

US J/70 Class Association Annual Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/27/2023

Start: 7:08 p.m. EST

Adjourn: 7:51 p.m. EST

Present:

Chris & Julie Howell **X**
Jeff Johnstone (Copyright Holder)
Ed Austin (President) **X**
Al Poindexter (Vice President)
John Heaton (Secretary)
Brian Keane (Treasurer) **X**
Dina Kowalyshyn (Technical Chair)
Scott Deardorff (Past President)
Cate Muller-Terhune **X**
Fleet 1 Annapolis – Paul Green **X**
Fleet 2 Wayzata – Sean Hendrickson
Fleet 3 Lake Erie Central – Ted Pinkerton
Fleet 4 Southern California – Bruce Cooper **X**
Fleet 5 Southern Chesapeake Bay – Clark Dennison
Fleet 6 Cohasset, MA – Charlie Henry **X**
Fleet 7 Eastern Great Lakes - Tim Finkle
Fleet 9 Marblehead – Patrick Andreasen **X**
Fleet 10 Fort Worth Boat Club - James Mitchell
Fleet 11 Santa Barbara - Scott Deardorff
Fleet 12 Eastern Long Island - David Becker
Fleet 13 Southern Lake Michigan – Steve Knoop
Fleet 14 Austin - Matthew Romberg
Fleet 15 Western Long Island Sound - Jean-Marc Papin **X**
Fleet 16 Fishers Island/Newport - Brad Gibbs
Fleet 17 Pacific Northwest - Ron Rosenberg **X**
Fleet 18 Sag Harbor – Jim Vos
Fleet 19 San Francisco – David Fried
Fleet 20 Galveston Bay – Kelly Gray
Fleet 21 Edgartown - Cindy Alten-DeLotto
Fleet 22 Cedar Point – Josh Goldman
Fleet 23 Tampa Bay - Steve Liebel
Fleet 24 Cape May NJ – Jack Lord **X**
Fleet 25 Harbor Springs – Sean O'Brien
Fleet 26 Detroit – Robert Ramirez
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. 2024 Meeting Dates

Description:

1. **Office & Copyright Holder Reports** – Chris reported that the US Class has 335 members in 2023 (358 in 2022), including 66 Group 3 members and 12 Associates. Class Rules require membership for: boat owners, helmspersons and Group 3 crew.
2. **Technical Report** – The Class Rules are still being reviewed at World Sailing, but we are hoping for the January 1, 2024 effective date. You can review the proposal language online: [Microsoft Word - J70_CRC_2023-master edit .docx \(j70ica.org\)](#)
3. **Budget Proposal and Approval** – Chris circulated the Class Budget: Profit & Loss 2023 and Budget 2024, including a dues increase to \$150 (from \$120). Membership has been down slightly, and travel expenses keep increasing. Moving forward, the Executive Committee would like to

focus more media money on US-hosted events, such as was done at this year's NAC and Worlds. *Ron Rosenberg made a motion to accept the Budget/P&L as presented, seconded by Brian Keane. The motion passed unanimously.*

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

President: Al Poindexter

Vice President: Brian Keane

Secretary: John Heaton

Treasurer: Cate Muller-Terhune

Technical Chair: Dina Kowalyshyn

Paul Green made a motion to accept the slate as presented, seconded by Ryan McKillen. The motion passed unanimously.

Thank you Ed and Scott!

5. **Championship Updates** –

--2024 Midwinter Championship, Davis Island YC, Tampa, FL, February 2-4: 51 entries so far, including international teams

--2024 North American Championship, Vallarta YC Mexico, April 28-May 4: OA can assist with moving boats from the USA to Mexico. Many boats will be measured in March so charter boats should be reliable. This is an epic place to sail!

--2024 Corinthian World Championship, Royal Danish YC, Copenhagen Denmark, June 6-9

--2024 Corinthian US National Championship, Corinthian YC, Cape May, NJ, September 6-8: Jack said planning is well underway, look for the NOR/website in January. He will forward recommendations on housing options. Get your reservations in early.

--2024 World Championship, Real Club Nàutico de Palma, Spain, September 14-21: qualifiers are posted at [J/70 Class Rules & Resources – J/70 INT \(j70ica.org\)](https://j70ica.org)

--2024 US National Championship, Fort Worth BC, TX, November 6-9

--2025 World Championship, Yacht Club Argentino Buenos Aires, October 24-November 1: US qualifiers will be available soon, likely 10 berths. Petition spots should also become available.

--2026 World Championship, Clube Naval de Cascais Portugal, August 28-September 5

The Executive Committee is reviewing proposals, including American YC, Eastern YC, Rochester YC, St. Francis YC and possibly Florida venues. The goal is to fill out the calendar for 2025, spreading around events geographically.

6. **New Business** –

Fleet 1 Annapolis Paul Green: It was a fantastic year, including pre-season mini clinics. Thursday nights see 18 boats, but weekends are lighter. Boats that sold stayed in the area. 31 boats are registered overall, and Paul expects to hold this through next year. Jim Gary was Fleet Champion. Paul noted a growing area in Solomons Island, so perhaps they should be a new Fleet.

Fleet 4 Southern California Bruce Cooper: The Fleet is struggling generally. They will focus on a few regattas...trying to rally the region.

Fleet 6 Cohasset, MA Charlie Henry: They have five boats. Looking forward to growing the Fleet in 2024.

Fleet 9 Marblehead Patrick Andreasen: The Marblehead Sailing World Regatta was a highlight, along with the Ted Hood Regatta. Two Fleet 9 boats will be at DIYC this weekend.

Fleet 15 Western Long Island Sound Jean-Marc Papin: The Maritime Academy secured four boats, 8 total now. Fleet boats tend to travel, so they focus on just a couple events in the Northeast. Jean-Marc complimented the communications in Fleet 1, we could all learn a lot from Paul!

Fleet 17 Pacific Northwest Ron Rosenberg: Their momentum is strong (37-39 boats now, more expected), and they plan to be traveling more as people get comfortable. Come to Seattle, they are sailing year-round!

Fleet 24 Cape May NJ Jack Lord: Nine local boats enjoyed a great season. Come in 2024 with your family for the Corinthian Nationals next year (hoping for 25 boats). Cate agreed that it is a great venue, make your bookings early.

Fleet 25 Harbor Springs Sean O'Brien: Seven to nine boats are active. They lose some folks to the J/111. Summers are very active for the series and the Ugotta Regatta in late July (17 J/70s this year).

Fleet 28 Biscayne Bay Ryan McKillen: Florida Winter Series racing gets started this weekend. Miami will host the 2025 Midwinters, details to come.

Paul asked for ideas on a “spirit of sportsmanship”...how can we bring Fleets together in this Corinthian spirit? He is concerned about losing members because other competitors are not following the Rules. Chris encouraged people go through the Jury, in that this is the governing opportunity at our regattas. Umpiring can curb this, but it is cost prohibitive for many OAs. Fleet 9 shared the Marblehead Laser Fleet's circle incentive. The sailor with the most circles wins a pie. It works well because everyone stays for pizza and beverages. During awards, they ask who did 1 turn, 2, 3 and so on. It makes for some good fun and sometimes a little Rules discussion. They have also tried a one turn penalty for a foul in the “zone.” Feelings are mixed on that but did have better compliance. Ron also suggested reading about the revered Dave Perry Award.

7. **2024 Meeting Dates** – 3/4/24, 6/24/24, 8/26/24, 11/25/24 (AGM)

Action Items:

--The Class Office will send 2024 membership renewal invoices.

Next Meeting: 3/4/24