

Mandate Rules J/105 North American Championship



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Photo courtesy of Tim Wilkes

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President's Corner

Dear J/105 Association Members,

I am honored to serve as your new Class President. As a mathematics professor at the University of Washington, I'm looking forward to applying the same analytical rigor to our association that I've applied in my racing strategies. My journey from a novice sailor to winning races over the past six years has been filled with both steep learning curves and thrilling achievements. Drawing on these experiences, I am eager to contribute to our community's growth and success. Together, we will tackle the upcoming year with a focus on both competition and safety, ensuring our Class remains vibrant and engaged.

As we transition into the fall racing season in Fleet 20 on the Puget Sound, we're met with the brisk winds and cold waters that define this time of year. These conditions not only enhance our sailing experience but also underscore the importance of safety. In light of this, **I urge all crews to review and utilize essential safety gear**, including lifejackets with crotch straps and boots offering reliable grip. It's a good time to take the lifesling out, check it, and repack it too.

Reflecting on the recent 2024 J/105 North American Championship, held from September 26-29 at Edgewater Yacht Club in Cleveland, OH, we witnessed outstanding skill and competition on the water. Congratulations to Terry McLaughlin and Rod Wilmer's *Mandate* team for capturing the title! As we celebrate their success, we also look forward to the 2025 Championship, set for September 23-27 at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club in Toronto, Ontario. We anticipate another exciting event and warmly encourage all members to participate. Thank you to everyone involved in organizing these prestigious annual events—your dedication makes it all possible!

Turning to our Association's activities, our online Forum remains a valuable platform for sharing repair strategies, insights and connecting with fellow members. Your active participation enriches our community and contributes to our collective growth. I especially appreciated Paul Schiavoni's post about bowsprit seal kits and all of the knowledge members shared.

One of the things I love most about the J/105 is its versatility. You can race it with a full crew of six at one regatta and then sail it double-handed at the next. Double-handing is an excellent way to sharpen your skills and refine the timing of maneuvers. If you haven't tried it yet, I encourage you to explore this rewarding aspect of our sport. Are there any J/105 double-handed races in your area? Should we consider introducing a J/105 Double-Handed Championship?

President's Corner

I would like to take a moment to express my heartfelt appreciation to Nicole Breault for her unwavering commitment to our Association and to racing at the highest level. In particular, she led the charge in reviving the Forum, which I believe will have a lasting, positive impact on the community. Over the past few years, I've learned a great deal from working alongside her. I often guote Nicole when I'm trying to motivate my team for a race. In a conversation this past year, she said in such a matter-of-fact way, "Why wouldn't you do everything you possibly could to make the boat go faster?" Well, exactly! We work hard to live up to that challenge!

As we strive for excellence together, your achievements reflect our shared commitment. We invite you to share your successes, whether it's winning a major race, receiving an award, making a meaningful impact or even saving a life. Your stories inspire and motivate us all.

In closing, I wish you fair winds and exhilarating sails,

Sara Billey

President, J/105 Association, and sailing Peer Gynt #235



and Sara Billey (#235) from Fleet 20 in Seattle

Mandate Rules J/105 North American Championship

Photos courtesy of Tim Wilkes

Consistency proved to be the highlight, as four-time winner Terry McLaughlin & Rod Wilmer's *Mandate* came out on top at the J/105 North American Championship sponsored by The British Virgin Islands in Cleveland, Ohio September 24-29. Fraser Howell, Ian Howes, Andrew Kenny and John Millen from Royal Canadian Yacht Club in Toronto accomplished the feat without a first-place finish. Bill Zartler's *Deja Voodoo* was a close second, and Tim Russell's *Ne*Ne* a competitive third.





