

**J<sup>®</sup>**  
**24**

**INTERNATIONAL PULSE**

# IAN SOUTHWORTH IS THE NEW J/24 WORLD CHAMPION



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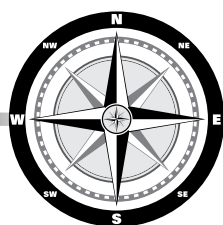
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# J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN BOLTENHAGEN: A WORTHY WINNER AND A GREAT TEAM EFFORT



First place: Ian Southworth and  
the *Il Riccio* team.

**Ian Southworth is the new J/24 World Champion! The Brit and his crew kept their cool and sailed an amazing series, despite having strong competition like Mike Ingham and Travis Odenbach (both USA). 56 crews from 14 nations were competing for the prestigious J/24 World Championship at Boltenhagen on Germany's Baltic Coast.**

Congratulations to Ian Southworth, Julia Scott, Andrew McLelland, Chris McLaughlin and David Howlett! The crew of *Il Riccio* (GBR 5219) was sailing in a class of its own at the J/24 World Championship. Winning the prestigious trophy meant a well-deserved reward for years of work on speed, performance and boat setup.



## J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN BOLTENHAGEN: A WORTHY WINNER AND A GREAT TEAM EFFORT



Second place: Mike Ingham's USA team.



After Southworth and his crew had constantly extended their lead during the week, a Black Flag disqualification on the penultimate day of the Worlds made things more exciting. In the final race, Southworth opted for a conservative start, as he couldn't afford to let opponent Mike Ingham get away or—even worse—let himself get pushed over the line. McLaughlin said, "Our worst fear was to have a Black Flag start again, but we were relieved to get a good start and to find ourselves first at the windward mark through some very difficult shifts arriving."

Boltenhagen on the Baltic Coast proved to be a very tricky sailing area. The fleet was racing in a closed bay, with tree lines making challenging 20-30 degrees shifts. The skill was to judge exactly when to tack.

stayed shifty. Southworth and his crew sailed a very constant series and finally had a difference of 26 points on second-placed Mike Ingham. Travis Odenbach finished third.

Competition was tight for the title of the best female crew. In the end, Stefanie Kopcke and her team *Vega Ragazza* won, closely followed by Ragana Thonnessen and team

The Worlds started on Monday 31 August with very light wind conditions which favoured light crews like *Lull & Hachi* with helmsman Fumiya Kato (JPN 4886). On Tuesday and Wednesday, the wind picked up, but conditions







## J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN BOLTENHAGEN: A WORTHY WINNER AND A GREAT TEAM EFFORT

Third place: Travis Odenbach's USA team.



*Juelssand*, with just one point separating the teams. *Vega Ragazza* sailed a very good series this year, crowned with the title of the German Champion 2015.

Javier Arribas Harten from Peru won the trophy for the best crew under 25 years old. Arribas Harten, by the way, is a former Bronze Medallist in the Optimist Class.

The best German boat was team *Tinto* from Hamburg, helmed by Till Pomarius. *Tinto*, a mixed crew with an average age of less than 25, took the honours from older and more experienced crews such as team *Rotoman* or *Sullberg*.

**Great volunteer support:** The Worlds ended with a closing ceremony in the Marina of Boltenhagen. Jan-Marc Ulrich, head of the German J/24 Class Association, said a special thanks to the countless volunteers who worked for months to make this event unforgettable for all competitors, their friends and families. Just to name some of them:



- Stefan Karsunke has been organizing the measurement for months to have the procedure as smooth and efficient as possible. All German crews assisted with boat and sail measurement.



## J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN BOLTENHAGEN: A WORTHY WINNER AND A GREAT TEAM EFFORT



Best Female Crew: Stefanie Köpcke  
and her team *Vega Ragazza*.



Best Crew Under 25: Javier Arribas Harten  
and team from Perú.

- Deike Flemming assisted the chief measurers.
- Peter Langhans, who was at the venue days ahead to welcome the foreign crews, also did the food and beverage support during the measurement and made sure there were always sausages and beer for the competitors.
- Eike Junge distributed the trackers to the competitors and made sure they were handed back safely in the evening.
- Simon Voss organized the tables for the sail measurement and the muesli bars for all competitors.
- Rosemarie Eckhoff gave her yacht *Philomena* as a starting vessel.
- Stine Paeper designed the prizes.
- Karolin Winkler designed and made the daily prizes (a silver necklace for the girls and cuff links for the boys), each engraved with the J/24 logo.



## J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN BOLTENHAGEN: A WORTHY WINNER AND A GREAT TEAM EFFORT



Best German boat: Team *Tinto* from Hamburg, helmed by Till Pomarius.

The German J/24 Class says thank you to all competitors for tight and fair racing and good fun! Hope to see you all soon!





# A DECADE IN THE MAKING: // RICCIO'S PATH TO WINNING THE J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2015

BY CHRIS MCLAUGHLIN, GBR5219



Five boats, ten years, three core crew, five European titles, and this was our eighth World Championship.

No one can say our win was an overnight sensation. This was a three-phased effort over a decade with changes of pace as we learned how to sail a J/24 at the highest levels.

## Phase One: Delusion

"That looks like a J/24" – a comment that started a succession of highs, lows and lengthy re-builds. In a yard in Hamble, England, we found a rotting hull on a broken trailer. Checks revealed it to be the legendary *Hedgehog* a former North works boat, built by Rogers in 1986. With Stuart Jardine's assistance, we rescued her from the death zone, undertaking a three-month rebuild including rot, rig and fairing. It would have been cheaper to buy a new boat but...



We qualified for the 2005 Worlds and won the 2005 Europeans in Crouesty, France, lacking downwind speed.

