

US J/70 Class Association Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/30/2020

Start: 7:05 p.m. EST

Adjourn: 7:55 p.m. EST

Present:

Chris & Julie Howell **X**
Jeff Johnstone (Copyright Holder)
Scott Deardorff (President) **X**
Ed Austin (Vice President) **X**
Al Poindexter (Secretary)
Brian Keane (Treasurer) **X**
John Heaton (Technical Chair) **X**
Jim Murrell (Past President) **X**
Fleet 1 Annapolis – Mike McNamara & Marty McKenna **X**
Fleet 2 Wayzata – Sean Hendrickson **X**
Fleet 3 Lake Erie Central – Ted Pinkerton
Fleet 4 Southern California – Bruce Cooper **X**
Fleet 5 Southern Chesapeake Bay – Clark Dennison
Fleet 7 Eastern Great Lakes - Tim Finkle
Fleet 9 Marblehead – Kathy Andreasen
Fleet 10 Fort Worth Boat Club - James Mitchell **X**
Fleet 11 Santa Barbara - Scott Deardorff
Fleet 12 Eastern Long Island - David Becker
Fleet 13 Southern Lake Michigan – Steve Knoop **X**
Fleet 14 Austin - Matthew Romberg
Fleet 15 Western Long Island Sound - Ed Austin
Fleet 16 Fishers Island/Newport - Brad Gibbs
Fleet 17 Pacific Northwest - Michael Pitt
Fleet 18 Sag Harbor – Sean Elliott
Fleet 19 San Francisco – Christy Usher
Fleet 20 Galveston Bay – Kelly Gray
Fleet 21 Edgartown - Harald Findlay
Fleet 22 Cedar Point – Josh Goldman **X**
Fleet 23 Tampa Bay - Steve Liebel
Fleet 24 Cape May NJ – Jack Lord **X**
Fleet 25 Harbor Springs – Scott Sellers
Fleet 26 Detroit – Don Glover **X**
Fleet 27 Lake Champlain - Vivien Allan **X**
Fleet 28 Biscayne Bay – Ryan McKillen **X**

Agenda:

1. Office & Copyright Holder Reports
2. Technical Report
3. Budget Proposal and Approval
4. Election of Officers
5. Championship Updates
6. New Business
7. 2021 Meeting Dates

Description:

Chris Howell conducted a roll call of the Officers and Fleet Captains (attendance noted above).

1. **Office & Copyright Holder Reports** – Chris reported that the US Class has 317 members in 2020 (down from 392 in 2019), including 78 Group 3 members (73 in 2019), 15 Helmspersons and 11 Associates.

Jeff Johnstone submitted the following report via e-mail: There were approximately 75 new J/70s sold in 2020, including 50 for Europe, 25 other between the US, China and Argentina. Of note, the production in China only recently restarted with 16 total orders, 10 for China and 6 for South Korea, and several fleet proposals are in the works. Argentina is forecasting a return to normal 10-15 boat levels for 2021, and Europe is forecasting approx. 40-50 boats. In the USA, the used J/70

market has been very strong, and a number of new owners will be joining the fleet in 2021. We're anticipating another production run mid-year. Overall activity and interest in the J/70 remains very strong, as we enter the 10th season of J/70 sailing! For the rudder hardware, we would plan to use the French design hardware for the next production run, and there are several sets in stock with Sail22.

2. **Technical Report** – John recapped that there are no Rule change proposals this cycle. There will be minor adjustments to the standard NOR, SIs and Regatta Guidelines based on the new Racing Rules of Sailing. Our Rules currently allow for a one-pro division so hopefully our upcoming Organizing Authorities will enact this optional Rule (will still have Open division and Corinthian division). The FAQ is continuously updated, which will include various mast configurations as they are available (the Class is trying to buy the tooling). We will be using more online Compliance Forms for our major events. Technical feedback is always welcome.
3. **Budget Proposal and Approval** – Chris circulated the Class Budget: Profit & Loss 2020 and Budget 2021. The Class is short about \$2,000 on the year due to reduced memberships, however we have the same value in airline credits for 2021. We can consider a dues increase next year, but does not seem appropriate during the pandemic.

Brian Keane made a motion to accept the Budget/P&L as presented, seconded by Jack Lord. The motion passed unanimously

4. **Election of Officers** – The following slate was presented for re-election:

President: Scott Deardorff, CA

Vice President: Ed Austin, NJ

Secretary: Al Poindexter, TX

Treasurer: Brian Keane, MA

Technical Chair: John Heaton, IL

Jim Murrell made a motion to accept the slate as presented, seconded by Mike McNamara. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **Championship Updates** –

--2021 Midwinter Championship at DIYC Winter Series #3 at Davis Island YC, Tampa, FL, February 18-21: Chris summarized that DIYC #1 has been cancelled, and he expects that the capacity would be limited to 40 boats at the Midwinters and/or moved to March. Brian sees the Midwinters as a major event leading up to 2021 Worlds, and we should get US boats out sailing. Jim said the West Coast has about five pre-Worlds regattas planned. Scott suggested we remove the title of Midwinter Championship, but an event could still occur at DIYC. Mike and John agreed that we shouldn't have a limited attendance "Midwinters." Ed added that it would be hard to decide how we choose which 40 boats could attend. Steve concurred. Chris noted that Florida is fully open, but DIYC has concerns about larger groups on the docks/launching. About 20 boats are expected for training this weekend.

--2021 North American Championship, May 12-15, Annapolis YC, MD: Mike introduced Marty as the new Annapolis Fleet Captain. Marty is working with AYC on the North Americans planning. Sponsors are being solicited, and the Notice of Race is nearly done. The NAC is two weeks after the NOOD, and the NAC ends on a Saturday. The entry list will be capped at 60 initially, but hopefully expanded based on local regulations. Social activities are deferred at this time. Restaurant capacity should increase in warmer spring weather. Let Fleet 1 know what you want from T2P video such as individual boat highlight reels, drone coverage, etc.

--2021 World Championship at California YC, Marina del Ray, CA, August 7-15: Chris stated the OA would like to increase the registration fee to \$1,100 due to decreased sponsorship (price includes a social slate). Scott wondered if we could create a dual fee which would include a regatta only fee and adding the social side. Brian noted that taking a team out to dinner is pricier than the social component of the entry fee. CYC had to add an entire year to their planning process due to

COVID. Jim agreed. Sean said the price wouldn't deter him from the Midwest. Mike hopes we will be able to add sponsors over time.

--2021 Corinthian US National Championship at Eastern YC, Marblehead, MA, September 16-19

--2022 Corinthian US National Championship, Cedar Point YC, Westport, CT, September 14-17

--2022 North American Championship, Port Credit YC, Toronto, ON Canada, September 18-24

--2022 World Championship, Yacht Club de Monaco, exact dates to be announced

--2023 Corinthian US National Championship, Bayview YC, Detroit, MI, June 9-11

--2023 World Championship, Newport, RI, exact dates to be announced

--2023 North American Championship, St. Pete YC, St. Petersburg, FL, October 30-November 5

6. **New Business** – Scott summarized that California is restaurant take-out only. Hopefully the vaccine will improve the situation.

See the Road to Worlds 2021 at [Road-to-Worlds.pdf \(secureservercdn.net\)](#)

7. **2021 Meeting Dates** – 3/1/21, 5/24/21, 8/30/21, 11/29/21 (AGM)

Action Items:

--The Class Office will send 2021 membership renewal invoices.

Next Meeting: March 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. ET