

J/109 Class Association

Minutes of the Executive committee Meeting, January 8, 2008

The meeting was held by telephone conference and was called to order at 2000 (eastern) by Rick Lyall, President. Present for the meeting were Steve Tedeschi, Vice president; Barry Gold, Treasurer; Ed Dailey, Secretary; Jeff Johnstone, JBoats; and Ric Campeau.

Appointment of Treasurer

After serving the Class since its formative days in 2006, Barry Gold has resigned as Treasurer but has vetted Ric Campeau as his able successor. Ric sails HOODOO (USA 333) in the warm waters of South Carolina.

The Executive Committee agreed with Barry's recommendation and appointed Ric to serve as Treasurer until the next election for Class officers in the fall of 2009.

On behalf of the Class, Rick Lyall thanked Barry for his work as one of the founding organizers of the Class, for setting up the membership and sailtag programs, overseeing the successful launch and several updates to our website, monitoring the website forums, assuring our solvency, and more. His volunteer commitment sets a benchmark for the rest of us. Barry will not be far away, so we'll see him out there.

In handing over the finances to Ric, Barry reported that the Class has a balance of funds entering 2008 of \$8303.

J/109 Class Website

Ric Campeau noted his willingness to assume overall responsibility for the website as part of his duties as Treasurer. Steve Tedeschi indicated his willingness to continue to assist since the website, as it expands, requires almost daily oversight.

We will be expanding the website shortly to provide fleet links for a number of European fleets with the hope this will provide a forum for communication and conversation and planning for "home and home" events within the next year.

We also urge Fleet captains to encourage J/109 sailors to participate in forums on the website. The forums are a good source of information, tips, and J/109 discussion.

Racing and Cruising

- Key West, January 21-25
 - St. Petersburg, February 15-17
 - San Diego, March 14-16
 - Charleston Race Week, April 17-20
 - American Yacht Club Spring Series, April 26, 27 and May 3, 4
 - The 2008 North Americans will be held at the New York Yacht Club in Newport, July 24-27 (during Race Week)
 - The New England Championship Regatta will be held at Beverly Yacht Club in Marion, August 1-3 (during the Buzzards Bay Regatta).
-
- A cruising “Rendezvous” will be organized for J/109’s sailing up from New York for the North Americans. Rick Lyall will work on this fun event.

Fleet captains are requested to inform us of other major racing and cruising events so we can post the events on the website home page.

J/109 Newsletter

Our digital newsletter has received very positive responses from class members, associate members, prospective buyers, and other classes. The newsletter is edited by Carol Cronin. The December 2007 issue was distributed to about 500 addresses.

J/109 sailors are encouraged to send ideas, sailing or racing tips, digital photos, interesting J/109 stories, and the like to Rick Lyall (REL@JWBristol.com).

Technical Committee

The Executive Committee noted a number of issues to be addressed by the Technical Committee. These include: foot battens, spin halyard blocks on the mast, double clutches for main halyard, lifeline repositioning, changing headsails between races. The Technical Committee resolves issues which concern enforcement, compliance, or interpretation of the Class Rules. For issues which extend beyond this, for example, changing headsails between races, the Technical Committee can recommend for or against a rules change.

Under section 6.11 of the Class constitution, Rick will work to recruit a chief measurer for the Technical Committee and a Class member to serve on the Committee. Jeff Johnstone or his designee will serve as the third member of the Committee.

The Keel fix

At least 130 boats have received upgrade kits to strengthen the keel attachment points. The upgrade should prevent keel flexing which was an issue for several J/109's. The upgrade is a warranty item and will be coordinated by Pearson Composites. Owners who have not arranged for the upgrade should contact their JBoats dealers or Pearson Composites immediately for assistance. Fleet captains should encourage all owners to complete the upgrade this winter.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2150.

/Ed Dailey
Secretary