Collecting a brand-new JBI boat from Italy, *Echidna*, we rushed to rig her in time for the Weymouth Worlds. Crew changed three times over that period, and one of our crew decided not to turn up for the pre-Worlds and only grudgingly for the Worlds. This was not a settled campaign, and we were lucky to finish top British boat in eighth place.

But it did trigger a friendship with the USA's Max Skelley, desperately unlucky to have his charter boat rudder snap when he was leading the series.

A plan was hatched for a joint effort in Melbourne Australia in 2006.



## A DECADE IN THE MAKING: II RICCIO'S PATH TO WINNING THE J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2015



Our core crew of Ian Southworth, Andy McLelland and me would be joined by Max Skelley and the owner of his charter boat, Mickey McCaldin from Northern Ireland. We sourced an unmeasured JBI hull, chartered it and hired someone to weigh and then fair the boat to Compukeel templates. When we arrived the boat was unweighed and the templates had been used to fair another competitor's boat...

To add to the joy, our charter, once measured, was over 100 kilos heavy on bare hull weight.

Three glorious weeks sailing, a protest loss costing the series lead and the last two races abandoned due to high winds, we went home with a third place.

### Phase 2: Illusion

"Let's go to Mexico with Max's boat." It was only a 5,502 mile round trip from its US homeport and needed to join a protected convey, at additional cost, once over the border. It would have been cheaper to buy a boat and leave it there. Another crew change with American Chris Crockett on the bow. The result was second into the last day with all to play for, then two sub-five knot races and abysmal performances dropping us to sixth overall. It's a long way home by road and air from that kind of defeat.

The illusory phase of campaigning lasts around three seasons. It seems that just a few tweaks and adjustments are necessary to achieve an ultimate goal. In practice, they may be enough for regional success—we won National and European titles again and again over the period. But they don't deliver the break through.

But it set the focus for the Worlds in Cannigione Italy.

A simple programme.



## A DECADE IN THE MAKING: II RICCIO'S PATH TO WINNING THE J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2015



Sail all year in Italy, starting with the Easter Regatta at Port Santo Stefano (blown off with torrential rain and then snow). Then the Trofeo Navale in Livorno, placing third and take the ferry to Sardinia.

More crew changes because of availability.

Sail the Italian Nationals in Cannigione, made tough with two crew down mid-week with seafood poisoning and a trip to hospital for me with a severe chest infection. Followed by a strong performance at the Worlds. Placed third on the last day with two races to go, racing abandoned due to strong winds.

Sold *Hedgehog* and seriously considered dropping out of the challenge to ever win a Worlds.

But we couldn't quite give up.

In 2009, we borrowed and rebuilt a charter boat, *Writing Instruments*, built for Chris Larsen to win the 1996 Worlds. Massive amount of fairing. Entire new rig from Sparloft



New Zealand and complete deck gear refit. Qualified for the Worlds.

A truly awful Worlds in Annapolis. Our Mexico Worlds boat with Skelley and Crockett sailing on his local waters. What could go wrong?

Everything of course. We won the two opening races in around 10 knots with a new Kevlar genoa, reflecting a Class Rule change. Then it rained for days with no wind. Sluice gates opened and three or four sub-five knot races on the last day dumped us to a worst ever 18th place. The design didn't work below ten, and we had not tested it. Stupid is as stupid does...



## A DECADE IN THE MAKING: II RICCIO'S PATH TO WINNING THE J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2015



Two more crew try-outs and third place at the Europeans in Crete, when racing was abandoned on the last day due to lack of wind.

But legendary Olympic sailor and coach David Howlett was sailing on another J/24 so we went into overdrive to ask for his help and to join us on the crew. And 470 sailor Julia Scott could now join our line-up with the change in crew weight needed. Well worth the 4,606 mile roundtrip to get there and back.

### Phase 3: Fusion

"I've found the boat, built in 1997 for Larsen to defend his 1996 Worlds title, it's in Belfast."

Fusion is the process, or result, of joining two or more things together to form a single entity. To win a World Championship requires the bringing together of numerous elements into a single, powerful whole. And what a change. We put the entire content of the newly-purchased boat in a rubbish skip and started again. We transferred our Sparloft rig and bought new deck gear. Extreme attention to detail from Howlett and McLelland went into the process. Boat preparation is all.



Everything weighed, tested and ready to go.

Off to Kiel, using old sails in light winds, winning Kiel Week. Then onto Malmo for the Swedish Nationals. New sails but unable to get off the line with a new genoa design. Time for radical thinking. A call was made to North sailmakers Vince Brun and Chris Snow. They sent a new main and genoa in time for the Worlds and our transformation was nearly complete.

Battling into the last race, Tim Healy did enough to secure a well-deserved win. Our second place gave a taste of what might yet be. Howlett supplied extensive notes and a programme of further improvement and further sail acquisition.





## A DECADE IN THE MAKING: *II* RICCIO'S PATH TO WINNING THE J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2015

In 2011, we won the Europeans again for the fourth time in five attempts since 2005, using a standard North Newport set-up. But the Argentinian Worlds was unaffordable and not everyone had time.

We made a decision only to sail together, only in our boat and as a team. We decided to focus on Howth. We won the Irish Nationals there in 2012, but the Olympics meant Howlett wasn't available for the Worlds in Rochester as he coached Ben Ainslie and Ian Percy to medals. So no entry for that one either.

Back to work in 2013 with wins at the Irish Nationals and the Europeans in Howth—only for a black-flag disaster and a fourth place at the Worlds. As the Irish say, "It's enough to drive you to drink"... And our thanks to Race Officer David Lovegrove who handed us a very special bottle of Irish whiskey to numb the pain.

