

J/70 Class Association Fleet Captain Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/1/2021

Start: 7:05 p.m. EST

Adjourn: 7:45 p.m. EST

Present:

Chris & Julie Howell **X**
Jeff Johnstone (Copyright Holder)
Scott Deardorff (President) **X**
Ed Austin (Vice President) **X**
Al Poindexter (Secretary) **X**
Brian Keane (Treasurer) **X**
John Heaton (Technical Chair) **X**
Jim Murrell (Past President)
Fleet 1 Annapolis – Marty McKenna **X**
Fleet 2 Wayzata – Sean Hendrickson
Fleet 3 Lake Erie Central – Ted Pinkerton **X**
Fleet 4 Southern California – Bruce Cooper
Fleet 5 Southern Chesapeake Bay – Clark Dennison
Fleet 7 Eastern Great Lakes - Tim Finkle
Fleet 9 Marblehead – Cindy Smith **X**
Fleet 10 Fort Worth Boat Club - James Mitchell **X**
Fleet 11 Santa Barbara - Scott Deardorff **X**
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 - Ed Austin **X**
Fleet 16 Fishers Island/Newport - Brad Gibbs
Fleet 17 Pacific Northwest - Michael Pitt
Fleet 18 Sag Harbor – Sean Elliott
Fleet 19 San Francisco – Robert Milligan **X**
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
Fleet 25 Harbor Springs – Scott Sellers **X**
Fleet 26 Detroit – Don Glover
Fleet 28 Biscayne Bay – Ryan McKillen **X**

Agenda:

1. President's Report
2. Class Office Report
3. Technical Report
4. Championship Updates
5. New Business
6. Next Meeting

Description:

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

1. **President's Report** – Scott said it's been quiet in California, as their lockdown has just eased.
2. **Class Office Report** – Chris reported that the US Class has 176 members so far in 2021, including 10 Group 3 members, 7 Helmspersons and 7 Associates.
3. **Technical Report**– John stated that if someone has broken rudder hardware, they can go to the European style, requiring modification of the rudder (about \$900 from Sail22, until CCF starts building again). Regarding rigs, there's a plan in place for those with a Seldon rig or you can get spreaders from Sail22 and rebuilt spreader bar from J/Boats. It's still one mast per boat. People with deck issues can get a retrofit. No major Rules proposals are anticipated. At the present time,

double spinnaker cleats are not Class legal, but the Technical Committee is working on some small changes that may include the double spinnaker cleat.

4. **Championship Updates** –

--2021 North American Championship, May 12-16, Annapolis YC, MD: The event is a “go”! Marty said 60 boats are registered with 20 on the wait list. The OA is meeting tomorrow to discuss the process management of expanding to 80. Current regulations forbid gatherings of more than 100 people, even outdoors. Boats will be spread amongst the local clubs, and they are hoping to expand to places such as Jabins. There should be flexibility to include some Jury members virtually. Inspections will be mostly contact-less.

--2021 World Championship at California YC, Marina del Ray, CA, August 7-15: Scott shared that California has been very strict during the pandemic. The J/70s will not participate in the San Diego NOOD, but will do something informal instead. Long Beach Race Week has been canceled. The Worlds is a “go,” with nearly 80 registrants. The variable is still travel restrictions, but international enthusiasm is high. There are about a dozen US owners who we are waiting to confirm their attendance, and there are about 20 on the petition list. We may need to make changes to the “normal” way of doing things, but the goal is to get people racing.

--2021 Corinthian US National Championship at Eastern YC, Marblehead, MA, September 16-19: Cindy said Fleet 9 would like to host the New England Championship as a lead-up to the CNC. Chris and Cindy will confirm this offline.

--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

Chris has been talking with Tampa, Miami and Key West contacts to work out the 2022 winter schedule. There is a plan to have a “new” Key West Race Week in January.

5. **New Business** –

Fleet 1 Annapolis Marty McKenna: Excitement is high to return to the water in April.

Fleet 3 Lake Erie Central Ted Pinkerton: The nine-boat fleet got out last fall. Many are traveling to the NAC. MarkSetBoats may be purchased locally. Cleveland Race Week OD is June 18-20.

Fleet 9 Marblehead Cindy Smith & Brian Keane: The Fleet meeting is April 6, and everyone has been communicating with enthusiasm. It’s great to see everyone working hard to get folks on the water.

Fleet 10 Fort Worth Boat Club James Mitchell: Six boats are at the club.

Fleet 11 Santa Barbara Scott Deardorff: Although they are restricted to three crew, people are excited to race starting this weekend. Seven of nine J/70s were at the Hot Rum Regatta. They’ve enjoyed their clinic regattas, which might be good to continue going forward.

Fleet 15 Western Long Island Sound Ed Austin: There is pent-up demand, but still some with COVID concerns. American YC Spring Series is a go. Each club makes its own decisions.

Fleet 19 San Francisco Robert Milligan: They have two new members, and hoping for 7-8 boats on the line. The clubs are planning 2021 events, and they have been increasing their double- and single-handed racing.

Fleet 22 Cedar Point Josh Goldman: The fleet is shrinking, as many people have more than one boat.

Fleet 25 Harbor Springs Scott Sellers: Their traditional schedule is planned, including the Ugotta Regatta. Usually 10 J/70s are out for club racing.

Fleet 28 Biscayne Bay Ryan McKillen: Florida is mostly open, and they have had their Bacardi Series plus some people traveling to DIYC for the clinics.

Chris summarized that the IJ70CA is focused on going sailing, regardless of what sacrifices are made onshore (social, inspections, etc.). Unfortunately, many European nations are far behind the USA in vaccines. It will be a challenge to have full international participation in 2021. Some countries are having events, but it is typically only that nation. The European Championship in Copenhagen is still planned for June.

6. **Next Meeting** – Monday, May 24 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT

Action Items:

--Chris and Cindy will confirm the 2021 New Englands in Marblehead offline.

Next Meeting: Monday, May 24 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT