

U.S. J/24 Class Association Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: 12/8/2014

Start: 7:05 p.m. EST

Adjourn: 8:20 p.m. EST

Present (X):

Chris & Julie Howell X
1 – Molly White X
2 – Craig Correia X
3 – Aidan Glackin X
4 – Chris Stone X
6 – Anthony Parker X
7 – Russell Cook X
8 – Chip Till X
10 – Brian Malone for Robby Brown X
12 – Skip Dieball
14 – Kelly Holmes-Moon X
15 – Tim Oelschlager X
18 – Todd Warnygora X
19 – John Mason X
20 – Jasper Van Vliet X
21 – Vacant
22 – James Foster
Lambert Lai
Will Welles X
Kat Malone X
Bob Kinsman X
Jeff Johnstone

Agenda:

1. Call to order and attendance
2. Approval of minutes of last meeting
3. President's Report
4. WCM Report
5. Office Report
6. Financial Report
7. Technical Report
8. Regatta Status Reports & Planning
9. Nominations and Election of Officers
10. Old Business
11. New Business
12. Next Meeting
13. Adjournment

Description:

1. **Call to Order and Attendance** – Chris H. read the attendance as noted above. A quorum was established.
2. **Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting** – Chris H. distributed the previous meeting minutes via e-mail. *Russ Cook made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, seconded by Chip Till. No discussion ensued, and the minutes were approved unanimously.*
3. **President's Report** – Lambert was unable to attend the meeting. Will said that Lambert is going through some health problems, and apologized for being unable to join.
4. **WCM Report** – Chris H. distributed the World Council Meeting minutes via e-mail. Will attended the October meeting on behalf of the USJCA in Germany. Nancy Zangerle, Tim Winger and Chris & Julie Howell also attended from the USA. Two proposals (crew weight + helmsperson nationality) are being re-written with help from ISAF, and will then be voted on by all NJCAs via e-mail. Any details on the passed Rules are available in the minutes.
5. **Office Report** – Chris H. reported that the USJCA had 530 2014 members. The wall calendar is for sale, and membership invoices are being mailed this week. In the calendar, we've again conducted the photo contest on Facebook. It was a good year with our major championships.
6. **Financial Report** – Chris H. distributed the budget via e-mail as well as the Balance Sheet as of today. Kat thought that a modest dues increase is needed. We are projecting 501 members, and the projected travel expenses are not very realistic in this day and age. With a \$10.00 dues increase, we would generate an additional \$5,000 to give the Class some breathing room in the budget and allot funds toward potential initiatives. Chris H. explained that the charitable

contribution guess for our first year was \$5,000, but we only made \$1,555 in this area. Chris H. adjusted expenses to make up for this money. The only projected increase in expenses is for funds to the website company that posts updates online. Chip asked about the change in the IRS projected fees. Chris H. clarified that because the USJCA is below a \$50,000 gross income, the accountant only files a post card, which is a nominal cost. Tony asked that the Class Office send an end-of-year request for charitable contributions. Chip supports increasing the dues, but thought if people renew by a certain date, then you can renew at the current rate. *Kelly Holmes-Moon made a motion to increase USJCA dues by \$10.00 effective March 1, 2015, seconded by Tim Oelschlager. This motion passed unanimously.*

Molly asked about the website increase to \$100 per month, which is actually very cheap because the company does the same service for multiple J websites. Chris H. was previously paying this money out of his own pocket. There is \$600 in the budget for hosting services. Chip asked about the storage unit fee of \$720, which is actually half of what the unit costs and is split with the IJCA. This includes massive amounts of equipment, trophies, photos, paperwork, magazines, etc. that came north from Texas. Chris H. welcomes someone who could take on a long-term project of going through these items and scanning files where appropriate. *Chip Till made a motion to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Tim Oelschlager. No further discussion ensued, and the budget passed unanimously.*

7. **Technical Report** – Bob said that the year was very successful, starting with Midwinters and continuing through Nationals and Worlds. He only found one boat that was determined not to be a J/24 in measurement. At Worlds, the measurement process went smoothly, although competitors are always looking for ways to simplify the process and help new owners understand what makes the boat legal but fast. He felt confident in the progress made in Rules revisions at the World Council Meeting. Chris H. added that the updated Rules are currently being reviewed by ISAF, and will take place likely in the Spring.

8. **Regatta Status Reports & Planning** –

Kat recapped that Davis Island Yacht Club is hosting the 2015 Midwinters in a Friday-Sunday format (February 20-22) following the St. Pete NOOD. They are working on a long-term storage option following the event and will communicate this information when available. Jasper reviewed that the Nationals take place in Berkeley in May. They expect 20-30 boats. Their main job right now is to accommodate charters and housing requests. The website is active, and they have satisfactory commitments for help with measurement, etc. There are a couple semi-pro locals from other fleets who are interested in chartering for the event. The Western Regionals is the weekend before.

