

# US J/70 Class Association Annual Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 11/24/2025

**Start:** 7:05 p.m. EST

**Adjourn:** 7:45 p.m. EST

**Present:**

Chris & Julie Howell  
Brian Keane (President)  
John Heaton (Vice President)  
Cate Muller-Terhune (Secretary)  
Andrew Loe (Treasurer)  
Dina Kowalyshyn (Technical Chair)  
Al Poindexter (Past President)  
Fleet 6 Cohasset MA – Charlie Henry  
Fleet 17 Pacific Northwest - Ron Rosenberg  
Fleet 22 Cedar Point – Josh Goldman  
Fleet 23 Tampa Bay - Steve Knoop  
Fleet 25 Harbor Springs – Sean O'Brien

**Agenda:**

1. Office & Copyright Holder Reports
2. Technical Report
3. Budget Proposal and Approval
4. Election of Officers
5. Championship Updates
6. 2026 Meeting Dates

**Description:**

Brian welcomed everyone to the 2025 Annual Meeting. This is his last meeting as President. Thank you all for your support of this great Class on and off the water! We are in a lifetime sport, and it's an honor to sail the J/70. Great to see more events inclusive of mixed and amateur racers. The J/70 has three World Championships annually! Looking forward to the Worlds returning to US soil in 2027. It's so important to have clubs step forward to host events...let's encourage our clubs.

Documents via Dropbox: [J70 2025 USA AGM - Dropbox](#)

1. **Office & Copyright Holder Reports** – Chris reported that the US Class has 339 members in 2025 (298 in 2024), including 76 Group 3 members and 16 Associates.

Jeff J. submitted this report via e-mail: Last month, we assigned the newest batch of 20 hull numbers 1919-1938 to J/Composites (France), and 2025 production is expected to be about 40-45 units, with a similar forecast for next year. We imported two new boats this spring, but the combination of a 7% weaker dollar and 15% tariff on euro imports has pushed the price up considerably. We've been bringing in a steady supply of Selden Spars to keep up with replacement demand, and fortunately able to mitigate most of the transport costs by packaging them with larger models (i.e. two rigs at a time on top of a J/40 or J/36). Chris added that J/Boats Argentina also builds.

2. **Technical Report** – The current Rules Proposals have been posted at [J70\\_CRC\\_2025-master-for-review-.pdf](#) for a review period. These four proposals will be voted upon by the member NCAs in December and then submitted to World Sailing (likely to be implemented in late first quarter 2026). Three of the proposals are clerical/cleaning up language with World Sailing, but Chris highlighted the proposal moving the winches to optional equipment. If removed from standard deck location, winches must be carried aboard until boat is reweighed and MD is updated. John and Brian will attend the World Council Meeting representing the USA. Any further feedback is welcome before the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chris doesn't expect a "mandate" as to how to redo the winch area (you won't be able to modify the deck layout), but more of an explanation in the FAQ before the Rule goes into effect next year. Dina stated owners will have to fill the holes because they would leak. The Fleet Captains support the USA voting in favor of the four Rules proposals. Please don't take your winches off until we have World Sailing approval in 2026!

3. **Budget Proposal and Approval** – Chris circulated the Class Budget: Profit & Loss 2025 and Budget 2026. We went over the original budget in a few areas after special approval of the EC for RaceSense and Championship media support. James Murray donated perpetual trophies for Nationals and Mixed Plus.

*Brian Keane made a motion to accept the Budget/P&L as presented, seconded by Ron Rosenberg. The motion passed unanimously.*

4. **Election of Officers** – The following slate was presented for election:

President: John Heaton

Vice President: Andrew Loe

Secretary: Cate Muller-Terhune

Technical Chair: Dina Kowalyshyn

Treasurer: James Mitchell

Al explained that Jim chaired two Championships and will be a good addition to the Committee.

*Al Poindexter made a motion to accept the slate as presented, seconded by Sean O'Brien. The motion passed unanimously.*

Brian Keane will stay on the EC as Past President. Thank you Al Poindexter for all your work for the Class, you will be missed on the EC!

5. **Championship Updates** – Looking for US hosts, especially 2026 Corinthian Nationals!

--2026 Midwinter Championship at Shake-A-Leg Miami, March 27-29

--2026 Corinthian World Championship, Union Nautique/Club La Pelle, Marseilles France, May 23-30

--2026 US National Championship, Santa Barbara YC, Santa Barbara, CA, July 10-12: will be great to be back in CA and rejuvenate the fleet

--2026 Mixed Plus World Championship, Royal Danish YC, Copenhagen Denmark, August 13-16

--2026 World Championship, Clube Naval de Cascais Portugal, September 4-12

--2026 North American Championship, Annapolis YC, October 27-November 1

--2026 Mixed-Plus US National Championship, St. Pete YC, St. Petersburg, FL, November 19-22

--2027 World Championship, Annapolis YC, October 23-30: Chris explained that qualifying will occur in 2026, but the international system is still to be decided by the IJ70CA in December. He expects the US to have approximately 25-30 boats. Andrew mentioned an idea for a point system rewarding attendance at mid-level and major events. Brian agrees our Championships should have berths, with smaller events taken into consideration also. In essence, this is similar to our prior process and how petitions were ranked. Chris foresees a hybrid version keeping berths at our major Championships (perhaps 2/3) and using the point system for the remaining 1/3. Cate elaborated that there's added value in the transparency of the point system. John asked what criteria would help fleets locally...ideas would be useful. Ron thinks the previous system wasn't broken, but the hope is that the point system will encourage travel to events. The last few years have dropped off in this regard. Al suggested we set a minimum number of boats at an event (15+) and weight traveling events out of your area. The US EC will meet after the World Council Meeting to discuss the 2026 qualifying plan.

6. **2026 Meeting Dates** – 3/2/26, 6/28/26, 8/31/26, 11/30/26 AGM

**Action Items:**

--The Class Office will send 2026 membership renewal invoices.

--Andrew will draft a US qualifying system for the 2027 Worlds in Annapolis.

**Next Meeting:** 3/2/26