or lock works
- ☐ Tiller, extension and U-joint secure
- ☐ Centerboard/daggerboard moves freely
- ☐ Melges 15: board line, shock cord on
- ☐ Scows: both leeboards and both rudders checked
- ☐ Foils in their padded bags

9 Tools and Spares Kit

- ☐ Sail tape for repairs
- ☐ Rigging or electrical tape
- ☐ Spare clevis pins, rings, cotter pins and a shackle or two
- ☐ Spare line
- ☐ Cable ties and seizing wire
- ☐ Multi-tool or pliers, screwdrivers and a small wrench
- ☐ McLube for blocks and fittings
- ☐ Tire pressure gauge
- ☐ Spare trailer light bulbs or fuse
- ☐ Cordless vacuum
- ☐ Soft washing pad on a long pole

10 Shroud Telltales

- ☐ Shroud telltales fresh, free-spinning and readable
- ☐ Telltales off the shrouds for the drive

11 Safety

- ☐ VHF radio charged and working well
- ☐ Life jackets
- ☐ Inflatable PFDs armed, all indicators showing armed
- ☐ Whistle on each life jacket
- ☐ Knife you can reach
- ☐ Paddle, bailer or bucket, if your class rules require them
- ☐ Check the notice of race (NoR) and class rules for required gear

12 Personal Gear

- ☐ Sailing clothes for the forecast
- ☐ Boots, gloves and hiking pants or shorts
- ☐ Hat, sunglasses with a strap, and sunscreen
- ☐ Watch or timer
- ☐ Dry bag, towel and a change of clothes
- ☐ Squeeze-down bags for small gear

13 Food and Water

- ☐ Water bottles
- ☐ Electrolyte drink and energy bars or snacks
- ☐ Lunch and a cooler for the day

14 Paperwork

- ☐ Entry confirmed and fees paid
- ☐ Class membership current
- ☐ Measurement certificate valid, if your class uses one
- ☐ Boat and trailer registration
- ☐ Insurance proof, if the NoR asks for it
- ☐ Sail number matches your entry
- ☐ NoR and sailing instructions (SIs) read
- ☐ Renting? Ask what you may change or fix

! Start with these three

- ☐ Trailer hubs and tires
- ☐ Pins, rings and shackles
- ☐ Rudder and pintles

+ Notes / parts to buy

.....

.....