Between 2010 and 2014, four of us accumulated six children and Howlett an MBE for services to Olympic yachting.

We decided on one more push, beginning with a look at Boltenhagen by sailing the German Nationals in 2014. This gave the ability to test the waters, weather and the accommodation. We finished second, with an incomplete team, losing the event on the last beat of the last race, after the crew closed the bar the night before! A great start.

The boat wintered at the famous Peticrow boatbuilders and had further fairing and maintenance done, although most money went on a complete trailer refurbishment. We had a clear strategy and a clear plan for execution. Sail only in *Riccio*, only as a team, only in places with conditions expected. That meant Kiel Week, Travemunde Week and then the Worlds.

Our pre-ordered season sails were loaded, along with spares and the boat went to Kiel.

A win at Kiel was followed by Travemunde Week. We led at the end of the first day (8,1,1), then missed a change to sailing instructions and were disqualified (1, DSQ) from the two races on day two. Day three was blown off so we drove the boat to Boltenhagen and caught the plane home.

### **Worlds fusion**

First decisions were made in January. Separate hotel rooms and eat at the hotel, make use of the spa. Make life relaxed, comfortable and easy.

Boat complete and fully measured. Italian rudder changed in favour of a Watercraft spare.

Standard North Newport white sails: FR3 spinnakers tested at the first two regattas and then replaced with the standard FR2 with four years trimming experience—avoid changes late in the cycle.



## A DECADE IN THE MAKING: II RICCIO'S PATH TO WINNING THE J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2015



We got over the fact that our average age was 51.3 years... and that was because Julia brought us down. Conditions varied from three inside keel sitting, to 20 knots plus across ten races. Consistency paid as did speed and height in all conditions—a key goal in our development programme.

Our key moment was pulling back from 39<sup>th</sup> at the windward mark in sub-5 knots to finish 10<sup>th</sup> and this being our lowest score, enabling a black flag DSQ to be discarded. Four firsts, three seconds and a clutch of top fours completed the exercise. A tribute to the team's humor and calm under real pressure, day after day. My thanks to Ian Southworth, Andy McLelland, David Howlett and Julia Scott.

It has been a privilege to sail against the world's best in the most welcoming sports boat fleet. We thank everyone for coming together to make this such a special event and look forward to seeing everyone in 2016.





# North Sails has powered the winners of all major J/24 events in 2015, 2014, 2013...



Ian Southworth, 2015 World Champion  
Photo Chris Howell

## Which sails are you flying in 2016?

*North Sails continues its domination in the J/24 class powering the 2015 World champions, all 3 PanAm Games medallists, European and North American champions as well as many National titles around the globe. Call your local North Sails representative to discover how North can help you go beyond your own expectations in 2016.*

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# WILL WELLES' COUGAR CROWNED J/24 PAPE CHEVROLET NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION



Will Welles' *Cougar* survived a black flag penalty in the penultimate race to become the 2015 J/24 Pape Chevrolet North American Champion. Heading into the final day of competition on September 13 at Portland Yacht Club in Maine, Welles held an 11-point advantage, but a BFD in race 8 made for an exciting end to the nine-race series. *Cougar* nabbed a fourth in the final contest to end with 33 points, five ahead of Travis Odenbach's *Honey Badger*. Odenbach kept moving up throughout the four-day event, but settled for second place with 38 points. John Mollicone's *Helly Hansen* took the bronze position with 47 points.

Based out of Newport, Rhode Island, 2014 J/24 World Champion Welles has spent some time sailing in and around Maine, but noted that the NAC conditions were not typical. "It was pretty tricky, but having a solid team is the key," said Welles, whose crew was Chris Morgan, Jeff Linton, Erik Rexford and Monica Morgan. He thanked the local J/24 Fleet 43 and their volunteer base for taking good care of the competitors. Both Welles and Odenbach had just returned to the USA from the J/24 World Championship in Germany the weekend prior to this event, where Welles crewed on the second-place team, and Odenbach helmed his crew to third.

Christopher Stone's *Velocidad* grabbed the lead on day one by winning the day's only race. Entrants wrapped up the measurement and registration process during the morning before heading out in very light and shifty conditions for the lone contest.

Four more races went in the books on the second day, and a new leader emerged: Tony Parker's *Bangor Packet*. Tallying consistent scores of 5,2,7,7,2, the Maryland-based helmsman held a two-point lead over Welles. Cloudy conditions and winds at 13-15 knots greeted competitors in the opening contest as Welles took line honors.



## WILL WELLES' COUGAR CROWNED J/24 PAPE CHEVROLET NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPION



Mollicone won the next race. As the sun began to poke through, the breeze built to 15-20 knots at times with temperatures around 70 degrees. Welles and Mollicone again snagged the bullets in the next two contests.

Day three brought another leader to the top of the board, as Welles secured a 3,1 to move into first place. The fleet ventured to the outside course on Casco Bay in breeze between 6-10 knots. Odenbach and Welles were the day's race winners. Ed Rowe's *Flying Chicken* and Evan Petley-Jones' *Lifted* added first-place scores to their tallies on the final day of competition in winds of 8-10 knots.





**WILL WELLES' COUGAR CROWNED  
J/24 PAPE CHEVROLET NORTH  
AMERICAN CHAMPION**



**The top five:**

- 1) Will Welles, *Cougar*, 10, 1, 9, 1, 4, 3, 1, (50.0 BFD), 4 (33 points)
- 2) Travis Odenbach, *Honey Badger*, (28), 6, 3, 6, 3, 1, 12, 2, 5 (38 points)
- 3) John Mollicone, *Helly Hansen*, (18), 12, 1, 5, 1, 16, 2, 4, 6 (47 points)
- 4) Tony Parker, *Bangor Packet*, 5, 2, 7, 7, 2, 12, (14), 5, 11 (51 points)
- 5) Christopher Stone, *Velocidad*, 1, 11, 11, 2, 10, 5, 4, 8, (14) (52 points)

Competitors from Argentina, Canada, Mexico and the USA competed in the 49-boat fleet. Complete results may be found at <http://www.2015j24nas.org/>, and photos are available on the J/24 Class Facebook page.



# 2015 IJCA World Council Meeting Saturday, October 24

Courtyard by Marriott Miami Coconut Grove, Florida, USA

The room rate per night is \$169.00 (US).

Reservations must be received on or before Wednesday, September 23.

[www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)



# Mexico Report

By Leopoldo Farias



Summer is traditionally our low season, as the rainy season starts around mid-May and lasts until mid-October. Many of our sailors choose to travel elsewhere with their children being on vacation. Nevertheless, we hold our regattas every month according to the schedule endorsed by the Mexican Sailing Federation. Conditions are quite variable, ranging from beautiful sunny days with great wind to days with cold and rain (by our standards anyway).

As I had mentioned in my last report, we have very active and enthusiastic fleets springing up in different parts of Mexico, such as the fleet in Progreso, Yucatan which already has a nine-boat fleet and is growing rapidly. A team from Valle de Bravo went down there in June to sail the Alfredo Dutton Cup, the most important event held in the Yucatan. It was amazing sailing with a constant 25 knots of wind and gusts of up to 32 knots, with totally flat waters! Boats were literally flying down the course, humming from the planing. Awesome sailing to say the least, and proof that our much loved boat is a well built and sturdy vessel. Our hosts from Yucatan are very gracious hosts and treated us so well that there is talk of organizing come-and-go regattas. This will be possible



very, very soon as our high seasons are spring and fall and theirs is primarily the summer. We have already begun this at a small scale with very good success.

We are planning to have some of the more experienced sailors from Valle de Bravo Lake go to Progreso and sail on different boats with them to help them hone their skills, as the J/24 is a new boat for them. Everyone is very excited about this new possibility to sail in strong winds, which will ultimately be to everyone's benefit (due to the fact that Valle does not have these conditions, to say the least).

This summer, one of our more experienced teams competed at the Pan-American Games in Toronto, Canada. Unfortunately, the results were below our expectations. But with new teams enthusiastically joining our Class, we expect to improve in that respect.

The Mexican Navy sent a team to represent our country at the North American Championship in Portland,



# Mexico Report



CAMPEONATO NACIONAL DE CLASE J-24  
1, 2 Y 3 DE MAYO DE 2015  
CLUB NAUTICO VALLE DE BRAVO  
RESULTADOS PRELIMINARES

| CAPITAN               | TRIPULANTES                 | No. VELA  | BARCO           | PRUEBA |    |    |    |        |        |        | PUNTOS | DESCARTE | TOTAL DE PUNTOS | LUGAR |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------|----|----|----|--------|--------|--------|--------|----------|-----------------|-------|
|                       |                             |           |                 | 1      | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5      | 6      | 7      |        |          |                 |       |
| KENNETH PORTER        | GERRIT GENTRY, GERRIT       | 1585      | S               | 8      | 1  | 2  | 5  | 8      | 1      | 2      | 27     | 8        | 19              | 1     |
| LUIS ALVAREZ FIGUEROA | SHARON, LUIS, PATRICIA      | 4905      | TA'LENTO        | 3      | 2  | 6  | 4  | 3      | 2      | 7      | 27     | 7        | 20              | 2     |
| PETER COLLIARD        | ELBA COLLIARD, MARIA        | 5327      | KAWABUNGA       | 7      | 4  | 7  | 1  | 4      | 8      | 5      | 36     | 8        | 28              | 3     |
| LEOPOLDO FARIAS       | MIGUEL BARGALLÓ, HENRI      | 5265      | CASPIAN         | 9      | 8  | 1  | 2  | 5      | 12     | 4      | 41     | 12       | 29              | 4     |
| TITO BENITEZ          | JAVIER VELASQUEZ, JAVIER    | 59/222    | PÍCARO          | 13     | 5  | 5  | 9  | 1      | 19/DSQ | 1      | 53     | 19       | 34              | 5     |
| LUIS MORALES          | JAVIER PRIETO, JAVIER       | 2970      | ORION           | 5      | 6  | 8  | 7  | 9      | 3      | 12     | 50     | 12       | 38              | 6     |
| VALERIO PARBONI       | DANIEL CORANGES, FERNAN     | 241       | EL BOTAYON      | 2      | 7  | 12 | 3  | 12     | 5      | 10     | 51     | 12       | 39              | 7     |
| ENRIQUE PÉREZ-CIRERA  | TONI ZIMMERMAN, PABLO       | 2988/5407 | DIGGER          | 12     | 9  | 3  | 8  | 11     | 4      | 8      | 55     | 12       | 43              | 8     |
| MIGUEL ARROYO         | MANUEL, GERARDO, G          | 5302      | MAR II          | 11     | 3  | 15 | 6  | 19/DNF | 7      | 3      | 64     | 19       | 45              | 9     |
| JORGE MURRIETA        | JUAN CARLOS PONCE, JUAN     | 2170      | TRES DOLORES    | 1      | 10 | 9  | 14 | 7      | 6      | 15     | 62     | 15       | 47              | 10    |
| RALPH NELLES          | RAÚL CONTRERAS, ROBERTO     | 4688      | SUPERMACHOS     | 4      | 13 | 14 | 11 | 2      | 11     | 11     | 66     | 14       | 52              | 11    |
| FELIPE GERARD         | PABLO GUZMAN, MARCELO       | 1584/4439 | CHICHARRA       | 19/OCS | 14 | 4  | 10 | 6      | 9      | 13     | 75     | 19       | 56              | 12    |
| ROBERTO HIMMELBAUER   | JOSE LUIS URIGAS, ALEJANDRO | 4163      | PRIMERO         | 10     | 12 | 11 | 13 | 14     | 19/DSQ | 6      | 85     | 19       | 66              | 13    |
| PABLO CARVAJAL        | TERE BRETÓN, GERARDO        | 5140      | MATADOR         | 14     | 11 | 10 | 15 | 13     | 10     | 9      | 82     | 15       | 67              | 14    |
| MIRSHA A. HERRERA     | HELMER GALLEGOS, EUGENIO    | 1922      | CAPITÁN ALATRIS | 6      | 18 | 13 | 18 | 10     | 15     | 16     | 96     | 18       | 78              | 15    |
| ANTONIO JACQUES       | MIGUEL VALENZUELA, MIGUEL   | 905       | ASTERIX         | 17     | 15 | 16 | 12 | 16     | 14     | 19/DNS | 109    | 19       | 90              | 16    |
| RAÚL VALDESPINO       | TERE SHWEDER, FERNAN        | 3485      | BUDDY           | 16     | 16 | 17 | 17 | 15     | 13     | 14     | 108    | 17       | 91              | 17    |
| JUAN ANTONIO UROZ     | JOSÉ IGNACIO UROZ, JUAN     | 5139      | CHANEQUE        | 15     | 17 | 18 | 16 | 19/DNF | 19/DNC | 19/DNC | 123    | 19       | 104             | 18    |

Maine. They were coached by long-time J/24 sailor Yon Belaustegigoitia (the famous B-17). They ended up with a very respectable 15th place overall, and even came in second on the last race! The Mexican Navy has embraced their sailing program wholeheartedly and are improving every day. We are very happy to see this, as they have a growing fleet at all of the major Navy bases and are very serious about becoming more and more competitive every day.

With our Independence Day regatta September 11-12 this year, the Class begins to take on new impetus. We held this series at the Club Nautico Valle de Bravo (better known as "Coporito") with 15 boats participating. We had one boat from the Yucatan and two from the Naval Academy in Veracruz, confirming that the J/24 Class in Mexico has a bright, albeit complicated future due to the many desertions we have suffered to the J/70 Class.

Our next major regatta will be Oktoberfest at Club Nautico Avandaro with the great sausages prepared by the ladies at the club, and of course plenty of beer raffles and dancing....the norm in Mexico! We party as hard as we sail. Anyone who has sailed here can attest to that. Following Oktoberfest, we will have our Day of the Dead Regatta (Halloween, to people up north), and in mid-November the Revolution Day Regatta will take place, marking our busy fall calendar.

We have made an invitation to our friends from Texas to come down here and sail, which we would like to extend to anyone who might be interested in sailing in our little piece of paradise! We have plenty of great boats, all with faired keels and mirror-like bottoms for anyone who is interested.

Fair Sailing!



# Japan Report

By Ryo Uematsu



Following the successful organization of the 2015 Worlds by the German JCA, the Japan JCA is setting its mind towards the 2016 World Championship. 2016 Worlds will be held at Wakayama, which is close to Osaka or Kyoto, and the races will be from 19-23 September. Wakayama Sailing Center (the hosting harbor) has currently prepared eight charter boats, which are all competitive and well maintained. We can give advice for those who want to bring their own boat. Moreover, we are planning to provide a partial financial support for transportation of those boats.

This year's Japan Nationals will be held at the same venue as the Worlds from 21-23 November. The same charter boats as the Worlds are available for this event.

Further information on the Worlds and the Nationals can be found on the following website at [http://www.j24.gr.jp/2016\\_worlds/index.html](http://www.j24.gr.jp/2016_worlds/index.html).





# Sweden Report

Monica Persson



USA5443 Mike Ingham with Marianne Schoke and Max Hölzer



J/24 Sweden at the J/24 Worlds 2015



Our mascot "the Moose" (typical Swedish animal)

The J/24 world is the best friends and family one can have! Yes, we are proud of our Swedish J/24 sailors. Our warmest congratulations to Marianne Schoke and Max Hölzer for their second place in the J/24 World Championship 2015 in Boltenhagen, Germany with Mike Ingham on USA5443! It was thrilling competition all week through, and fun meeting all J/24 friends again and making even more. The biggest thank you to our German J/24 friends for making such a nice J/24 Worlds event for us all. J/24 Sweden was represented by three teams at the Worlds—very well sailed everyone. It was very shifting and exciting.

-17th place for SWE 4896 *Team Front Runner* with Per-Håkan Persson, Hans Thulin, Baltzar Weinlagen, Monica Persson and Per Andersson

-48th place for SWE 5437 *ForFun Pink* with Andreas Olovsson, Martin Petersson, Magnus Jönsson and Anders Salenbo

-50th place for SWE 995 *ForFun Blue* with Liselotte Sjöberg, Oliver Spenner, Joanna Wännman, Anna-Karin Bergman and Evelyn Brattström

These three Swedish J/24 teams also sailed Kiel Week in Germany at the end of June and the J/24 German Open in Travemünde in mid-July. For me, it was a trip down memory lane, going back to the very same place where I started my J/24 sailing abroad together with my big brother Per-Håkan Persson 16 years ago. Thanks from my heart for all these years sailing J/24s together.



# Sweden Report



Selfie with me and my team *Front Runner* going to the J/24 Worlds 2015

## Welcome! Willkommen! Welkom! Välkomna!

The J/24 Swedish Open 2015 will be sailed in a couple of weeks in Limhamn, Malmö on the 23-25 of October at the same time as the Halloween Race. You are welcome to join the fun. Malmö Segelsällskap (MSS) and we at the Swedish J/24 Class Association are delighted to welcome you all to Sweden...bring your worst costumes.

**Where:** This year, we will meet in Limhamn, Malmö, which is located just north of the well-recognized Öresund bridge. The area outside Limhamn is regarded as very challenging concerning wind, waves and of course the current. The harbor area offers everything a sailor needs with MSS Club house, restaurant, changing rooms, sauna, etc. and, of course, a beautiful sundown (and sunset).

**Racing:** Saturday and Sunday, 24-25 of October  
Social events for the J/24 sailors organized by Swedish J/24

## Class Association:

Friday evening 23 of October: get together and welcome BBQ with food and beer

Saturday evening 24 of October: dinner at downtown Malmö

**Notice of Race:** you find the NOR and are welcome to enter online by clicking on "Anmälan," follow the link: <http://old.svensksegling.se/Klassforbundssidor1/J24-one-design/NEWS/J24SwedishOpen2015/>

Follow us on our Facebook group:  
Sweden J/24 Class Association



Travemünde 1999, my first J/24 event abroad



Monica Persson



# UK Report

By Nina Squire



J/24 Nationals RWYC 2015 Photo © Robin Price



J/24 Nationals RWYC 2015 Photo © Robin Price



J/24 Nationals RWYC 2015 Photo © Robin Price

The 2015 season has been fantastic. Our congratulations must first go to our GBR teams of *Madeliene* and *Il Riccio*. The UKJCA is celebrating European and World Champions! Our first regatta of the season was the J/24 Spring Cup, 16-17 May, hosted by Parkstone Yacht Club. It was a great opportunity to catch up with the national J/24 fleet, both on and off the water, since the last regatta in October which saw *Jolly Roger* take a well-deserved first in the Autumn Cup. With two major European regattas over the coming year, the scene was set for two days of competitive sailing as we reacquainted ourselves with windward-leeward courses. Poole gave us near perfect conditions, with a fair breeze and sunshine for our first day, though day two was more of a challenge. The leader board showed that our top crews consistently made the right calls over the six races. Congratulations to *Madeleine* in first, *Chaotic* in second and *Jolly Roger* in third.

Mike Ingham and his team are always a popular appearance at our European events, and so it was great to see them retain their title of Open European Champions. Duncan McCarthy and team, after a close series of races, took the title of J/24 European Champions. The competition was fierce between him and Ingham. It was a fantastic week of racing, and we all celebrated both of their J/24 European victories. The event was hosted by the brilliant team at Port du Crouesty. McCarthy said, "A great week of windy and well organized racing kept the fleet on their toes. Wind predominately off the land created challenging shifty conditions at the top of the course. The top of the fleet were all making small adjustments each day to find the extra edge in boat speed, much needed in this quality fleet."



# UK Report



J/24 Nationals RWYC 2015 Photo © Robin Price

July saw Plymouth host J/24 Nationals in fantastic weather. It was a great few days of competitive racing and a taste of what to expect at Europeans in August 2016. Sophie Pearson, the UK J/24 girls team helm, impressed the local Westerly fleet by leading the Westerlys by the end of day two. The girls' team certainly worked hard to source the boat and crew but wanted the J/24 Class to know how much they've appreciated the warm welcome and support they have received from members. The girls on *Red Alert* went into day three with the Westerly trophy in sight, but they came in second to a well-deserved win from consistent performer Dave Moore (*Jiffi*, a popular local boat). Congratulations go to Duncan McCarthy, National Champion and European Champion—what a year it's been! They'll need a larger mantelpiece for the collection of trophies! Duncan commented on the competitive racing within the fleet and fantastic work of the race committee. *Madaleine's* regatta win was closely fought out. There was an impressive second place by local team *Jawbreaker* with two firsts on the first day, as well as a great result for *Jolly Roger* showing knowledge of the local waters.

In September, after a campaign spanning more than a decade, Ian Southworth and GBR *Il Riccio* won the J/24 Worlds in Boltenhagen. Southworth commented, "The real secret ingredient of our campaign is the people" (both the boat crew and a list of support crew). Andy Taylor of GBR *Hitchiker* who finished 24th and third GBR boat, commented, "Having been close to *Il Riccio* for a few brief moments over the week, we were in awe of their straight line speed and situational awareness. Coupled with their ability to be in the front wave of boats out of the blocks on almost every start, a particularly impressive feat where many of us failed, they were able to get out to that first shift in the leading boats or, if they hadn't won the shift lottery on their side, they were able to consolidate

and collect themselves to make the right choices in the next legs and move through the fleet. // *Riccio's* display was simply astounding, achieving four first places in challenging conditions, demonstrating they were by some way the form boat of the series. Mike Ingham, with an international all-star ensemble, and our neighbor for the event Travis Odenbach, on a chartered boat representing the U.S., were quick but both found themselves unable to match *Il Riccio's* consistent good form." Congratulations must also go to GBR *Jawbreaker*, finishing 21st and second GBR boat. Consistent crew work from this popular Plymouth boat, a great combination of two crews, gave us a flash of the standard of sailing we can expect next year for the Plymouth-hosted Europeans. The UK Fleet wants to thank the German fleet, who went above and beyond to help our GBR fleet enjoy the Worlds. We are intending to make arrangements to attend the popular Kiel Week ahead of the Europeans in 2016. GBR *Hitchiker* is still in Germany on a borrowed trailer after a pre-regatta disaster meant that they had to retrace their steps to retrieve a borrowed trailer (arranged by the generous German fleet) to make the event with only minutes to spare. So it seems Kiel Week will be a good opportunity to catch up, retrieve *Hitchiker* and also because of the efficiency of the German Fleet we know it will be an event not to miss. Our J/24 Class Chairman Jim Anderson wishes to extend thanks to the German fleet who helped in sourcing a fantastic crew and preparing his boat to a highly envied finish in preparation for the event. We also welcomed a new owner to *Juju*, Quinton Hall, their first international J/24 Worlds event. He and the team are hooked!

