

J/70 Class Association Fleet Captain Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/14/2022

Start: 7:05 p.m. EDT

Adjourn: 7:45 p.m. EDT

Present:

Chris & Julie Howell **X**
Jeff Johnstone (Copyright Holder)
Ed Austin (President) **X**
Al Poindexter (Vice President) **X**
John Heaton (Secretary)
Brian Keane (Treasurer) **X**
Geoff Becker (Technical Chair)
Scott Deardorff (Past President)
Fleet 1 Annapolis – Marty McKenna **X**
Fleet 2 Wayzata – Sean Hendrickson **X**
Fleet 3 Lake Erie Central – Ted Pinkerton
Fleet 4 Southern California – Bruce Cooper
Fleet 5 Southern Chesapeake Bay – Clark Dennison
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 - Michael Pitt
Fleet 18 Sag Harbor – Jim Vos
Fleet 19 San Francisco – Robert Milligan **X**
Fleet 20 Galveston Bay – Kelly Gray
Fleet 21 Edgartown - Harald Findlay
Fleet 22 Cedar Point – Josh Goldman
Fleet 23 Tampa Bay - Steve Liebel
Fleet 24 Cape May NJ – Jack Lord **X**
Fleet 25 Harbor Springs – Scott Sellers **X**
Fleet 26 Detroit – Don Glover
Fleet 28 Biscayne Bay – Ryan McKillen

Agenda:

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

Description:

1. **President's Report** – Ed recalled that it's been 10 years since his family took a test sail with Jeff Johnstone on an early J/70. This winter's southern racing was extremely successful, including many Corinthians (such as about 40% at Davis Island). At the local level, let's focus on keeping our amateur sailors on the water. We also have our annual Youth Nationals in St. Petersburg, FL.
2. **Class Office Report** – Chris reported that the US Class has 267 members so far in 2022, including 50 Group 3 members, 21 Helmspersons and 8 Associates. On the international level, we had about 2/3 Corinthian teams at the 2021 European Championship. For the 2022 Worlds petitions, about half are Corinthian.
3. **Technical Report** – The updated Class Rules are approved and effective as of March 1: see <https://j70ica.org/class-office-rules/>. Look for a member survey soon. The IJ70CA is in an

interesting situation in that we have so much interest in our global competition but unable to accommodate so many boats per event.

4. **Worlds Venue & Qualification** – Newport was approached to be the host for the 2022 World Championship as the 10-year anniversary of the boat, which was then delayed one year during the pandemic. However, the NYYC budget came in higher than the IJ70CA was comfortable with. Jeff Johnstone spoke with Sail Newport about filling in, however the timing won't work out for 2023. St. Petersburg Yacht Club was changed from a 2023 North American Championship to a World Championship. The IJ70CA has 25+ member countries, therefore each NCA receives at least two berths + an additional multiplier for neighboring countries. See <http://j70class.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/US-Qualifying-System-for-the-2023-WC-Master.pdf> for details on the US Qualifying System for the 2023 J/70 World Championship. There are also additional “international berths” noted, as well as possible petitions for a total of 90 boats. You can see that the berths are divided geographically with a weight to fleets at a higher amount of boats. Chris noted that the 2022 Ugotta Regatta in Harbor Springs was the unofficial Great Lakes Championship however the Club unexpectedly capped the J/70s at 20 boats. We may need to shift this event to the Verve Cup in Chicago to allow more entry. Scott expects this cap to be temporary as there is an overall cap to the regatta at 100, which has not yet been met.
5. **Championship Updates** –
 - 2022 Corinthian National Championship, Edgewater YC, Cleveland, OH, June 24-26: This is part of Cleveland Race Week “big boat,” but the J/70s will have their own course with coaching. “One Design” weekend is the prior weekend.
 - 2022 North American Championship, Port Credit YC, Toronto, ON Canada, September 19-25
 - 2022 World Championship, Yacht Club de Monaco, October 21-29
 - 2023 Midwinter Championship, Shake-A-Leg, Miami, FL, March 23-26 (after Bacardi Cup)
 - 2023 Corinthian US National Championship, Bayview YC, Detroit, MI, dates to be confirmed likely July or August
 - 2023 North American Championship, Chicago YC, September 18-24
 - 2023 World American Championship, St. Pete YC, St. Petersburg, FL, October 30-November 5
 - 2024 North American Championship, Vallarta Yacht Club, Mexico, May 5-11
 - 2024 World Championship, Real Club Nàutico de Palma, Spain, September 14-21
6. **New Business** – Sean stated that Wayzata is preparing a proposal to host the 2024 Corinthian Nationals in fall. Let's not plan right on the World Championship, but a little distance in fine. There is a Request for Proposal out now for 2024 and 2025 Corinthian Nationals and Nationals.

Fleet 1 Annapolis Marty McKenna: A clinic is planned for April, and the NOOD is in May.

Fleet 2 Wayzata Sean Hendrickson: A meeting is on for Saturday to plan the Corinthian bid. A measurer will be getting local boats measured. A spring tune-up is scheduled in May. Weed sticks are used regularly, and they are working with someone on additional help to sweep the keel.

Fleet 15 Western Long Island Sound Jean-Marc Papin: They lost boats during the pandemic, and are now focusing on the American YC Spring/Fall regattas. The fleet is also engaging youth sailors to assist with crew concerns.

Fleet 24 Cape May NJ Jack Lord: Eight boats are typically out weekly, and they see younger people active in the fleet. 14 boats attended the 2021 East Coast Championship, with very positive feedback. They are hosting their first ever J/Fest in June with multiple J/Classes. They may be submitting a proposal for a Nationals or similar.

Fleet 25 Harbor Springs Scott Sellers: In San Francisco, they are scoring a series and get about eight boats out monthly. Rolex Big Boat Series is popular. Harbor Springs has great conditions, with many families racing J/70s.

For Texas, Al Poindexter shared that they have a new boat, but more promotion is needed for the

local fleets.

Brian Keane inquired how the Seattle area has grown so much? Chris has heard that they bring in coaches, but we should obtain/publish “lessons learned” from there as well as with the growth in Wayzata.

7. **Next Meeting** – Monday, June 13 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT

Action Items:

Next Meeting: Monday, June 13 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT