

U.S. J/24 Class Association Meeting Minutes

Date: 8/28/2017

Start: 7:05 p.m. EDT

Adjourn: 7:55 p.m. EDT

Present (X):

Chris & Julie Howell X
1 – Charlotte Kinkade
2 – Craig Correia
3 – Aidan Glackin X
4 – Chris Stone
6 – Tony Parker
7 – Russ Cook X
8 – Crisp McDonald X
10 – Todd Fedyszyn X
12 – Marcus Rogers X
14 – Tonja Holmes-Moon
15 – Tim Oelschlager X
18 – Todd Warnygora
19 – John Mason X
20 – Jasper Van Vliet X
21 – Deke Klatt
22 – James Foster
Chip Till X
Molly White X
Dan Busch X
Kat Malone X
Bob Kinsman
Jeff Johnstone
Will Welles

Agenda:

1. Call to order and attendance
2. Approval of minutes of last meeting
3. President's Report
4. Class Office Report
5. Championship Updates
6. Boat Grant Program
7. Technical Report
8. Old Business
9. New Business
10. Annual Meeting

Description:

1. **Call to Order and Attendance** – Chris H. read the attendance as noted above.
2. **Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting** – Chris H. distributed the previous meeting minutes via e-mail. *No comments were made via e-mail or on this call, and the minutes were approved.*
3. **President's Report** – Chip thanked everyone for participating. He summarized a message from Tonja Holmes Moon via e-mail: "As you all know, Hurricane (now Tropical Storm) Harvey has hit Texas with devastating force. The Fifth Circuit Stop was scheduled to take place at Corpus Christi Yacht Club the weekend of August 26, but was cancelled due to the impending storm. We have not made a decision just yet on whether to reschedule the event. While Corpus did have some damage due to high winds, our J/24 boats and friends made it through the storm okay. For the past couple of days, however, the Houston area has received catastrophic levels of rain, and it is expected to rain for at least another 36-48 hours. Many of the yacht clubs are under water, but the marinas and boats do appear to be undamaged. I know of two J/24s that were severely damaged, but they were not boats that competed on the circuit. Several of our J/24 competitors' houses were not spared the flood waters though, having between 2 and 4 feet of water in their homes. It will take quite some time for Houston and the surrounding cities to recover from this historical event. The next circuit stop for the Texas Circuit is scheduled for the weekend of September 30 at Austin Yacht Club. At this time, all indications are that we will finish out the rest of the Circuit as scheduled. The number of competitors is somewhat declining in Texas. We have about 10 boats competing on a regular basis. This is down from around 16 two years ago. There is a renewed interest and new J/24

owners at both Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club and Austin Yacht Club. The active fleet captains are helping the new J/24 owners get ready to compete in the Circuit later this year or next year.”

4. **Class Office Report** – Chris H. reported that the USJCA has 425 members so far in 2017 (501 budgeted). Make sure your locals are members: <http://j24usa.com/j24-fleet/view-members/>
Due to a lack of use-able photos from the USA requested for the 2018 wall calendar, the Executive Committee agreed to split the selections between Tim Wilkes and Chris Howell. Look for the calendar to be made available in November.

5. **Championship Updates** –
 - 2017 World Championship @ Port Credit Yacht Club, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, September 15-23, 2017
 - 2018 Midwinter Championship @ Regatta Park, Miami, FL, March 2-4
 - 2018 North American Championship @ Charleston Yacht Club, SC, May 2-6
 - 2018 World Championship @ Fraglia Vela Riva del Garda, Italy, August 24-31
 - 2018 US National Championship @ Portland Yacht Club, ME, September 7-9: Molly said that they are hoping to have Hank Stuart as the PRO.The 2019 US National Championship was recently awarded to Rochester Yacht Club in New York (dates are August 21-25). The 2020 Nationals are set for Burlington, VT. The 2019 NAC is in Mexico...more details ASAP. The 2020 NAC is in Sayville, before returning to Canada in 2021.