Whilst we were in Boltenhagen, Mark Lewers, *Hijinks*, reports on a new J/24 regatta on our calendar: A new fleet of four or five J/24s has become established in Dartmouth, South Devon this year, and three intrepid Plymouth J/24s





J24 Nationals RWYC 2015 Photo © Robin Price

undertook the 6-8 hour voyage around the coast to join them at this year's Dartmouth Regatta, over the August Bank Holiday weekend (while several of the top UK boats were making the mammoth road trip to Germany for the World Championship). This is a major traditional town regatta with a lot of events happening apart from the sailing, both on and off the water including two magnificent firework displays, two air displays including the Red Arrows, at least two live music events most nights of regatta week, fun fair, local and regional rowing competitions and lots more. It was a great few days racing in a competitive fleet. The seven J/24s took seven of the first eight places in the class overall on handicap as well as having excellent competition amongst themselves. This just goes to support the J/24 being an excellent, tough and enduring little boat providing plenty of challenges and fun for both experienced and less experienced crews of all ages. Congratulations goes to winning boat John Gorman and *Italian Job*, followed in second by Mike Mackie in *Jiggie 2* (his first regatta) and to *Unity Lets* with the Conyers family.

We've seen an increase in the sizes of our local fleets, and the J/24 continues to provide fantastic racing for all levels. Inspired by our European fleets, especially the German fleet, the UK Class has been keen to support and invest in our growing youth fleet. We are especially proud of the results of our youth girls team *PYCgirlsailing*. Sophie Pearson, Georgie Hepburn and team organized a campaign and sponsorship to be the first all-female J/24 GBR youth team. This saw them compete as a team locally and then gaining a very respectable 32nd in their first J/24 Worlds event in Boltenhagen. They enthused about their

experiences, "Our campaign plans first started in summer 2014, and we are so motivated by the generosity of the Class, club, fellow members and sponsors that next year we hope to attend more events worldwide and really develop as a team." They have inspired a new generation of sailors, and we have a few more teams in development in anticipation of the Plymouth J/24 Europeans in August. We've all reflected on the camaraderie of our J/24 teams, both in the UK and as we have travelled farther afield—it's this that makes the J/24 such a popular Class.

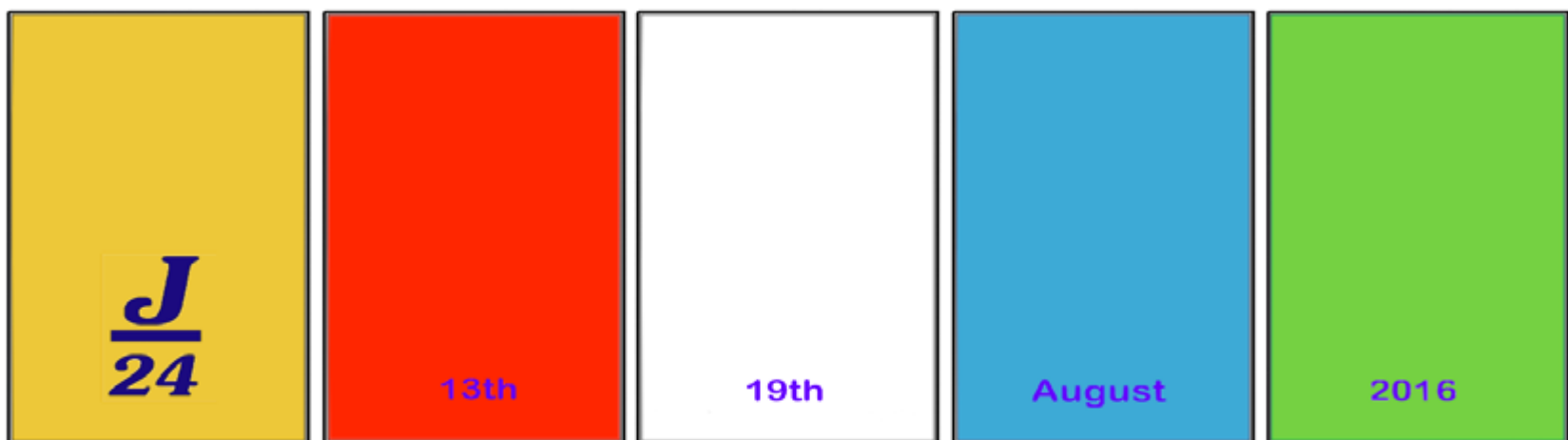
We have an active fleet in Poole and enjoy a popular racing series both on Monday and Thursday evenings. Plymouth has a growing fleet racing regularly through the summer, and Saltash enjoy an evening series with a number of youth boats enjoying competitive sailing on cadet evenings. A special mention of the hard work of our local Plymouth sailors in building the Saltash J/24 fleet and offering a home for a growing fleet of much loved Westerlys.

In conclusion, Andy Taylor summed up the UK season well, "With the UK boasting the current reigning World Champion and European Champion, along with some new boats into the fleet and competitive teams returning, we would hope that many of the European teams can make the voyage to compete in the best one-design racing in the world-class sailing venue of Plymouth for the 2016 J/24 Europeans."