TOP FIVE OVERALL:

- 1. Mandate, CAN83, Terry McLaughlin / Rod Wilmer 2 -7 -2 -2 -3 -5 -2 -2 -3 -3 -4 ; 35
- 2. Deja Voodoo, USA130, Bill Zartler 8 -4 -3 -5 -1 -3 -3 -1 -2 -7 -3 ; 40
- 3. Ne*Ne, USA003, Tim Russell 7 2 1 1 4 1 11 4 10 4 2 ; 47
- 4. Fall Line, USA144, Chip Schaffner 1 -1 -7 -7 -6 -6 -9 -9 -4 -5 -6; 61
- 5. Hey Jude, CAN110, James Rathbun 20 -5 -9 -4 -7 -2 -6 -3 -12 -2 -1 ; 71





DAY ONE RECAP: Twenty-six boats delighted in winds of 8-17 knots to launch the Championship. Local Chip Schaffner's Fall Line leapt to the initial advantage with a pair of bullets and a 7, for 9 points. Building conditions on Lake Erie challenged teams at the event hosted by Edgewater Yacht Club. 2021 North American Champion Russell's Ne*Ne was only one point back in second place after tallying 7,2,1. McLaughlin & Wilmer's Mandate were another notch behind in third. Schaffner's Fall Line kicked off the NAC with their first of two wins on the day, trailed by McLaughlin/Wilmer's Mandate and David Butcher's Highlander. Following *Fall Line* in the second contest were Russell's *Ne*Ne* and Thomas Cliffel's *Rapscallion*. *Ne*Ne* took home the day's final victory, ahead of McLaughlin & Wilmer's Mandate and Zartler's Deja Voodoo.

DEJA VOODOO

Photos courtesy of Tim Wilkes













J. 105

DAY TWO RECAP: Lake Erie delivered fierce conditions. Winds were consistent at 14-18 knots with gusts in the mid-20s and waves well above six feet. The Race Committee persevered for two races, bringing the total to five in the no-discard series. Russell's *Ne*Ne* rose to the top with a 1,4 on the day for 15 points. McLaughlin & Wilmer's *Mandate* stood only one point behind in second. Zartler's *Deja Voodoo* moved into third with 21 points. Russell's *Ne*Ne* racked up their second bullet in race four, with *Mandate* and *The Usual Suspects* following. Zartler's *Deja Voodoo* succeeded in the next battle, including in the top three Bruce Stone & Nicole Breault's *Arbitrade* and *Mandate*.



Photos courtesy of Tim Wilkes

J. 105

DAY THREE RECAP: McLaughlin & Wilmer's Mandate ascended to the top of the leaderboard. Three more races were completed in winds of 8-12 knots in choppy seas, bringing the total to eight. *Mandate* scored 5,2,2 for 25 points. Zartler's Deja Voodoo won the day with a 3,3,1 for second place at 28 points. Russell's Ne*Ne was another three points back in third. Ne*Ne posted their third bullet of the Championship in race six, pursued by James Rathbun's Hey Jude and Zartler's Deja Voodoo. Stone & Breault's Arbitrade claimed the day's next victory, with *Mandate* and *Deja Voodoo* rounding out the top trio. Zartler's Deja Voodoo led the fleet back to shore, trailed by McLaughlin & Wilmer's Mandate and Rathbun's Hey Jude.



AN 158



















Complete results may be found at https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=16342.



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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.

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Technical Committee Report

Matt Arno – Class Measurer, Fleet 17, Texas Doug Bailey – Fleet 1, San Francisco Doug Stryker – Fleet 3, Chesapeake

APPROVED RULE CHANGES FOR 2025

Both the proposed changes were approved and will go into effect on January 1, 2025. Those changes were:

- You no longer need to carry a bucket, flashlights, nav gear or a radar reflector. At least as far as the Class is concerned. The NOR/SIs or Coast Guard may still require them.
- You can put your lifesling or horseshoe life ring wherever you want. Such as blocking the swim ladder. It does still need to be on deck somewhere ready for immediate deployment so down in the cabin is not an option.
- We clarified your anchor plus chain and rode must weigh a combined 7.25 kg (16 lb).
- Any batteries you have on board must be in the allowed locations, whether the primary or a secondary or house battery or battery bank. We also removed the requirement to have a fuse protecting against overload.

Looking Forward to 2025

There continues to be interest in barberhauling. Some fleets do it a lot and others not much. We will be developing materials to explain this technique to the Class to ease the learning curve to doing this.

There is renewed interest in examining the allowing materials of construction of the mainsail. We last discussed this as a Class in 2014. Since then, the price of Dacron has gone up and the price of carbon has come down relative to Dacron. It's worth another look at this. The tradeoff will always be increased upfront cost with the benefit of increased longevity that offsets the increased upfront cost.

