

# INTERNATIONAL J/24 CLASS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

Approved by World Council

October 20,2020

## 1 OBJECT

- 1.1 The International J/24 Class Association shall be known and referred to as the IJCA.
- 1.2 The IJCA shall encourage, promote and develop expansion of the International J/24 Class of sailboat throughout the world.
- 1.3 The IJCA shall have sole authority worldwide for the conduct and management of the International J/24 Class. The IJCA Constitution, the By-laws and other regulations are binding on all members, and all registered J/24s shall conform to Class Rules and any limitations imposed by the IJCA and **World Sailing (WS)**.
- 1.4 The IJCA shall coordinate and manage the affairs and the rules of the International J/24 Class, provide a structure of management, develop a forum for the exchange of information among J/24 owners and sailors and shall cooperate with **WS**, National Authorities, J Boats Inc., **and** the Copyright Holder.
- 1.5 The IJCA shall maintain the one-design characteristics of the International J/24 Class sailboat.

## 2 OTHER TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 The **World Council** shall mean the governing body of the IJCA. The composition of the World Council is defined in paragraph 8.1 of the Constitution.
- 2.2 **NJCA** shall mean the National J/24 Class Association organized inside individual countries that is officially recognized by the IJCA and the country's recognized **WS Member National Authority (MNA)**. A NJCA may be divided into additional territorial units known as districts and/or fleets.
- 2.3 **MNA** shall mean the Member National Authority recognized by **WS** to control and organize the sport of sailing on a national basis in any country.
- 2.4 A **District** shall be a territorial unit comprised of three or more Fleets and of independent boat owners within a specific geographic region. Designation of Districts shall be the responsibility of the NJCA. Each District shall, by vote of Fleet Captains within the District, elect officers. **A District shall elect a representative, the District Governor, to the NJCA.**
- 2.5 A **Fleet** shall mean a local territorial unit in a country that is self-governed in matters not conflicting with this Constitution and recognized by the NJCA of that country upon application by three or more J/24 Owners not within the established territory of an existing Fleet. A Fleet shall elect its own officers.
- 2.6 The **Class** shall mean the International J/24 Class, recognized by **WS** as the boats designed by Rodney Johnstone and constructed in accordance with the building specifications and known under the name of International J/24.

- 2.7 The **Class Rules** shall mean the **closed Class** rules relating to measurement, equipment, racing condition of a J/24 and the practices of its crew.
- 2.8 The **Building Specifications** shall mean the manufacturing processes, techniques, hardware, and materials used in the construction of the J/24 as published **supplied to licensed builders** by J Boats, Inc.
- 2.9 The **Measurement Certificate** shall mean the official certificate issued by the IJCA in accordance with Class Rule **A.11, issued by the IJCA in accordance with Class Rules A.12, A.13, A.14.**
- 2.9.1 The **Measurement Form** shall mean the forms used by owners and measurers in submitting measurements to the IJCA Class Office.
- 2.10 The **Executive Committee** shall mean the body of elected individuals within the IJCA that is responsible for the day to day running of the IJCA. The makeup of the Executive Committee is defined in paragraph 9.1 and the Executive Committee duties are set out in the By-Laws.
- 2.11 The term "member" in the **Constitution** shall mean member(s) as defined in Section 4.
- 2.12 The term "**World Council Member**" shall mean a member appointed by a NJCA to represent it at World Council meetings.
- 2.13 The **Hull Number** shall mean the Licensed Builder's identifying code letters and the Hull Number assigned by J Boats, Inc. on a worldwide basis.
- 2.14 *deleted 20 October 2020*
- 2.15 A boat's **Sail Number** shall be **designated in Class Rule A.9.**
- 2.16 The **IJCA Class Register** shall mean the register of J/24 boats and their owners, full members, associate and sponsoring members. The register is to be **kept in the Class Office.**
- 2.17 The **Copyright Holder** shall mean J Boats, Inc. whose headquarters shall be determined from time to time.
- 2.18 **Licensed Builder** shall mean a person or corporation holding a valid license issued by the Copyright Holder to build the International J/24 **as specified in Class Rule A.8.1.**

### **3. OFFICES**

- 3.1 The Principal Office of the IJCA shall be the address of its statutory agent for service of process.
- 3.2 The World Headquarters of the IJCA shall be located at the address determined from time to time by the Executive Committee.
- 3.3 Other office locations may also be established from time to time by the Executive Committee.

