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In The Wind

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2023
MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIP
AT
LAKEWOOD YACHT CLUB
MARCH 10-12, 2023



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President's Corner

Fellow J/105 sailors:

This time last year, we still had our fingers crossed for a full season unimpacted by public health measures. It turned out great and from what I understand, the season was very successful across all fleets. At time of writing, thoughts of getting the boats into the water still seem to be a way off in the distance as there are still piles of snow in the yard.

2023 should be another good year with Midwinters in Texas and the North Americans in New York.

In 2022, there were women's regattas held in Toronto, Annapolis, San Francisco and Seattle. This is a solid start but what an accomplishment it would be to have one in all of our fleets. These regattas varied in format from "100% women" to "women at the helm." No matter the format, these are great events, and I encourage everyone in the Class to get involved.

The Executive Committee recently approved a change to the Long Term Shipmate rule to reduce the complexity involved in complying with the definition. The intent is to encourage more people to participate and more boats to be out more often. The revised definition essentially allows an individual to helm in a sanctioned regatta if they have sailed on the boat 50% of the time over the previous two years (I am over-simplifying so I encourage everyone to read the full definition for themselves).

The J/105 continues to be the best big boat one-design fleet in North America – this is due to the continued commitment of all of the fleets to getting boats out on the water. Thanks to all the fleets across North America for promoting the J/105 and keeping the Class healthy.

Cheers,

Russell Hopper
Class President



Rumor has it, the real reason, virtually, every boat in fleet 6 and 10 are using PB sails is because Paul Beaudin is a nice guy.



All the Top 10 at Liberty Cup were using PB sails. Every boat flew a PB #1 Stratis Carbon Jib. Film/Film for better stability over the performance life, Carbon load bearing fibers, blended with Technora for excellent durability. This jib is optimized for 5-15 but can handle life as an all purpose sail. Adding the #3 Jib, which has a sensible cross-over at 15, makes the best possible inventory for speed and sail longevity in the majority of sailing regions.

j105sails.com



Your donation makes a difference

The Young American Sailing Academy (YASA) is developing a new generation of offshore sailors. Through the program, juniors establish life-long sailing skills, broaden social/leadership skills, and master high-level racing skills. At YASA, we believe the J/105 is the perfect boat to train enthusiastic sailors, which is why a charitable donation to YASA's growing J/105 team is beneficial to the youth sailing community.

With your charitable donation, YASA will be able to expand the outreach of the program. As a 501(c)(3) YASA will provide you tax deductions. YASA welcomes donations of all kinds including boats and inshore and offshore sails.

Peter Becker / 917-715-1471 / peter.becker@yasailing.org / www.yasailing.org



2023 J/105 North American Championship American Yacht Club

RYE, NEW YORK, OCTOBER 3-8

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The J/105 North American Championship will be hosted by one of the country's most prestigious yacht clubs in the shadow of one the great cities of the world on the classic yachting waters of Long Island Sound.

And it is going to be fun.

Long Island Sound and American Yacht Club have a long tradition of hosting excellent fall regattas, including the classic AYC Fall Series—the two weekends proceeding the NAs. Fleet 6 has a great summer schedule packed with events to warm up to this year's Championship.





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In June, the East Coast Championship at Block Island Race Week is at 25+ boats. And there are also 20+ boats entered for the NAs, still many months away.

Four Regattas in One: Fall racing in NYC traditionally opens with the Liberty Cup, sailed in NY Harbor on September 9-10 right off the Statue of Liberty and the City Front.

The AYC Fall Series is September 23-24 and September 30-October 1—two warm-up weekends of racing on the same course as the North Americans.

Traveling competitors have the opportunity to, at the least, have six days of racing spanning NA's week. Tune-up the second weekend of Fall Series, take a break and enjoy the City on Monday and Tuesday, and then enjoy the Championship.

The area hosts many good hotels and Airbnb options for housing. Several boatyards are close by for launching. Fleet measurer Jason Barron owns a full-service yard available for dry sailing, Class measurement and boat maintenance close by on City Island—another iconic village where Long Island Sound meets the East River, five miles from AYC and actually in New York City.

SIGN UP ON YACHT SCORING:

<https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?elD=15597>

EVENT CONTACTS:

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Fleet Measurer Jason Barron
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AYC Event Chairperson Don Weld
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CLASS PAGE

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Technical Committee Report

Matt Arno – Class Measurer, Fleet 17, Texas

Doug Bailey – Fleet 1, San Francisco

Angelo Guarino – Fleet 3, Chesapeake

RULE CHANGE FOR 2023

For 2023, there was only a single Rule change proposed which was a change to the Long-Term Shipmate and Friend (LTSF) provision in Class Rule 3.4 regarding who can drive. The old version of the Rule required an owner to keep track of who had sailed on their boat for both the last 12 and 24 months and the number of days and number of races each person had sailed in order for that person to qualify to drive. A lot of record keeping was required.

