



J/109 Class Association 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2023

7:00pm EDT

The 2023 Annual Meeting was held via Zoom & teleconference. Minutes were taken by Cory A. Eaves, Secretary.

Attending via Zoom / Phone

Bill Kneller (Vento Solare), Assistant Treasurer & Fleet 6 - New England & Maritimes

Cory A. Eaves, Secretary

Bengt Johansson (Zig Zag), Chief Measurer

Heinz Butner (Raptor), Fleet 3 - California & Hawaii

Dan Corcoran (Strider)

Julia O'Dowd (TBD), Treasurer

Rick Nietsch (Sea Star)

Dan Nash (Mistral), Vice President

David Anderson (Kind of Blue)

Ros Looby (Lady Bird)

Keith Eickenberg (Blackfin), Fleet 11 - Great Lakes & Lake Champlain

Trevor Roach, President

Dan Brousseau (Tongoroa)

Jim Ceasar (Liquid Lounge II)

John Wurch (Aviato)

Pete Priede (Full Tilt)

Robert Little (Blue Crush)

Carl Braden (Blue Sky), Fleet 12 - Pacific Rim

Ted Herlihy (Gut Feeling), Assistant Measurer

Charlie Schoder Tate (Chase)

Welcome

At 7:04, Cory Eaves, Secretary, called the Annual Meeting of the J/109 Class Association to order. Cory Eaves, took attendance using the Zoom participant panel. It was determined that per the Class Constitution 6.1 and 6.4 a quorum of the Executive Board was present. The President asked for a motion to approve the 2022 minutes, which are posted on the class website. A vote was taken and the 2022 minutes were unanimously accepted.

President's Report

President Trevor Roach provided the President's report. Trevor reviewed the class officers. Membership for the year remains strong at 62 with 59 owners. Class events have been seeing a comeback. In particular, the Cedar Point One Design, and the North American Championship



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have seen increased participation. Trevor is in the last year of his term and thanked everyone for their efforts during his tenure.

Finance Report

Treasurer Julia O'Dowd provided the finance report. Expenses and net income for the year were in line with expectations at approximately [\$5,264 and (\$152.50)] respectively. Julia presented the proposed budget for 2024. The 2024 budget was unanimously approved.

Class Measurer's Report

Class Measurer Bengt Johansson provided a report on class measurement and rule activities. Important activities of the Technical Committee over the past year have included an updated North American Checklist to reflect changes implemented in 2023. This was published in January. Propeller replacement is still being discussed. After a second review of lithium-ion batteries, they were again not approved, due to the electrical system of the boats not being suitably designed.

Inspection of the boats at the North American Championships went smoothly and no major issues were found. Bengt thanked the volunteers for their efforts and for the volunteers at Block Island Race Week.

Fleet Captain's Report

Each Fleet Captain was asked to provide a report on the fleet's status and activities. The following fleets provided a report:

Fleet 3 California & Hawaii. Heinz Butner provided a report on the fleet. Last year included a one-design race at mid-winters with 4 boats. Marina Del Ray also hosted the second regatta at Cowe Race Week. Blue Crush won the Fleet 3 Championship. Next year will include 3 races, similar to this year. Heinz is selling his J/109, so Bob Little will be taking over as Fleet 3 Captain for next year. Bob expressed optimism for 2024.

Fleet 6 New England and Maritimes - Bill Kneller provided the fleet report for the northern region. Fleet participation is down for several events. Several boats are for sale. PHRF racing has not been using non-overlapping jibs due to local PHRF ratings hit.

Fleet 10 Long Island Sound - Dan Nash reported LIS racing. Cedar Point was very strong, but the other two events did not happen. Several boats are for sale. Bud Rogers organized a terrific regatta at Sag Harbor, including housing and good on-shore activities. John Greifzu won the North American Yachtsman of the Year from his club.



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Fleet 11 Great Lakes & Lake Champlain - Keith Eickenberg provided a fleet report. Fleet participation has been consistently strong. Two new boats have joined the fleet. The season is concluding with a banquet in two weeks. Keith is selling his boat, along 3 other boats, causing some turnover in the fleet.

Fleet 12 Pacific Rim - Carl Braden provided the fleet report. Three boats in Australia, which is unchanged. There have not been enough J/109s for class racing.

North American Championships

Trevor Roach reported that the 2023 NA's were held at Block Island Race Week. **Growth Spurt** took first overall and the Corinthian championship.

The 2024 North American Championship will be held at New York Yacht Club Race Week on July 16-20, 2024.

2024 J/109 Regattas

Trevor Roach highlighted the 2024 event calendar, including the following events:

2024 East Coast Regatta Series

- Cedar Point OD Regatta (June 1-2) - J/109 OD Class (The mandatory event)
- Sag Harbor Race Weekend - (July or September dates TBD)
- Safe Harbor Race Weekend - Newport, RI (August 9-11 as expected dates)
- **2024 East Coast Championship** - AYC Fall Series (Sept. 28-29, Oct. 3-4 dates TBD)
- **2024 J/109 North American Championship** 16 - 20 July at New York YC Race Week
- Select Additional Events with J/109 Class Racing or Larger Fleets
 - Long Island Sound
 - AYC Spring Series (Apr. 22-23, Apr. 30 - May 1)
 - Pequot Invitational (Aug. dates TBD)
 - Vineyard Race (Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1)
 - Fleet 10 Fall Classic (Oct. TBD)
 - Spring (June 7-8) & Fall (September 13-15) Off Soundings
 - New England
 - New York YC Annual Regatta (June 7-9)
 - New Bedford YC Annual Regatta (Aug 2-4)
 - Ida Lewis Distance Race (Aug. 16-17)
 - Conanicut YC ATI (Sept. 1)
 - Great Lakes
 - Chicago NOOD (early June)
 - Chicago YC Race to Mackinac (July)
 - Bayview YC Race to Mackinac (July)



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Other Business

Several present noted that several boats are being sold so outreach to new owners will be critical. Fleet captains will take the lead in this effort. Where possible, owners selling should also assist new buyers in transitioning to racing.

There was a discussion of planning future stand-alone NA championship events. Outreach should happen soon to potential host clubs.

There was a discussion of visiting class weight rules. It was agreed the topic as it pertains to Class Rule 6.1 and 6.2 would be revisited with class membership.

Adjournment

All business was completed at 8:00pm with a unanimous vote to end the meeting.

Submitted by:

Cory A. Eaves, J/109 Class Association Secretary