### **4 MEMBERSHIP**

- 4.1 The following types of membership shall be recognized:
- 4.1.1 Active NJCA members are NJCAs that have paid the prescribed annual subscription **to the IJCA.**
- 4.1.2 **a)** Full members are boat owners and/or sailors who have paid the prescribed annual subscription to their NJCA.

b) Full members who are titled owners of more than one J/24 can acquire additional transom stickers by paying the IJCA annual subscription per boat.

- 4.1.3 Associate Members are boat owners, sailors or fleets in countries without NJCAs who have paid the prescribed annual subscription to the IJCA. Associate Members shall be entitled to attend and speak at any open Meeting, but may not vote nor are they eligible to hold office in the IJCA.
- 4.1.4 Sponsoring members are those individuals, companies, and corporations who provide cash, products and/or services to the IJCA or its members. Sponsoring members may not vote nor are they eligible to hold office. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to grant this category of membership.

## 5. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES

- 5.1 The IJCA shall be financed by annual subscriptions from the NJCAs, paid according to their number of full members, by annual subscription from associate members, and by collecting other fees from sponsoring members and other sources. The subscription rate shall be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee. All Members must register annually. All subscriptions and fees shall be made payable to the IJCA.
- 5.2 Subscriptions and fees shall cover the calendar year commencing on January 1, and ending on December 31.

## 6. SUSPENSION, EXPULSION

- 6.1 The Executive Committee shall have the authority to suspend the membership of any NJCA, Full Member, Associate or Sponsoring Member as defined in Section 4 of the IJCA Constitution, and hereafter referred to as the "member", for one or more of the following reasons:
- non- payment of dues;
  - willful disregard, after due notice, of the rulings or directives of the IJCA;
  - intentional and/or gross violation of the IJCA Class Rules;
  - bringing the International J/24 Class Association or the sport of sailing into disrepute as currently defined by Rule 69 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.
- 6.2 The intention to suspend a member shall be approved by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee, and the intention to do so shall be advised in writing to the relevant member who will be then be allowed a period of fifteen days to provide a response. The date of the commencement of the intended suspension shall also be confirmed to the member at this time.
- 6.3 The initial period of suspension shall run from the date of commencement as determined by the Executive Committee until the date of the next scheduled meeting of the World Council.
- 6.4 The World Council shall have the authority, by a simple majority of the votes cast, to rescind a suspension or to extend the period of suspension for a specified period of time or until the date of the next Annual Meeting of the World Council.
- 6.5 During a period of suspension the suspended member shall not participate, either as driver or crew, in ay J/24 Class sanctioned event and shall not have ay access to office support, measurement, website, or any facility provided by the IJCA.

6.6 The Executive Committee shall have the authority to remove the suspension of a member at anytime, if wholly satisfied that the original reasons are no longer valid or that mitigating actions have been taken.

6.7 *deleted 20 October 2020*

6.8 The details of the response, if any, to this advice must be made known to the members of the World Council, and considered by them, before any vote is taken.

6.9 The expulsion of a member, having been approved by the World Council, is permanent.

## 7. MANAGEMENT OF THE IJCA

7.1 The day-to-day affairs of the IJCA shall be managed by the Executive Director of the IJCA whose duties are prescribed by the Executive Committee.

## 8. WORLD COUNCIL

8.1 The World Council shall consist of one (1) member appointed by each NJCA, **each member of the Executive Committee**, the Copyright Holder (or one (1) member appointed by the Copyright Holder) and the Councilors of Honor.

8.1.1 Councilors of Honor shall be appointed by the World Council in recognition of service to the International J/24 Class Association. Their role is advisory to the World Council and is non-voting.

8.2 The voting rights of each World Council Member are as prescribed in sections 8.2.2 and 8.2.3 and shall remain in effect only if that member and the NJCA they represent are current with the Annual Subscriptions and Fees identified in Section 5.

8.2.1 The Copyright Holder **or its appointee** shall have one vote

8.2.2 Each World Council Member appointed by an NJCA shall have one vote at the World Council Meeting provided the NJCA's Full Members as defined in 4.1.2 are registered in the IJCA class register.

8.2.3 Each World Council Member appointed by an NJCA shall have one additional vote at the World Council Meeting for every complete multiple of 250 Full Members as defined in 4.1.2 provided those members are registered with the IJCA Class Register.

8.3 No World Council Member, as set out in Section 8.1., shall cast more than one fifth of the total number of votes represented at the start of any meeting. For this purpose the number of votes cast by a World Council Member shall include all proxy votes carried in addition to the NJCA vote or votes **as defined in 8.2.3**.

8.4 The World Council shall have the **authority** to select any person or entity to assist it whether a member or not, but such **person or entity** shall have no vote on the Council.

8.5 At meetings of the World Council, five members, as described in paragraph **8.1**, shall form a quorum. For the purposes of forming a quorum proxies shall not count.

8.6 NJCAs may appoint any member of that NJCA to represent it at a World Council meeting.

8.7 If an appointed World Council member is unable to attend a World Council meeting, the NJCA may assign a proxy to any other NJCA, that is represented, so that it can vote on its behalf. This proxy must be in writing and received by mail, fax or electronic mail, by the **chosen proxy** representative and the Executive Director of the IJCA **at minimum** seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

## **8.8 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WORLD COUNCIL**

At its annual meeting, the World Council shall:

- 8.8.1 In even years, elect any Full Member, in good standing, of an Active NJCA to act as Chairman of the IJCA for a period of two years. The Chairman shall be the principal officer of the IJCA, shall serve as the Association's principal liaison to **WS** and shall preside at the annual World Council Meeting. **The Chairman shall serve for no more than two two-year terms.**
- 8.8.2 In even years, elect any Full Member, in good standing, of an Active NJCA to act as Vice-Chairman for a period of two years who shall perform the duties of the Chairman in his absence from a meeting of the **Executive** Committee or of the IJCA, and shall have such powers and responsibilities as the Chairman shall from time to time confer.
- 8.8.3 Appoint a Secretary who shall keep correct minutes of that World Council Meeting.
- 8.8.4 Annually, vote on the slate of members of the Technical Committee as submitted by the Chairman of the Technical Committee. The process of nominating new members shall be specified in the bylaws. Technical Committee members shall be approved individually.
  - 8.8.4.1 Annually, vote for approval of the Technical Committee Chairman **and the ITC members as nominated**. In the event that the World Council does not approve the selection, the **Executive** Committee shall nominate a new **individual as ITC Chair** until approval is obtained.
  - 8.8.4.2 The recommended slate of International Technical Committee members, including the chairman, shall be submitted to the Executive Director at least four (4) weeks before the meeting to allow for distribution to the World Council and the Executive Committee.
- 8.8.5 In odd years, elect any Full Member, in good standing, of an Active NJCA to act as Finance Chairman for a period of two years. The duties of the Finance Chair are described in the IJCA By-laws.
- 8.8.6 Appoint a qualified member or agent who shall review the accounting records and financial statements for accuracy and make recommendations to the Finance Chairman if further action if required.
- 8.8.7 **Receive Proposals to Host and** select the location and dates for future World Championships.
- 8.8.8 Select the region for the next Annual Meeting of the World Council. It will be held in a rotation similar to the rotation of the World Championship. Where possible the Annual Meeting will be held in the same continental area as the following year's World Championship.

## **8.9 VOTING, MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

- 8.9.1 Decisions of the World Council shall be taken by a simple majority of votes cast. In the event of a tie, the chair shall cast the deciding vote. A two-thirds majority is required to make changes to the IJCA Constitution.
- 8.9.2 Substantive motions that affect the IJCA Constitution (other than amendments thereto) to be voted upon at a Council Meeting must be received by the Executive Director to allow for distribution to the Executive Committee and the World Council at least four (4) weeks before the date of the meeting.

- 8.9.3 The Executive Committee may, from time to time, enact By-Laws governing the operation of the IJCA and the duties of any individual appointed to perform acts on behalf of the Executive Committee. Any change to the By-Laws will be in effect until the next World Council Meeting.
- 8.9.4 The Executive Committee may, from time to time, enact Regulations governing the conduct of IJCA sanctioned regattas. These Regulations are separate from and do not form part of the IJCA Constitution.
- 8.9.5 Any such By-Laws or Regulations must be submitted to the World Council for approval at the next Annual World Council meeting. Approval shall be by simple majority vote.

## **9. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- 9.1 The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Technical Committee, the Chairman of the Finance Committee, **immediate Past Chairman** and three **to five** other **full** members that shall be elected each year.
- 9.2 At meetings of the Executive Committee, three voting members shall form a quorum.
- 9.3 The Executive Committee, by a minimum vote of five (5) in support of, may replace an Active Committee Chair in the event that the elected Committee Chairman is unable to perform their duties. Any persons appointed shall hold office until the next annual meeting of the World Council.
- 9.4 The Executive Committee may appoint such agents and attorneys with such powers and to perform such acts and duties on behalf of the World Council as the Executive Committee may determine. Any appointment must be approved by the World Council at its next annual meeting.
- 9.5 The Executive Committee shall appoint an Executive Director and shall set terms of compensation and remuneration for the Executive Director. The Executive Director shall report to the IJCA Chairman and Executive Committee.
  - 9.5.1 The duties of the Executive Director are to maintain the files and correspondence of the IJCA, to edit and produce publications of the Class, to act as Treasurer of the Class, to maintain the IJCA Class Register as defined in paragraph 2.16, to be responsible for communicating the decisions of the World Council to all Members and other such duties as the Executive Committee may from time to time prescribe.
  - 9.5.2 The Executive Director shall not serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee of World Council.
  - 9.5.3 The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint other committees that shall have and may exercise such authority as granted by the Executive Committee. These appointments shall be ratified at the next meeting of the World Council.
- 9.6 *deleted 20 October 2020*

## **9.7 ACCOUNTS**

- 9.7.1 The Executive Director of the IJCA shall cause accounts to be kept providing full particulars of:
  - 9.7.1.1 All amounts of money, assets, liabilities of the IJCA;
  - 9.7.1.2 All amounts of money received and expended by the IJCA, and a detailed description of such receipts and expenditures.

- 9.7.2 Financial statements, including Balance Sheet and Statements of Operations shall be presented at each Annual Meeting of the World Council.
- 9.7.3 A budget for the coming year shall be presented to the World Council for approval at each annual meeting. The Finance Chairman may amend the budget to meet expenditures as required to run the day-to-day affairs of the IJCA, with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- 9.7.4 The fiscal year of the IJCA shall be October 1 through September 30th.

## **10. TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

- 10.1 The Technical Committee shall include the Designer or his appointee and a minimum of four members, with at least one member from Europe and one member from North America.
- 10.2 The Technical Committee members including the Chairman of the Technical Committee, shall be confirmed by the World Council each year at the annual meeting, as prescribed in 8.8.4.
- 10.3 The Technical Committee shall carry out all duties as set out in the IJCA By-Laws.
- 10.4 The Technical Committee shall ensure that there is understanding between the **WS** and the IJCA on technical matters and maintain an open dialog between the Chairman of the Technical Committee and the **WS**.