Molly said that the North Americans are shaping up, and the online registration should be live this week. They are working on defining judges and the PRO. They have a few new boats in the fleet who will be participating in the NAC. They have a lot of housing available, and will start racing Thursday afternoon, continuing through the weekend.

Chris H. hopes to set the Midwinters and Nationals for two years ahead, if possible. He distributed proposals via e-mail for the following:

Nationals bids: Sayville Yacht Club, Oswego Yacht Club. Aidan explained that Sayville is on the south shore, and is fairly shallow. They can typically get in 8-10 races in two days because of the solid wind by noon each day. They often complete five races in a day, and the social aspect is fun. Following the Sayville bid being submitted to the Class by deadline, Russ had interest in submitting the Oswego bid. They reached an agreement to defer the Sayville bid to 2017 and promote Oswego for 2016, which Aidan feels is better for all in the long run. Russ spoke about the Oswego proposal, and feels they could get good Canadian representation. The yacht club is committed, and the fleet is strong. The facility has the hoists, docking, etc. to support the event, and they are willing to bring in a crane if needed. The closest airport is about 45 minutes away, and accommodations will be available. Most everything is within walking distance. *Aidan Glackin made a motion to accept Oswego Yacht Club as the 2016 Nationals host and Sayville Yacht Club as the 2017 Nationals host, seconded by Molly White. No further*

discussion ensued, and the motion passed unanimously. Chris summarized that we will accept proposals this year for 2018 Nationals, to be voted on at next year's Annual Meeting. Chip stated that Charleston Yacht Club may have an interest in that event.

Midwinters bids: Davis Island Yacht Club, St. Pete Yacht Club. The Class had been hoping for more Midwinters bids, especially since the two bids are essentially the same area. Although we've heard interest from other areas, we have only received these two bids. We could just vote on 2016 now, and then pursue bids for 2017 and on, in an effort to try to rotate the event. Kat added that Melbourne has hosted district/regional events, and she is working with them on preparing a Midwinters proposal. They've also reached out to clubs in other areas, hoping to rotate among 3-4 clubs along the east coast/west coast. Brian clarified that the DIYC proposal is to maintain the three-day racing format. They included an option to hold the event in March or April. Everyone agreed to defer the 2017 vote, and only vote on 2016 tonight. Chris Stone asked about Coral Reef's interest in hosting? Chris said that they were asked to submit a proposal, but they were not flexible in the years, as they desired the Class to return in 2015. He is hopeful that Miami will reconsider submitting a future bid. Fleet 169 out of St. Pete is in between leadership, as their previous Fleet Captain sold the boat. *Chris H. conducted a vote, which passed for Davis Island Yacht Club in 2016 with the following numbers* (Eight for: Todd, Tim, Kelly, Russ, Tony, Chris S., Aidan, Craig. Two against: Chip, Molly. Jasper, John, Brian, Bob, Kat and Will abstained.) Will would like to see St. Pete conduct a J/24 regatta, and we will keep their bid on hand for 2017 on onward.

9. **Nominations and Election of Officers** – *No nominations were made from the floor. Russ Cook made a motion to accept the slate as presented, seconded by Todd Warnygora. The slate passed unanimously.*

President - Will Welles

Vice President - Chip Till

Governor's Representative - Molly White

Past President – Lambert Lai

Technical Chair - Bob Kinsman

Finance Chair – Kat Robinson-Malone

Copyright Holder's Representative - Kelly Holmes-Moon

10. **Old Business** – N/A

11. **New Business** – Molly found a bunch of old J/24 yearbooks, and suggested a year in review of the districts. She'd like to see each District (and/or Fleet) submit a summary of their activities to the Class Office.

Tony wondered why the East Coast Championship was so poorly attended this year? Most people agreed that it was a Worlds "hangover." Molly suggested that organizers should solicit new folks and not rely on the same clientele. Russ said that they had 25 boats at the Changing of the Colors, which they expected due to limited funds of people who also attended Nationals and/or Worlds. Tony thought that previous years when the Worlds were in the USA in the fall did not affect the ECC like it did this year (they only had 14 boats). Will thinks that the promotion needs to take place sooner, and the fleet should formulate a plan for the future. The weather forecast did not help.

Russ thanked Chris and Julie for their communication on behalf of the Class. He continued that Lambert's health situation is very grim, and asked for everyone's prayers.

Will thanked everyone for their time. We all need to address membership, regatta participation and communication in the coming year. The officers are always available to talk!

12. **Next Meeting** – Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. ET

13. **Adjournment** – *The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.*

Action Items:

- The Class Office will send an end-of-year request for charitable contributions.
- Districts (and/or Fleets) will submit a summary of their activities to the Class Office.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 2, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. ET