The new version of the Rule simplifies that. The revised Rule reads, in part:

"The term "long term shipmate" of an Owner means an individual who, during the immediately preceding 24 months, sailed with the Owner in at least 50% of all sailboat

race days in which the Owner competed in a J/105. An individual, while qualifying to be a long-term shipmate, may not drive the Owner's J/105 in a Level 1 one design event until this condition has been satisfied and race days during which an individual drives in violation of the foregoing do not count for purposes of meeting this definition. For an owner who has owned a J/105 for less than 24 months, the owner's previous primary boat most similar to a J/105 shall serve as a substitute."

Now, only one time period has to be tracked, only race days, and only races on the owner's J/105 (unless the owner is new to the J/105). These changes were driven by complicated situations that were encountered under the old version of the Rule. The new version simplifies the record-keeping required.

Rule Interpretation 22-01 about LTSFs is still valid but even simpler. The 24-month period that is considered is the 24-month period that ends with the last event prior to the event in question.





Sailor Spotlight:

Ann Myer,

J/105 Magic #194

STORM TRYSAIL CLUB INTERCOLLEGIATE OFFSHORE REGATTA | LARCHMONT, NY | 2022 STEPHEN R. CLOUTIER

So if you are reading this, you are a J/105 owner and love the boat, or a crew on a J/105 and wish you owned one, or you are a dreamer and are combing the classified and boatyards looking for a J/105. At any rate, what a great boat to race and enjoy time on whether it be a day/evening sail out with friends or a two-week cruise (yes, you can cruise your 105!) My name is Ann Myer; my husband Gary and I bought our J/105 in 2013 after our beloved racer/cruiser (S2 9.1) was “killed” in Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Our boat, plus 40+ other boats that were stored in the yard of our yacht club (Raritan Yacht Club, Perth Amboy, NJ), plus everything in the yard, buildings and docks were destroyed. We owned that boat for over 20 years. We raised our two girls on that boat, taking two-week vacations on it to Block





Island and throughout the NE and Long Island Sound. But being big competitors, we mainly raced it and did well. When it was destroyed, we too were destroyed; losing a boat is like losing a family member or your trusted dog. It hurt! We looked for other S2s and like boats. Luckily we did not find any, and I suggested we look at the J/105—the girls were grown and our passion was racing, so this was the perfect boat! FAST, SLEEK, crew of five-six, easy to doublehand. I can go on and on, but one of the best things was that you only had three sails to put in your sail purchase inventory. No more #1, #2, #3 Light, medium and heavy, and never mind all the spinnakers! Our sailmaker was distressed, but we were tickled pink. Finding

a J/105 is not an easy task...as soon as one is on the market, it is gone. We found our boat after a year of looking and running all over the Northeast. All of our boats are named *Magic*. *Magic* was the first boat to defend for the America's Cup back in 1870. We were big America's Cup followers, and when we would win...it's magic! There was one J/105 at our club—another friend who lost his boat (a Cape Dory named *Lady Bug*) also replaced his boat with a J/105 (he named it *Hornet*, can't name a J/105 *Lady Bug*). So we had three 105s at our club racing, and members saw how successful and how much fun we were all having that we now have seven J/105s that will be racing from Raritan Yacht Club!



We are fortunate to have a J/105 start for our regular Wednesday night racing and most of the local regattas around our bay. I am a Storm Trysail Club (STC) member and have been involved in the Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta (IOR) for about 15+ years, the last four being the Chair (also our Jr. and Adult Hands On Safety at Sea Programs). I also race in a lot of women-only regattas. For the women's regatta, it is mostly the Ms. Race sailed out of Atlantic Highlands YC. The race is a fundraiser for 180 Turning Lives Around, which empowers survivors and families affected by domestic violence and sexual assault to find the courage and strength to turn their lives around. It is a powerful event. We all have a blast out on the racecourse, which is run as a pursuit race.

I usually have a mixture of women who race, and those who do not dress up in hot pink and work hard out on the racecourse as a team to get the job done. In last year's race, we beat a very well sailed J/109 over the line by about 9 inches to claim first place. After the race, we are humbled by the stories.





I am encouraged to see more and more women's events showing up on the calendars. Sailors are sailors, female or male, but unfortunately for us females, we have to prove that we can do it. When we do compete, especially in big regattas, an all-female crew is remarkable. That is fine, because all the women (and men) who get out there and put a boat together, organize a crew, etc. ARE remarkable...the women, more so!

As I said, I am also very much involved in the STC Jr. Safety at Sea Program. We train our young sailors ages 12-17 with a hands-on course of what to do in emergencies on the water. The course involves communication, the proper way to use a VHF, how to report an incident, etc. We shoot off flares, so they are not surprised if they witness the real thing. We take them through putting out a fire, some basic medical practices and

touch on seasickness, hypothermia and heat exhaustion. But most importantly, we teach them quick stops and MOB drills. The J/105 is a perfect boat to teach the kids in. They absolutely love the boat and love the big steering wheel. To see their faces light up when they get on the boat is a joy.

A lot of the comments afterward are about the boat itself...they want to own one someday. This is music to our ears! We want to do everything we can to encourage our young sailors to continue to sail/race and make this a forever sport. Getting our young sailors involved in "big boats" early on is a great first step.

