

**Minutes
J/109 Class Association Executive Board**

**Conference Call
November 17, 2016**

MINUTES of a meeting of the J/109 Class Association Executive Board held on November 17, 2016 by telephone conference call at 7:00 pm Eastern Standard time.

PARTICIPANTS: Bill Kneller
JR Rechtschaffer
Jim Vos
Bud Rogers
Dave Rosow
Bengt Johansson

Mr. Kneller brought the meeting to order and acted as Chairman of the meeting. Mr. Rogers acted as Secretary of the meeting. Mr. Kneller referred to the list of agenda items contained in his invitation email.

2017 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP ASSIGNMENTS

Measurement and Crew Weigh-in. Mr. Johansson undertook to organize the measurement of boats as well as the weigh-in of crew. Mr. Kneller noted that he had the various tools, clipboards and templates used for the 2016 North American Championships. Mr. Johansson reported that the technical committee is considering issues relating to the bow sprits on J/109s and noted that there appears to be considerable variation in the bow sprit dimensions. He stated that the technical committee planned to complete its work and announce its results by March 15, 2017, so that owners would have ample time to make any necessary adjustments.

Class Party. Mr. Kneller noted that Bob Schwartz had again offered his rental house as the site of the class party. He further stated that the party needed an organizer to ensure that the set up, provisioning and other logistics were taken care of. Mr. Vos outlined how it had been handled in 2015. At the end of the meeting Mr. Rogers agreed to act as organizer for the party.

North U Clinic. Mr. Kneller agreed to coordinate this event with Bill Gladstone.

Loaner/Charter Boats. Mr. Kneller agreed to contact fleet captains in the Long Island Sound/ Newport area to ask them to contact each boat owner in their area to determine if any loaner boats can be made available. He also noted that JBoats had provided some sample charter documents.

Class Addendum. Mr. Rogers noted that an addendum to either the sailing instructions or notice of race needed to be prepared. He stated that he would forward to Mr. Rosow, as incoming Class Secretary, the addendums used each of the last two years. Mr. Johansson noted that the Storm Trysail Club will likely allow an additional crew and that the J/109 addendum should be clear in stating that such a provision would not apply to the J/109 Class.

2018 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS LOCATION SELECTION

Mr. Kneller noted that he had circulated a draft invitation out to executive board members for review and comment. He offered the view that the document should be sent to each fleet captain so that the process would be open to all interested yacht clubs around the country. The Executive Board would then make a final determination based on the responses to the requests for proposal. He expected that the final determination would include an evaluation of likely participation based on the size of the local fleets, among other factors. Mr. Kneller stated that the drafts were based on documents used for the J/30 Class. Mr. Rosow stated that he would compare the documents used by the J/70 Class.

There next follow a discussion on whether the championship should be 3, 4 or 5 days and whether the requests for proposal should cover 2019 as well as 2018. It was agreed that yacht clubs should be asked to propose 3,4, or 5 day events and could submit proposals for either or both years.

EAST COAST REGATTA SERIES AND EAST COAST CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

Mr. Rogers next led a discussion of the selection of events for the East Coast Regatta Series and the East Coast Championship. He referred to the materials included in the email circulated in advance of the meeting. He also noted that under the Deed of Gift, Fleet 4, as the Donor, was required to provide input and to select the mandatory event. After a discussion, and subject to the input of Fleet 4, the following events were selected as qualifying events for the East Coast Regatta Series, with a two regatta minimum for qualification:

1. Block Island Race Week (mandatory event)
2. J/Fest at Newport
3. American Yacht Club Fall Series

In addition the Cedar Point One Design Regatta was selected as the East Coast Championship Regatta.

AT-LARGE MEMBER

Mr. Kneller agreed to contact Mr. Pepi to see if he could assist in preparing a job description. He also stated that he would solicit the names of potential candidates from fleets outside the East Coast.

COMMUNICATIONS/MARKETING POSITION

Mr. Kneller next led a discussion of the possible role of an unpaid person to handle the write up of stories relating to the Class, including regattas and boats and crew and obtaining press coverage for the class. Mr. Kneller asked for suggestions for persons to fulfill that role.

CORINTHIAN TROPHY AND PARTICIPATION OF CLASS 3 SAILORS AT NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mr. Kneller suggested that the Corinthian trophy should be awarded to the top boat that did not have any category 3 sailors. All members agreed with that position.

Mr. Kneller next led a discussion of whether category 3 should be allowed at the North American Championships. After that discussion it was the consensus of the meeting that category 3 sailors should continue to be allowed in the North American Championships. It was also agreed that the Class Addendum could allow for more than one Corinthian trophy to be awarded. The hope was expressed that in this way interest in Corinthian racing would increase and overall participation in the North American Championships would increase.

There be no further business, the meeting was adjourned

William P. Rogers, Jr.
Class Secretary