

US J/70 Class Association Fleet Captain Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/3/2025

Start: 7:08 p.m. EST

Adjourn: 7:40 p.m. EST

Present:

Chris & Julie Howell **X**
Jeff Johnstone (Copyright Holder)
Brian Keane (President) **X**
John Heaton (Vice President) **X**
Cate Muller-Terhune (Secretary)
Andrew Loe (Treasurer)
Dina Kowalyshyn (Technical Chair)
Al Poindexter (Past President) **X**
Fleet 1 Annapolis – John White **X**
Fleet 2 Wayzata – Sean Hendrickson
Fleet 3 Lake Erie Central – Ted Pinkerton
Fleet 4 Southern California – Karl Herbst **X**
Fleet 5 Southern Chesapeake Bay – Clark Dennison
Fleet 6 Cohasset MA – Charlie Henry
Fleet 7 Eastern Great Lakes - Tim Finkle **X**
Fleet 8 Solomons Island - Larry Ray
Fleet 9 Marblehead – Patrick Andreasen
Fleet 10 Fort Worth Boat Club - James Mitchell
Fleet 11 Santa Barbara – Pat Toole
Fleet 12 Eastern Long Island - David Becker
Fleet 13 Southern Lake Michigan – Will Howard
Fleet 14 Austin - Matthew Romberg
Fleet 15 Western Long Island Sound - Jean-Marc Papin
Fleet 16 Fishers Island/Newport - Brad Gibbs
Fleet 17 Pacific Northwest - Ron Rosenberg
Fleet 18 Sag Harbor – Jim Vos
Fleet 19 San Francisco – David Fried
Fleet 20 Galveston Bay – Kelly Gray
Fleet 21 Edgartown - Crawford Phillips
Fleet 22 Cedar Point – Josh Goldman
Fleet 23 Tampa Bay - Steve Knoop
Fleet 24 Cape May NJ – Jack Lord
Fleet 25 Harbor Springs – Sean O’Brien **X**
Fleet 26 Detroit – Don Glover
Fleet 28 Biscayne Bay – Ryan McKillen

Agenda:

1. Class Office/Technical Report
2. IJ70CA Update
3. 2026 and 2027 USA Events
4. Regional Regatta Planning
5. Fleet Roundtable
6. New Business
7. Next Meeting

Description:

1. **Class Office/Technical Report** – Chris reported that the US Class has 193 members so far in 2025, including 22 Group 3 and 9 Associate (2023 total was 298). Remember to confirm membership at your local/regional regattas. Database at [J70 Class Association](http://www.j70class.com). If you want a spreadsheet by Fleet, e-mail howell@j70office.com.

All approved Rules proposals were submitted to Worlds Sailing (WS) at the end of 2024. Communications have gone back and forth, mostly in regard to WS removing the Event Rules from the Class Rules and moving the Class Rules changes through the NOR or SI from the Appendix to the main body of the Class Rules. A resolution will be made public when available.

2. **IJ70CA Update** – Qualification for the 2026 Worlds in Cascais Portugal is being finalized based on a participation format. The IJ70CA World Council is meeting next week, so expect a decision to be posted later this month. This has been quite a debate internationally, but expect 15 berths for the USA (in addition to berths from the NAC). Chris noted a reduction in legacy berths, with a new focus on NCA berths. Brian explained that this new system emanated from Europe. The US is fortunate that we have been able to send those who want to attend a European Worlds.
3. **2026 and 2027 USA Events** – A Request for Proposal was circulated via e-mail. The Class is seeking proposals to host US National Championships, Mixed Plus Championships and Corinthian Championships in the USA for 2026 and beyond. Proposals should be sent to the Class Office at howell@j70office.com by April 1, 2025.

Upcoming Championships:

- 2025 Midwinter Championship, Shake-A-Leg Miami FL, March 27-30
- 2025 US National Championship, Wayzata YC, Wayzata, MN, May 16-18
- 2025 Mixed Plus US National Championship, Corinthian YC, Seattle, WA, June 13-15
- 2025 Mixed Plus World Championship, Circolo Vela Torbole, Italy, June 26-29
- 2025 Corinthian World Championship, Eastern YC, Marblehead, MA, September 22-28
- 2025 World Championship, Yacht Club Argentino Buenos Aires, October 24-November 1
- 2025 North American Championship, Davis Island YC, Tampa, FL, December 1-7
- 2026 Corinthian World Championship, Union Nautique/Club La Pelle, Marseilles France, May 23-30
- 2026 World Championship, Clube Naval de Cascais Portugal, August 28-September 5
- 2026 North American Championship, Annapolis YC, October 27-November 1
- 2027 World Championship, Annapolis YC, October 23-30

4. **Regional Regatta Planning** – to be discussed at the next meeting and/or offline
5. **Fleet Roundtable** –

Fleet 1 Annapolis John White: The three local clubs are piloting Vakaros at an event this summer.

Fleet 4 Southern California Karl Herbst: Working to recover the fleet, and it was good to have 8 boats at Midwinters. There are 30 boats in the area, with a couple folks looking for used boats. Santa Barbara might be interested in hosting a Corinthian event.

Fleet 17 Pacific Northwest Ron Rosenberg (via e-mail): We're still growing. Our 57th J/70 is on her way from Miami to PNW. We just attempted our first Class membership drive, hopefully this netted helpful results. We're looking forward to running our first big regatta, the 2025 J/70 Mixed + Nationals, Seattle, Shilshole Marina, CYC, June 13-15. A few charter boats may be available for out of towners...contact Ron. Local PNW J/70 racing season kicks off end of March, ends October. We're getting better at traveling to regattas. We had about five different teams attending DIYC, Miami and St. Pete regattas. We'll have five teams competing in Cascais, Portugal over the next month. We hope to have as many as 10 PNW teams traveling to Florida winter regattas next season.

Fleet 25 Harbor Springs Sean O'Brien: The lake is frozen over.

6. **New Business** – Sean asked about the Vakaros discount agreement (50% off RaceSense until May 1). Currently, the Atlas is required primarily at national level+ events (can rent or already own the device). Over time, this technology will likely be common, as clubs learn to utilize the equipment to maximize time on the water. Vakaros stepped up for several major Championships last year, and the response was overwhelmingly popular. Karl added that their fleet has prepared reports

from Atlas data to conduct training. John clarified that the B&G instruments are used more after starting.

7. **Next Meeting** – Monday, June 2 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT

Action Items:

--Chris will survey the group to facilitate further meeting planning.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 2 @ 7:00 p.m. EDT