A little story about the importance of safety at sea training and in this case, Jr. SaS: we (the 105s) were all at a regatta down the bay from us. There were probably about 10+ 105s on the start line. The wind was fresh, blowing 15-18 knots. During a tack,



the skipper of one of the 105s got thrown off the boat. It was the teenage son of one of their crew members who took the helm and directed the MOB drill. "Tack the boat, backwind the jib. Someone point, and call out his position," he shouted. His skipper was successfully picked up by the boat directly behind them, but this 16-year-old teenager, Brandon, had taken our Jr. SaS program since age 12. He was the one who took control and really knew what to do and went into action immediately. We at Storm Trysail and everyone on the water could not be prouder of what this young man did. Training and practicing in your own boat are extremely important. If running a Jr. Safety at Sea or even a MOB practice day for your club is something that interests you, contact me.

I am not sure if most of you know about the STC IOR Regatta (Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta), which is run by STC and hosted by Larchmont Yacht Club, NY. It has been running for over 20 years over Columbus Day weekend. This is the largest collegiate regatta around. We draw 40-50 College and Academy teams, meaning 40-50 boats on the line. This regatta is free to the college sailors; they

only have to cover their transportation and lodging. The regatta is run with all borrowed boats. The J/105s are the most popular boat and have always been our largest Class. The college kids love the boat, and when signing up, ask for the J/105. I love this regatta; it has always been my passion. College teams from all over the country as well as Canada and France have been on the starting line. The joy to see these kids, who for the most part have only been sailing dinghies, light up with smiles from ear to ear when getting on the "big boats." In particular, our J/105s! The college teams show up to register and practice on Friday, and then we have full out racing on Saturday and Sunday. The boats they use are all borrowed, but we always have the owner or his/her representative on board with the kids + a safety officer. This is a premier regatta for the college sailors, and one of the first regattas put on their calendars. This is also a premier event for us at STC. Our goals are always to give back to the sport we love so very much.

From this regatta, I started a Collegiate Big Boat Program at our club. We have offered our boats to Princeton and Stevens Institute

of Technology to practice and gave them an open ticket to come race with us on Wednesday nights. This regatta has opened doors for these college kids.

Unfortunately this year, the North American Championship (NAC) overlaps with the STC IOR Regatta in similar waters. For any J/105 owners in the NY, NJ, CT area, if you are not sailing in the NAC, please consider coming to Larchmont Yacht Club and loaning your boat to a college team or academy for a weekend that you will never forget. We offer free mooring, great owners' gifts, the best owners' party on Saturday night and the joy of spending the weekend with these college kids who can teach all of us a lesson or two. To us at STC, it is not just about the boats. I am honored to be given this opportunity



to tell you about this great regatta and how it benefits our sport. So if you are in the area this year (or in the future) around Columbus Day weekend, come loan your boat and I promise, you will have a fantastic weekend, one that you will not forget. It is the best way to give back to the sport you love.

Thank you for spending your time reading about the journey of *Magic* and its owners. We truly love the boat.

If you would like more information about the Jr. Safety at Sea or the Intercollegiate Offshore Regatta (IOR), please feel free to contact me: myer.annj@gmail.com.

My best always and with respects,
Ann Myer

Calendar

2023

2023 San Diego Sailing World Regatta Series at San Diego Yacht Club

Mar 17 – Mar 19

2023 Annapolis Sailing World Regatta Series at Annapolis Yacht Club

May 5 – May 7

American Yacht Club Spring Regatta 2023 at American Yacht Club

May 5 – May 7

Cedar Point One Design Regatta – Keelboat 2023 at Cedar Point Yacht Club

Jun 3 – Jun 4

2023 Chicago Sailing World Regatta Series at Chicago Yacht Club

Jun 9 – Jun 11

East Coast Championship at Block Island Race Week 2023 at Storm Trysail Club

Jun 19 – Jun 23

Calendar

2023 Marblehead Sailing World Regatta Series at Corinthian Yacht Club

Jul 27 – Jul 30

Blue Water Regatta 2023 at Atlantic Highlands Yacht Club

Aug 5 – Aug 6

2023 Rolex Big Boat Series at St. Francis Yacht Club

Sep 13 – Sep 17

2023 J/105 North American Championship at American Yacht Club

Oct 5 – Oct 8

2024

2024 Southernmost Regatta

Jan 15 – Jan 19

2024 St. Petersburg Sailing World Regatta Series at St. Petersburg Yacht Club

Feb 16 – Feb 18

2024 San Diego Sailing World Regatta Series at San Diego Yacht Club

Mar 15 – Mar 17

2024 Annapolis Sailing World Regatta Series at Annapolis Yacht Club

May 3 – May 5

2024 Chicago Sailing World Regatta Series at Chicago Yacht Club

Jun 7 – Jun 9

2024 Marblehead Sailing World Regatta Series at Eastern Yacht Club

Jul 25 – Jul 28

2024 J/105 North American Championship at Edgewater Yacht Club

Sep 26 – Sep 29

2025

2025 J/105 North American Championship at Royal Canadian Yacht Club

Sep 16 – Sep 21

