

U.S. J/24 Class Association Meeting Minutes

Date: 8/18/2025

Start: 7:05 p.m. EDT

Adjourn: 7:50 p.m. EDT

Present (X):

Chris & Julie Howell X
1 – Steve Callison
2 – Hillary Keimig
3 – Aidan Glackin X
4 – Ted Wiedeke X
6 – Alan Bomar
7 – Mike Stasko X
8 – James Howard X
10 – Rick Jarchow X
12 – Ken Ruppel X
14 – James Freedman X
15 – Cory Huseby X
18 – Cameron Robinson
19 – Melanie Edwards X
20 – Jasper Van Vliet X
21 – Victor Felice
22 – James Foster
Marcus Rogers X
Lee Ann Zaretsky X
Joe Buonasera X
Kelly FitzGerald X
Finn Hadlock
Dan Busch

Agenda:

1. Call to order and attendance
2. Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting
3. President's Report
4. Class Office Report
5. Committee Follow-Up
6. Championship Updates
7. Youth Program Update
8. Technical Report
9. Current Topics
10. New Business
11. Annual Meeting

Description:

1. **Call to Order and Attendance** – A quorum is present.
2. **Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting** – Chris 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** – Marcus highlighted the membership numbers via e-mail. It may be hard to ask people to renew but keep working at it for boat owners and helm at the local level. He recalled the Japanese sailors at the 2019 Worlds who were proud to show their membership cards. We can achieve this in the USA too.
4. **Class Office Report** – Chris reported that the USJCA has 347 members so far in 2025, including 304 Full (budgeted 360). You can view current members at <http://j24usa.com/j24-fleet/view-members/>.

\$785 in youth donations have been received in calendar year 2025 to date. \$1,345 has been raised thus far in calendar year 2025 charitable contributions.

Still need to sell more calendar month sponsorships. Thank you Ted, Kelly, Cory, Ken, Joe and Jasper for stepping up during this meeting!

5. **Committee Follow-Up** – Kelly shared that a Championship Advisory Committee met this past weekend and worked toward a 'regatta playbook' draft to help make regattas a more seamless process. Aidan will be leading an effort to gather event details well in advance for online posting/sharing. There will be specific Regatta Liaisons between the local and national level to

ensure proper documentation, marketing, etc. per Championship. Also look for more USJCA Championship promotional e-mails/social media posts. The goal is to use a Google drive for event documentation. The Committee will be working with potential hosts to target good regatta calendar fits for future years. Regarding other committees, Kelly is working on social media, Class outreach and more.

6. Championship Updates –

--2025 Corinthian US National Championship, Southwestern YC, San Diego, CA, September 3-7: hoping to have 15 boats. Charter boats are still available.

--2025 World Championship, Plym Yacht Club & Saltash Sailing Club, Plymouth, Great Britain, September 6-14: four US boats will be racing.

--2025 US National Championship, Florida YC, Jacksonville, FL, November 20-23: James shared that he is working with Michael Beattie on promotion. Let's get signed up! There are winter storage options. Look for a feature in the IJCA newsletter, social media and an e-blast.

--2026 Midwinter Championship, Florida YC, Jacksonville, FL, March 13-15

--2026 Corinthian US National Championship, Seawanhaka Corinthian YC, Oyster Bay, NY, May 14-17

--2026 US National Championship, Portland Yacht Services, Falmouth, ME, September 9-13

--2026 North American Championship, Port Credit YC, Mississauga, ON Canada, September 30-October 4

--2026 World Championship, Sandringham YC, Melbourne, Australia, November 9-16

7. Youth Program Update – 2025 recipients are Sam Hopper from Portland, OR and Sam Parsons from Annapolis, MD. Kelly said that Sam P. is extremely active locally and travelling. Very enthusiastic! The young teams can use more support in boat maintenance/tuning. Marcus stated that Sam H. bought a second boat. Let's help both Sams with regatta entry fees/housing.

8. Technical Report – A Rules proposals questionnaire will be sent to current NCA members for feedback, in advance of final wording to be voted on by the World Council this fall.

9. Current Topics – Aidan shared via e-mail: "I've been pleading for years to get regattas posted to the website in a timely manner; and mostly complaining that they are not. So as part of the Regatta Planning Committee, I'll be chairing a small subcommittee to ensure that regattas are posted to the Class website as early as possible. I'm thinking 10-12 months before the event, especially for those events which happen every year at a very similar time or push clubs to get a date ASAP so it can be posted. I can handle the NE (Annapolis & North Districts 1-7). I need 3-4 volunteers to handle some other regions, perhaps someone to handle south of Annapolis to FL and someone else for TX, Southwest and Northwest."

Aidan prefers to keep Miami in the Midwinters rotation, despite a less active District. Chris stressed that the costs will be high due to logistics, and Rick sees a plethora of winter series conflicts on the Biscayne Bay calendar (Etchells, J/70, etc.-who pay individually). Rick recapped past winter schedules, and the Regatta Committee will discuss a long-term plan starting 2027. Rick also has a meeting with the Melbourne fleet soon.

10. New Business – N/A

11. Annual Meeting – Monday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. EST. Lee Ann will be moving into the President's role.

Action Items:

--Kelly and the Class Office will prepare/distribute event promotional e-blasts.

Next Meeting: Monday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m. EST