



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Executive Board

held on

October 23, 2024

The following members of the J/109 Class Association (the “Class”) Executive Board were in attendance via Zoom:

- Dan Nash, President (Mistral)
- John Greifzu, Jr., Secretary & Fleet 10 (Growth Spurt)
- Julia O-Dowd, Treasurer (TBD)
- Bill Kneller, Class Measurer & Fleet 6 (Vento Solare)
- Ray Douglas, Fleet 11 (Courageous)
- Carl Braden, Fleet 12 (Blue Sky)

The following members of the Class were also in attendance:

- Dan Corcoran (Strider)
- Don Irion (Full Tilt (200))
- Marlon Rosenbaum (Caminos)
- Chris Princing (BombShell)
- John Arens (Reverie)
- Pete Priede (Full Tilt (249))
- Rosalind Looby (Lady Bird)

Secretary Greifzu called the meeting to order at 1905. The presence of a quorum, pursuant to Sec. 6.4 of the Class Constitution, was confirmed as more than 50% of the current members of the Executive Board was present.

On motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously resolved that the minutes of the 2023 Annual Meeting be accepted and published as submitted.

President Nash presented the highlights for the 2024 season. He noted that Class membership was still strong with 43 boat owners, but that is down from previous years. He attributed that to a number of boats changing hands in 2023 and 2024, and the new owners getting acclimated to the boat before embarking on a racing schedule. He said the Class continued to have good participation at events, even if down from past years. To increase participation, Nash stated that in 2025, we will work to remove the intimidation of Class racing for these new owners.

Treasurer O-Dowd presented the Treasury report. She stated that the class financial position is strong with approximately \$40,000 in cash on hand. Class dues and sail tag revenue continued to be steady. The class has funds to support regattas in 2025.

Class Measurer Kneller presented the Measurer’s report. He noted that the recent rulings of the Technical Committee on replacement propellers, jib cars, and Lithium-ion batteries are all on the



Forum on the Class website. He also reported that the proposed change to Class Rule 6.0 has passed, and there will no longer be weight limited Class events pursuant to 6.2.

At the conclusion of the Measurer's Report, Dan Corcoran said he believes people want Lithium-ion batteries onboard. President Nash stated that the Technical Committee and Class Officers determined not to endorse a change at this time.

Secretary Greifzu then received the Fleet reports:

Fleet 3 Report - John Arens — The West Coast championship at Long Beach Race Week had six boats and was excellent racing. The fleet continues to be active with the boats on the west coast.

Fleet 6 Report – Bill Kneller reported some sporadic participation in distance and handicap racing. The fleet played host to a successful North American Championship. Looking for next year to have increased participation as boats on sidelines come back from various ailments.

Fleet 10 Report – John Greifzu, Jr. – AYC Spring and Cedar Point saw multiple 109s participate, as well as the Vineyard Race. Like other fleets, getting the boats together for events is key as we have dozens locally.

Fleet 11 Report – Ray Douglas – Fleet has a good mix of one design and distance races making up the Fleet and series championships. The fleet is looking forward to hosting the 2025 North Americans at Chicago Yacht Club.

Fleet 12 Report – Carl Braden – The fleet has three boats in the area. Two-handed racing has grown in popularity, and the boat is usable for it. He extended an open invite for going racing in Sydney if anyone visits.

Next, President Nash reported on the North American Championship in Newport in July. Six boats attended. It was a low turnout but great racing. He said 2025 will be in Chicago August 7-10, and 2026 will be New Bedford YC in July or August.

President Nash then reviewed the calendar for 2025, including the 2025 East Coast Championship at Block Island Race Week. The calendar has many opportunities for Class racing, and we should encourage fellow members to join as much as possible.

Secretary Greifzu then reviewed the proposed slate for Class officers for 2025 and 2026. The ballot has been distributed and voting will close November 11, 2024. He stated that members should vote if they have not already.

In addition, Secretary Greifzu stated that the Executive Board will propose a rule change to allow the 2025 North American Championship to be sailed with the 120 square meter spinnakers used by Fleet 11. Voting on that will occur this winter.



New Business: Dan Corcoran raised again his desire to make Lithium-Ion batteries class legal. Discussion ensued, and interest seemed limited to *Strider* and *Courageous*. President Nash said the Class Officers and Technical Committee will reconsider how boats that make the switch can still participate in Class racing, but the Class will not endorse a method for the modification. Dan Corcoran also asked for a J/109 battle flag to be made available. Bill Kneller agreed to look for flag vendor.

The meeting adjourned at 2018.