6. **Boat Grant Program** – Brendan Feeney and his University of South Florida St. Petersburg team picked up the boat in June. They’ve been racing in Sayville, and competed in the Northeast Regionals. Brendan submitted a write-up, which is posted on the USJCA website and Facebook. Brendan’s team will be racing in Florida during the school year. Funds are welcome. Two donors have made verbal commitments. Chris H. will send an e-mail request for 2017, and we can include this payment option for 2018 membership renewals. Remember to “comp” the team’s registration at events.

7. **Technical Report** – The IJCA is finalizing five Rules proposals for vote at the upcoming World Council Meeting in October in Italy. There is nothing changing the way we sail the boats. Will and Chip will attend the meeting. When the proposal language is confirmed, Chris H. will distribute to the Governors for discussion at the District level. He recapped that Rules proposal suggestions are always welcome to the IJCA Technical Committee for review throughout the year. Proposals are vetted and then sent out for review of all NCAs before a vote at the annual World Council Meeting each October. Those that pass the IJCA are sent to World Sailing for approval before taking effect the following Spring.

8. **Old Business** – Russ said that years ago Districts lost their Worlds qualifying berths. One issue is that the USJCA membership is significantly decreased from past years, and therefore the number of berths is less. The qualifiers for the Toronto Worlds were redistributed by this group, but nothing is written in stone so we will revisit this for the Miami Worlds. Chris H. summarized that the US was fortunate to have additional berths approved for the 2017 Worlds by the IJCA Executive Committee. Chip added that we must be equitable to western Districts. At our Annual Meeting, we will decide qualifiers in 2018 for the 2019 Worlds in Miami.

9. **New Business** – Molly stated that we have mostly received east/northeast proposals for major Championships. She asked Governors from the west/south/central to consider hosting an event. Molly is happy to talk with anyone about how to start this process.

District Reports:

Aidan Glackin: Sayville is excited to host the 2020 NAC. A loner boat is used in the area for juniors.

Russ Cook: Lake George is a three-day regatta with a Friday afternoon start. This may be hurting attendance. The District is recovering from the high-water levels on the lake. This has forced the combining of some fleets for events. Oswego just hosted a District Championship with the Hospice Regatta. Great turnout and great weather!

Crisp McDonald: The NAC is coming up in May 2018, following Easter Regatta and Charleston Race Week. They may place a cap on registration, and are hoping for 50 boats. Look for the registration to open soon. Discounts are in the works for Charleston Race Week as well as storage between all three events. Hotel room blocks are made, but book early. Mark Foster is the PRO. Three free entries will be available for the community sailing program including youth, women and yacht club (non-J/24) members.

The District 8 Championship has concluded, but they hope to extend the season next year. James Howard won the 2017 trophy. Crisp has stepped up promotion for traveling to regattas, and he has received verbal commitments of increased attendance. With the NAC on the horizon, many locals have improved their boats and sails. This should help the District overall.

Todd Fedyszyn: This isn't a high race season, but that will ramp up in the fall. The FL Series ended with Patricio Sly winning. People like to attend the local events, but not much travelling between Tampa, Melbourne, Jacksonville and Miami. Look for more information on the Kings Day regatta shortly. It would be great to have an article available about how to get boats on the road. Molly added that it's really important for Governors to make sure the events in your area are posted on the USJCA website. E-mail director@j24class.org.

Marcus Rogers: The District Championship had 12 boats, including new skippers and kids, which is encouraging. They enforced Class membership, and got 6 new members. The Great Lakes Championship will be in Sandusky, OH September 7-9, 2018. Some of their new members came from the Thistle Class.

Tim Oelschlager: Districts just occurred, and the Great Lakes Championship is in October. Madison, WI has some new folks, which could be a new fleet.

John Mason: Districts are next weekend in Sand Point, ID. In Seattle, they get 25 boats on the line for weekday racing.

Jasper Van Vliet: Districts were last weekend with 4 boats. They regularly have 5-6. One-design racing in San Francisco is struggling. They are brainstorming ideas to improve the situation.

Dan Busch added that his fleet has wet-sailed boats to try to make it easier to get out sailing.

10. **Annual Meeting** – Monday, December 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. EST. Also, Molly suggested that those of us in attendance at the Worlds should meet up to chat.

Action Items:

--Chris H. will send an e-mail request for 2017 boat grant fundraising.

Next Meeting: Annual Meeting on Monday, December 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. EST