

# US J/70 Class Association Fleet Captain Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 9/8/2025

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

**Adjourn:** 7:55 p.m. EDT

## **Present:**

Chris & Julie Howell X  
Jeff Johnstone (Copyright Holder)  
Brian Keane (President)  
John Heaton (Vice President)  
Cate Muller-Terhune (Secretary)  
Andrew Loe (Treasurer) X  
Dina Kowalyshyn (Technical Chair)  
Al Poindexter (Past President)  
Fleet 1 Annapolis – John White  
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  
Fleet 8 Solomons Island - Spencer Wait  
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 X  
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 X  
Fleet 23 Tampa Bay - Steve Knoop X  
Fleet 24 Cape May NJ – Matt York X  
Fleet 25 Harbor Springs – Sean O’Brien X  
Fleet 26 Detroit – Don Glover  
Fleet 28 Biscayne Bay – Ryan McKillen

## **Agenda:**

1. Class Office Report
2. Technical Report
3. Championship Updates
4. Regional Regatta Planning
5. Fleet Roundtable
6. Annual Meeting

## **Description:**

1. **Class Office Report** – Chris reported that the US Class has 326 members so far in 2025, including 73 Group 3 and 16 Associate (2024 total was 298). Remember to confirm membership at your local/regional regattas. Database at [J70 Class Association](#). Let’s consider a Fleet Captains What’sApp group or Telegram to hopefully improve communications here and potentially for all Class members.
2. **Technical Report** – The IJ70CA will have Rules proposals this cycle, so expect to see information for that this fall. There will also be updates to the Regatta Regulations. Any approved changes of the World Council then go to World Sailing review, to be implemented in 2026.

Regarding the wind limit, the maximum for a Championship is looking to be 27 knots because that is how the boat was designed.

**3. Championship Updates –**

--2025 Corinthian World Championship, Eastern YC, Marblehead, MA, September 22-28: Chris is disappointed with participation in the mid-30s. Perhaps the South American Championship and World Championship are keeping some teams away. You can still register!

--2025 World Championship, Yacht Club Argentino Buenos Aires, October 24-November 1

--2025 North American Championship, Davis Island YC, Tampa, FL, December 1-6: The club has recovered nicely from the 2024 storm season. Steve noted the proximity to Thanksgiving, and he's wondering when boats will show up. There's a good chance that some will arrive before the holiday. The event cap is 60. Sean has a few volunteers who would be interested in helping...reach out to Kat.

--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

--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

Looking for US hosts for future years! Sean thinks Little Traverse YC may be interested, and Matt noted the same for Cape May.

**4. Regional Regatta Planning –** A sub-committee will be meeting offline.

**5. Fleet Roundtable –** Steve is working with the OA for the 2025 NAC and is eager to build the fleet at Davis Island. Karl hopes the west coast fleets can promote the West Coast Championship and Nationals as a bundle. Let's ramp up information for e-mail promotional blasts. Ron asked how can we step up participation in the Class? People are increasingly busy, and our sport is suffering. Can we improve scheduling? How can we replicate the success of Florida winters? We could package circuit racing and factor in geography more. Costs, especially for Corinthian teams, are a barrier to travel. Andrew thinks we need to better brand our Corinthian and Mixed Plus events because the "vibe" is fantastic and more fun. Karl recommended shorter course events. Sean added that seeing a social schedule in advance enhances enjoyment. Andrew offered to work on a Q&A document or video to help with logistical topics.

**6. Annual Meeting –** Monday, November 24 @ 7:00 p.m. EST

Officers move up, a new Officer is needed...ideas are welcome.

**Action Items:**

--John will follow-up on the regional regatta planning sub-committee.

--Andrew will work on a Q&A to help with travel logistical topics.

**Next Meeting:** AGM on Monday, November 24 @ 7:00 p.m. EST