

U.S. J/24 Class Association Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/6/2023

Start: 7:05 p.m. EST

Adjourn: 8:00 p.m. EST

Present (X):

Chris & Julie Howell X
1 – Finn Hadlock X
2 – Hillary Keimig
3 – Aidan Glackin
4 – Ted Wiedeke X
6 – Kelly FitzGerald X
7 – Mike Stasko X
8 – James Howard X
10 – Rick Jarchow X
12 – Drew Blackburn
14 – John Parker X
15 – Cory Huseby X
18 – Todd Warnygora
19 – Melanie Edwards X
20 – Jasper Van Vliet X
21 – Deke Klatt
22 – James Foster
Marcus Rogers X
Denny Vaughan
Joe Buonasera X
Lee Ann Zaretsky X
Dan Busch X

Agenda:

1. Call to order and attendance
2. Approval of minutes of last meeting
3. Midwinters Recap
4. President's Report
5. Class Office Report
6. Championship Updates
7. Youth Program Update
8. Technical Report
9. New Business
10. Next Meeting

Description:

1. **Call to Order and Attendance** – A quorum is present. Marcus thanked everyone, and reiterated that the Executive Committee is here to support the Districts. Reach out anytime!
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. **Midwinters Recap** – Eau Gallie YC hosted 28 boats from February 24-26. Rick shared some negative feedback including power boat dockage blocking regatta docks. Chris thought the Race Committee did well with the conditions. Rick agreed that they prioritized quality over quantity. It is tough to support this venue with a lack of crane and an unwelcoming environment (cannot make any purchases at EGYC + certain areas off limits). Rick recommends that the Fleet would need to prepare an improved plan for a future Midwinters there or consider changing the host rotation. Kelly spoke highly of the competition and the warm weather, and personally felt pleased with the experience. AP onshore allowed folks to enjoy themselves on land/beach.
4. **President's Report** – Marcus acknowledged it's hard to grow the membership numbers, but please encourage your crew to join as well.

He wants to see the US max out its berths for 2023 Worlds in Greece. It's reasonably priced, and there's still plenty of time to submit a petition. Worlds 2024 will be a fantastic event...be sure to go if you qualify.

5. **Class Office Report** – Chris H. reported that the USJCA has 241 members so far in 2023 (350 budgeted, more is better!). You can view current members at <http://j24usa.com/j24-fleet/view-members/>. As of April 1, the Regular Full Member dues amount will change to \$100 per year. Associate and Junior membership will not change. A late fee will be introduced for next year.

\$685 in youth donations have been received in calendar year 2023 to date. \$820 has been raised thus far in calendar year 2023 charitable contributions.

6. **Championship Updates** – Is your Regional and/or District Championship currently on the USJCA online calendar? Please send the following details to director@j24class.org: regatta name, dates, host yacht club + its city/state, event website, contact person/details

-- 2023 US National Championship @ Lake George Club, Diamond Point, NY, May 17-21: almost 50 boats entered, going to be a great event! Dan noted that they are using MarkSetBots, and Chip Till will now be PRO. Dan will be inspecting/weighing local boats ahead of time. Two scales are operable, and perhaps a third one coming with Tim Winger.

-- 2023 North American Championship @ Sandusky SC, Sandusky, OH, August 8-13: it was mentioned that the entry fee seems high, and Chris clarified that this is due to increased costs of Jury travel + decreased sponsorship. The goal is to cover more food/beverage expenses to help people save money onsite. There are four race days planned, which was an IJCA decision.

-- 2023 World Championship @ Nautical Club of Thessaloniki Greece, September 9-16: submit a petition if you want to attend...open spots available.

-- 2023 Corinthian National Championship West, Southwestern YC, San Diego, CA, September 6-10

-- 2023 Corinthian National Championship East, Rochester YC, Rochester, NY, October 5-8

The 2024 North American Championship is at St. Petersburg Yacht Club, FL from April 11-14. Rick will assist with storage options between Miami Midwinters and St. Pete, and then boats can move north for Charleston, Annapolis, etc. regattas.

7. **Youth Program Update** – Three youth currently involved with the program: Connor Raham, Drew Blackburn and Telmo Basterra. Look for these teams at events this year, should be fun.
8. **Technical Report** – Tonja has recently resigned. International Measurers should be considered for a replacement. Curt Barnes is the IJCA Technical Chair and assisting with US matters currently, as well as Marcus at the Nationals.

9. **New Business** –

1 Finn Hadlock: District Championship is the Downeast Regatta, typically quite well attended. They are working hard with membership retention. Boats may not travel regularly, but participate locally/regionally. Older boats are staying active.

4 Ted Wiedeke: He is trying to track down who has boats, as the District has been struggling lately. Focus seems to have shifted to other boats. Reach out to Ted with ideas to rejuvenate the area.

6 Kelly FitzGerald: East Coast Championship is their premiere event. Kelly worked with the Howells and others on the new US J/24 Instagram...spread the word. She suggested having the youth sailors participate in regatta dock talks. The District is also working on membership renewals. Plans are in the works for more racing on the Chesapeake Bay and connecting with groups along the shore.

7 Mike Stasko: Their Pennant Series will take place again, but with a change to a reviving club in Ithaca (replacing Oswego). Both Nationals and Corinthian Nationals East are in the District. Get started in May with J Daze, not too far from Lake George (storage available). Lee Ann added that the Lambert Lai Regatta (9/9-10) precedes the Corinthian Nationals East. And the Changing of the Colors is in Lake George (9/30-10/1), with storage also available.

8 James Howard: Welcome James! The District has lost boats. Three regattas are coming up: Nor'Easter, Atlantic Cup, Charleston Race Week.

10 Rick Jarchow: The Rodeo is at DIYC 6/1-3. Kings Day in November in Jacksonville will kick off the next winter season.

14 John Parker: 32 members to date, more to come. Their first Circuit Regatta just occurred. Southwest Regionals will be at J/Fest Southwest (10/7-8) in Seabrook, TX. The Circuit concludes in November in San Antonio. The District is seeing some resurgence from J/22 sailors back to J/24s. John stated that they plan to have boats available at several District events...come on down!

15 Cory Huseby: The District Championship will be in Chicago around the NOOD event (June). Madison will host a regatta, and everyone enjoys their Ugotta Regatta. Cory is reaching out to Fleet Captains, trying to find the boats and get them on the water.

18 Todd Warnygora (via e-mail): Goals are to increase membership and to get a Worlds spot back.

19 Melanie Edwards: Welcome Melanie! She is cleaning up their Fleet Captains list. 2024 Worlds planning is well underway, including sponsorship and charter boat inspection. Their big qualifying event this year is PSSC (9/30-10/1) in the same Worlds venue.

20 Jasper Van Vliet: Excitement is high for the 2024 Worlds. Having attending recent Midwinters, he would like to see more communication regarding race days, such as starting earlier when conditions warrant and also to AP early in the day if the wind won't fill until later (so competitors don't have to wait around the yacht club). Chris recommends that our major Championships utilize a PRO who is not local in an effort for fairness.

Joe Buonasera: District 4 is mostly Blue Point, NY. Their District Championship is 6/17-18, come to Long Island (NOR coming soon). Storage is available.

Lee Ann Zaretsky: Thank you to the Governors who have responded to her e-mails.

10. **Next Meeting** – Tuesday, June 6 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT

Action Items:

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 6 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT