

**Minutes of the 2020 J/24 World Council Meeting
Open Virtual Session October 6, 2020**

- 1) **Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome:** Nancy Zangerle, IJCA Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. EDT and welcomed all to the meeting. We have a quorum. Attendees: Nancy Zangerle (Chair, USA), Will Welles (Vice Chair, USA), Nick Jako (Finance Chair, CAN), David Cooper (Executive Committee, GBR), Nicolas Cubria (Executive Committee, ARG), Jorge Castillo (Past Chair, MEX), Michael Peters (ITC), Lorna Graham (GBR), Maik Hass (GER), Aris Pallikaris (GRE), Leopoldo Farias (MEX), Monica Persson (SWE), Diego Guani (URU), Molly White (USA), Christopher Howell and Julie Howell (ODAM, USA).
- 2) **Appoint Secretary:** Nancy Zangerle appointed Julie Howell as the secretary.
- 3) **Approval of 2019 WCM Minutes:** *Molly White made a motion to approve the 2019 WCM minutes as posted at <http://www.j24class.org/organization/class-documents/wcm-minutes/>, seconded by Jorge Castillo. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.*
- 4) **Chair's Overview:** Nancy Zangerle prepared a picture presentation starting with the 2019 high note - the World Championship in Miami. In 2020, Australia and Argentina got some Championships in early, along with the US Midwinter Championship in Florida (won by Tony Parker). And then, the world shut down with COVID-19. We shifted to virtual meetings and virtual sailing. Sweden was the first country back out on the water, followed by some areas of the USA, Hungary, Korea, Germany, UK & Italy. Moving forward, we are all finding ways to sail during a pandemic. Over recent years, the Class has made progress with increasing participation among female and youth teams. The ITC has been updating the Class Rules. The Executive Committee added a Corinthian division option, which people have wanted for a while. Thank you to the Class Office for maintaining the office and the financial health of the Class. Our 2020 Major Championships were shifted to 2021: Europeans in Trieste Italy, North Americans in New York USA and Worlds in Poole UK. Future challenges for the Class are the concern is the availability of replacement parts, improving communication to sailors through new methods, and attracting “new” used boat owners who are taking refurbishing. Covid-19 created new opportunities with families sailing together, an increase in local sailing, less travel, more cruising, and more people buying project boats. Nancy thanked the World Council for their dedication and support of the J/24 Class.
- 5) **Review of Reports:**

Executive Director Report: See Attachment A. Christopher Howell highlighted that the pandemic has moved our meetings from phone conferences to Microsoft Teams online. The change will help save the Class the cost of phone calls. He thanked Nancy for her extensive work as Chair. On the financial end, the postponement of events saved on expenses. We ended the fiscal year in the black. Almost 50 hulls received measurement certificates this year. The Class Office was still able to publish three lengthy newsletters so far this year, with a year-end anticipated. All social media numbers continue to grow. If you or someone from your NJCA wants to be a social media Admin, let the Class Office know. As Admin, a NJCA can post directly to Facebook. We are always seeking more content.

Financial Report: As the fiscal year just ended, Nick Jako will present the year-end financial report and the budget at the October 20 meeting.

Technical Report: Tim Winger was unable to attend but sent this report: “Someone approached the ITC for a ruling on a new piece of technology that gives estimated time to the starting line. That prompted a review of Class Rule C.7.3(a)(4), that seemed a bit ambiguous on this subject. When presented and discussed in an EC meeting, the EC asked that two Rule revision options be offered to WC - one to revise the Rule to make time to the line clearly not allowed, and one to allow “Electronic devices for tactical and navigational functions, excluding wind instruments.” The choice is to react to new technologies as they become available or to generally embrace a wide range of technology for the Class.

The ITC is also working on a number of Rules changes to eliminate restrictions on purchase in running rigging and to eliminate some of the requirements on safety devices that do not affect performance, but are technicalities that could result in penalties. This is a work in process and will be presented after the Oct. 20 WC meeting to the WC for an email vote. Much of the work is coming from Curt Barnes in an effort to simplify the Rules. Nancy Zangerle and Chris Howell have been working on a Survey Monkey format for discussion and voting on these Rules within the ITC and the WC.

I will be retiring again and permanently from chairmanship of the ITC. I will be remaining on the ITC as a contributing member if approved by the WC. Michael Peters will be taking over as chair of the ITC, with WC approval. Michael is ready, and the ITC is ready for some new blood.” ITC nominations will be voted upon October 20.

Nancy offered an example on the upcoming Rules changes such as removing the mandatory requirement of bolt cutters. Michael added that we want to remove penalties for items that don't affect performance but there will not be any changes to weight.

Copyright Holder/Builders Report: The Copyright Holder did not submit a report. Chris Howell summarized that there is an effort in North America to have stocked masts and booms from New Zealand. This is a joint effort with the IJCA, J/22 Class and J/Boats. Any country could facilitate having replacement masts/booms in their areas. Let the Class Office know if you want to be involved.

6) **Championship Reports:**

2021 World Championship: September 24-October 2 at Parkstone Yacht Club, Poole UK. Lorna Graham said planning is well under control, and the Notice of Race is forthcoming. Nancy thanked the Organizing Authority who has been working on this event for five years now. It is a beautiful area; and there are offerings for family as well as sailors. Bring your family.

2022 World Championship: March 12-19 at Lake Potrerillos, Mendoza Argentina. Nicolas Cubria said Argentina is getting cheaper. No one is sailing now without Buenos Aires

government permission, but there is a project to put youth sailors on club-owned J/24s at 3 yacht clubs in Buenos Aires. Regarding Worlds charter boats, there are many in Argentina, plus Chile, and also J/Boats Argentina is building J/24s again.

2023 World Championship: July 16-23 at Corpus Christi Yacht Club, Texas USA. Molly White said that CCYC is hosting the 2021 J/22 Worlds which is their “warm-up” to the J/24 Worlds. Go to <https://ccyc.com/j22worlds2021/> to see details such as wind graphs, attractions, housing, etc. J/24 sailors are welcome to charter a J/22 next year. Expect warm but breezy conditions. While it is a walkable area, a car is recommended because of the heat. There will be J/24s available for charter in 2023.

2024 World Championship: Dates to be announced, Greece. Aris Pallikaris said that we will have more information by May to determine whether we go to Patras or Thessaloniki. They are happy to be racing in Greece again, even though it has been a slow re-start.

7) **New Business/Open Discussion on Future Strategy:**

- Will Welles said that focus on local/club sailing was a silver lining during COVID.
- Monica Persson shared that their best part of 2020 was getting approval by the Swedish Sailing Federation on the status of their National Championship. They are club racing on Thursdays.
- Nick Jako reported that Canada has been very quiet, and they are headed to another lockdown. There has been minimal racing and none with J/24s.
- David Cooper summarized that UK racing has gotten started in the last 4-5 weeks. Weather is playing a factor now being later in the season.
- Jorge Castillo stated Mexico has been slowly reactivated. There are new procedures such as limiting to four-person crews.
- Diego Guani told us that in Uruguay they have been sailing normally, and their National Championship is in November. There is another Championship scheduled in January with Argentina, so hopefully that will happen. They are excited for the Worlds in Argentina.
- Molly White recapped that the East Coast USA is racing more, minus on-shore social interactions. People seem very excited to just be racing. A primary concern is state-by-state travel restrictions. She commended the OA of the 2021 North Americans in New York for their flexibility. The Boat Grant is in its fourth year, and the current recipient will keep the boat through 2021. The USA has been focused on increasing its social media presence.
- Maike Hass explained that Kiel Week was great, but strange in that it was only Germans. Last week was the German Open, and everyone was very happy to sail. There is one more event scheduled in 2020.

Please e-mail director@j24class.org to confirm who from your NCA will attend the “Business” portion of the World Council Meeting on Tuesday, October 20 at the same time via Microsoft Teams.

8) **Closing Remarks:** Nancy Zangerle thanked everyone for joining. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am EDT.

ATTACHMENT A: Executive Director's Report, Christopher Howell

The following are brief descriptions of recent activities. If you have questions, we are always available to discuss.

Administration

One change induced by the COVID-19 pandemic is learning to communicate without in-person meetings. This reality has prompted us to delve into the virtual meeting world. We have chosen Teams from Microsoft to be our platform for administrative meetings with the Executive Committee and the World Council. Beside the cost advantage to the Class, this allows us to see some of our friends who we have missed with the cancellation of so many major events.

We would like to thank Nancy Zangerle for her service as Chair of the Class since 2016. At this year's WC meeting, she will pass the Chairmanship to Will Welles. Nancy has gone beyond the call of duty with her willingness to dive into a ton of projects that have benefited the Class. Thankfully she will still serve on the Executive Committee as Past Chair. Nancy would be the perfect person to serve someday as the Class Historian. Maybe that will be on the agenda in the future.

Financial

The COVID-19 pandemic had a significant effect on the finances in 2020. Fortunately, we were able to anticipate the fall-off, and we ended the year in the black with a significant airline credit that will help in 2021. The Class has a strong financial reserve, which sits at nearly \$74,000—more than 1.5 times the average yearly expenses.

Measurement Form Administration

In the most recent FY, the Class Office has processed new measurement certificates or changes of ownership for nearly 50 hulls. This procedure starts with working with Measurers around the world to obtain accurate and completed Measurement Input Sheets. The data is then inputted at the Class Office into the master measurement file and merged into a Word document for conversion to PDF when distributed to the owner. This merge process is also utilized when revising certificates following a change of ownership.

Newsletter

Since 2013, we have distributed 27 editions of the newsletter with four per year since 2016. The archive of all editions is at <http://www.j24class.org/newsletter/>. Thank you to all the NJCAs for their 2020 contributions...we had lengthy editions even during a pandemic!

The Class Office distributes the newsletters via e-mail in a PDF format to supplement the distribution of Class information amongst all NJCAs. The next issue will be sent in December. We appreciate the continued photographs and content from NJCAs, and North Sails and Quantum Sails as advertising supporters.

Public Relations Efforts

The use of social media continues to give the Class exposure worldwide. This has become the first means of distribution of news and future events. In 2021, we intend to attend the World, North American and European Championships to continue live updates and post photos of each day's activities, in addition to daily press releases to the sailing media.

The International J/24 Class Facebook page has nearly 5,467 fans. The J/24 Class Facebook page has more fans than many comparable Classes such as the Etchells, Melges 24, J/22, International Lightning and Star Class, and is closing in on the numbers for modern boats like the Melges 20 and J/70. The Class Instagram account has more than 1,282 followers, and Twitter has nearly 700.