Save the date: 13-19 August 2016 and join us in Plymouth, UK, [www.j24europeans2016.co.uk](http://www.j24europeans2016.co.uk).



# J24 Europeans 2016 Plymouth



[www.j24europeans2016.co.uk](http://www.j24europeans2016.co.uk)

The 2016 Europeans are in Plymouth, a city on the sunny south west coast of the UK with a rich maritime history, and more importantly, two fantastic race areas. Plymouth also offers top quality yachting facilities including sailmakers, riggers and boatbuilders all close by the Royal Western Yacht Club and QAB marina where the week's events will be hosted.

There is an excellent race management and jury team in place to offer world class racing, and a great team of volunteers to ensure the smooth running of shoreside and social activities.



|      |   |
|------|---|
| Sat  | 13th. Measurement Registration. Boat launch.                |
| Sun  | 14th. Measurement Registration. Boat launch. Practice race. |
| Mon  | 15th. 3 races.  |
| Tues | 16th. 3 races.  |
| Wed  | 17th. 3 races.  |
| Thur | 18th. 3 races. Regatta prize giving                         |
| Fri  | 19th. Boat recovery.  |

We look forward to seeing you next August.



# Getting to Plymouth & the Facilities

Plymouth and the sailing facilities are easily accessed by Ferry and Road, with clear dual carriageways and main routes leading directly to the City. Plymouth Sound and the immediate area to the south of the breakwater offer some of the best sailing waters in Europe, with prevailing clean south-westerly winds and minimal tidal stream.



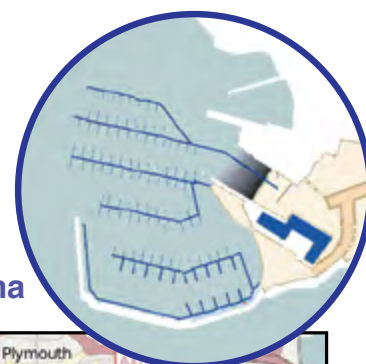
## Facilities

**Mooring**  
Adjacent to Yacht Club and entertainment

**Chandlery**  
On site

**Sail lofts**  
Numerous on and off site

**Spars & Rigging**  
On site



Royal Western Y.C. Host  
Queen Anne's Battery Marina



**Time from ports:** 10mins - 6 hours

**Airports:** Exeter (40 miles) Bristol (109 miles)

**Accommodation:** Plentiful (between 5-15 min walk)

**Time to course:** 40 mins

**Wind Speed:** Southwesterly 10-15 kts

**Tidal Stream:** Minimal influence on course

**Average Temp:** 17 - 24 C



J24 Nationals, Plymouth 2009



# Status of New J/24 Class Rules

By Tim Winger, International Technical Committee Chair



The revised ISAF format J/24 Class Rules are back with ISAF for approval now. We have complied with many of their requests and suggestions from our first submission, and explained our differences for the rest. They should be approved substantially as they are now.

What is different since the last time the Class approved these Rules is mostly location of items. Section C of the Rules deals with the items that are temporary or can be easily changed each time the boat is set up to race. There was some confusion in the version that was approved by the Class last year on where certain items belonged and the breakdown of Modifications, Maintenance, Repairs. The current version is right on target in these areas.

Another difference from the Class-approved version involves the inclusion of GPS technology. ISAF prefers to deal with function rather than the technology used to perform that function. The old Class Rules were focused on the technology, so that is the way we wrote the Rule changes that were approved by the Class in Germany last year. ISAF's idea to focus on the functions to allow on our approved electronic equipment and ignore the technology is a much better way to describe how we want to sail. It also does not have to change as the technology changes.

Some of the differences that remain involve how sails are measured. Some of our methods differ from the Equipment Rules of Sailing in order to allow us to measure sails much faster. Our methods are just as controlling of performance as ISAF's ERS. ISAF is more focused on general sail measurement than on one-design sails. Many Classes differ from ISAF in this and many other areas far more than we do.

We will be presenting the current version (version 14) of the J/24 Class Rules to the IJCA for approval at this year's World Council Meeting in Miami on October 24.



# Calendar

## **November 26, 2015**

### **2015 J/24 SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Start: November 26, 2015  
End: November 30, 2015  
Venue: Veleiros do Sul  
Address: Porto Alegre, Brazil

## **January 16, 2016**

### **2016 MOUNT GAY ROUND BARBADOS RACE SERIES**

Start: January 16, 2016  
End: January 24, 2016  
Venue: Barbados Cruising Club  
Address: Barbados

## **August 13, 2016**

### **2016 J/24 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Start: August 13, 2016  
End: August 19, 2016  
Venue: Royal Western Yacht Club  
Address: Plymouth, UK

## **September 8, 2016**

### **2016 J/24 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Start: September 8, 2016  
End: September 11, 2016  
Venue: Port Credit Yacht Club  
Address: Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

## **September 19, 2016**

### **2016 J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

Venue: Wakayama Sailing Center  
Start: September 19, 2016  
End: September 23, 2016  
Address: Wakaura, Wakayama, Japan

## **September 15, 2017**

### **2017 J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

Start: September 15, 2017  
End: September 23, 2017  
Venue: Port Credit Yacht Club  
Address: Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

## **September 24, 2017**

### **2017 J/24 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP**

Start: September 24, 2017  
End: October 1, 2017  
Venue: Balatonfüredi Yacht Club  
Address: Balatonfüredi, Hungary

## **August 24, 2018**

### **2018 J/24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP**

Start: August 24, 2018  
End: August 31, 2018  
Address: Fraglia Vela Riva del Garda, Italy