## **11. PROTECTION OF ONE-DESIGN**

- 11.1 Tight one-design control of the International J/24 Class shall be maintained throughout the world by the IJCA through:
  - 11.1.1 Selecting licensed builders in conjunction with the Copyright Holder, and National Authorities.
  - 11.1.2 Enlisting the aid of **WS** to arbitrate disputes between Copyright Holder and/ or Licensed Builder and/or IJCA Members involving Class Rules, Building Specifications or Measurements.
  - 11.1.3 Retaining the authority to make changes that might affect current or future yacht performance within the IJCA. Such changes are outlined in Section 14.2 as "Speed Producing Factors".
  - 11.1.4 Enacting changes to the Class Rules annually, except in cases of emergency.

## **12. MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATES**

- 12.1 No boat shall be entered in the IJCA Class Register as a J/24 unless the boat is produced by a licensed builder in accordance with Class Rules.
- 12.2 A Measurement Certificate may be obtained as described in **Class Rules A.12 and A.14**.
- 12.3 The IJCA shall keep a record of all measured J/24s worldwide and each NJCA shall maintain a record of measured J/24s in their country.
- 12.4 No J/24 shall race as a International J/24 without a Measurement Certificate as defined in Section 2.9 of the Constitution and **Class Rules A.11, C.10 and G**.
- 12.5 Measurement Certificates shall remain valid only as long as the boat continues to comply with the Class Rules.

- 12.6 A change in ownership shall invalidate a Measurement Certificate. It shall be the responsibility of the new owner(s) to obtain a new Measurement Certificate.
- 12.7 Acceptance of a Measurement Certificate by an owner(s) shall therefore render the owner or owners subject to the jurisdiction of the IJCA and/or the World Council in any matter pertaining to this Constitution.

### **13. CHANGES IN INTERNATIONAL J/24 CLASS RULES**

- 13.1 Changes to Class Rules may be proposed to the Technical Committee by: members as defined in paragraph 4.1.2 of the Constitution, a Licensed Builder, the Copyright Holder or by **WS**.
- 13.2 The proposed changes shall be reviewed by the Technical Committee, which will formulate recommendations to the World Council.
- 13.3 The Executive Committee may elect one of two methods of approval:
  - 13.3.1 A vote of the World Council Members attending the World Council **Annual** Meeting held prior to the submission and approval by **WS**.
  - 13.3.2 A vote of the World Council Members in writing, fax or electronic mail after receiving the proposal(s) by mail, fax or electronic mail, prior to the submission for approval by **WS**.
- 13.4 If approved by **WS**, notification of such changes shall be communicated to the Members by the Executive Director within 7 days.
- 13.5 Approved changes shall apply to all International events occurring on or after March 1 following approval by **WS**, or earlier if deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.

### **14. CHANGES IN BUILDING SPECIFICATIONS**

- 14.1 Changes in Building Specifications may be proposed to the Technical Committee by Members as defined in paragraph 4.1.1 or 4.1.2 of the Constitution. All proposed changes will be reviewed by the Technical Committee, which will formulate recommendations to the Copyright Holder. If such changes are deemed by the Technical Committee and/or the Copyright Holder to affect the speed of the boat, the approval process will be as in paragraph 13.3.1 or 13.3.2.
- 14.2 Changes influencing the speed of the boat are defined as "Speed Producing Factors" and are defined in paragraphs 14.2.1 and 14.2.2.
  - 14.2.1 The shape, dimensions, weight, distribution of weight, and rigidity (stiffness of bending moments) of the hull, keel, rudder, mast and boom.
  - 14.2.2 The weight of the deck and the distribution of weight of the deck.
- 14.3 Changes to Building Specifications may be made by Licensed Builders with the prior written approval of the Copyright Holder and **WS** approval, providing such changes relate to:
  - 14.3.1 Improving the quality of the finish or interior appointments.
  - 14.3.2 Substitution of construction materials or hardware of equal or better quality and operation.
  - 14.3.3 Relocation of fittings or hardware, not otherwise restricted by Class Rules, to improve or facilitate the livability, durability or safety of the boat.



14.3.4 Revision of the moulding techniques or methods of construction provided that no alteration is made in the Speed Producing Factors as defined in paragraph 14.2.1 or 14.2.2.