Looking Back

St. Francis Yacht Club recently hosted Rod Johnstone where he discussed the J/105 and its evolution. It's an interesting video to watch. You can access it at WYL326 - YouTube.



By Molly Hughes Wilmer

Consistency Delivered Podium Results

With 19 entries and 132 sailors, the 2024 Annapolis J/105 Women's Regatta featured tight competition throughout the largest cruising one-design women's regatta. Eliot Caple led *Patriot* to victory with two second place finishes followed by a bullet. In addition to a tie for second and third place, multiple positions were separated by a single point.

PRO Sandy Grosvenor noted the close racing: "On two of the three races, we had at least two boats that were not OCS but were within 1 meter of the line. And in the third race, all but one or two of the fleet 'gated' within a minute of the leader." Marie Klok Crump and Ashley Love, winners of the 2022 and 2023 regattas, finished with ten points each, with Crump on 4-teenz winning the tiebreaker and placing second. Molly Wilmer's *Mirage* team was two points behind the tie, benefiting from a bullet in the first race. Beth Scheidt on *Smoke n'Oakum* was fifth and the talk of the Race Committee for her tight starts.

Caple, a former member of the US Sailing team, skippered at College of Charleston, and has been racing on *Patriot* for three seasons. Serving as tactician on *Patriot* was Maddy Ploch who sailed in that role on last year's second place finisher and competed on the offshore team at the US Naval Academy. According to Caple, their consistency came





down to two factors: "We sail very, very flat upwind. And then downwind I sail very low, max on the windward side. And I could drive lower than anyone."

Crump was previously ranked number two in the ISAF Women's World Match Race circuit, was crowned twice as Danish Match Race Champion, pursued an Olympic campaign in Ynglings in 2004, and was part of the winning J/80 Championship team in 2021 after also having won it in 2013. Love represented the USA at the Women's Radial World Championship in 2009 and has recently been making a name for herself on the team racing circuit, leading a team to multiple podium finishes in the invitational Thayer Trophy and the New York YC Women's Invitational.





The top three finishers all included juniors on their teams, with Crump sailing with four juniors and four mentors. "I have always respected this event for the tight racing and this was an amazing opportunity to include teenagers, who otherwise don't get on big boats, for a great learning experience." At the awards, Love challenged all boats to bring a junior for the 2025 regatta.



Some of the juniors that sailed in the regatta.

In addition to juniors, the talent included:

- a crew of women all over 50 on Sandra Libby's Go Nil,
- at least one sailor over 70 on Amy Harris' Break Away,
- multiple military veterans,
- a team of midshipman from the US Naval Academy on Avenger, and
- representation from across North America, including Sarah Schaill Colarusso's team from Charleston, SC on London Calling and crew from Toronto, ON on Heather McCann's Santa's Reign, Dear, and Victoria, BC on Alexandra Clary's Rum Puppy.



Katy Zimmerman's team on *Firebrand* won the inaugural Maggie Flanigan Perpetual Trophy for the "Best Dressed Crew." The trophy was dedicated remembering the spirit of J/105 racer Maggie Flanigan, who died on August 17th. The perpetual trophy inspired a variety of 'fits across the racecourse, and "costume changes" for the awards party. Daryl Weinstein Cooke from Chessie said, "I never thought I'd hear, 'Make sure your tutu doesn't get caught in the block' while racing."

Flanigan was a member of 2023 winner of the Best Dressed Crew, a trophy that did not exist until they arrived on the racecourse, to the delight of the race committee, in their bright pink and white attire. A self-proclaimed "Seamstress, Fiber Artist, Costumer, Sailor" the trophy remembers the joy, light, and humor which she brought to her serious pursuits. As Caple said, "It was a fitting tribute to Maggie, and I can't wait to do it again next year." Scott Nixon of Quantum kicked off the weekend with a practice session Friday evening attended by more than ten teams. Several teams raced in the Annapolis Labor Day regatta on Saturday as practice. The skipper's meeting Saturday evening was hosted by Sandra K. Libby.

Love noted, "The multitude of successful events make the experience of the J/105 Women's Regatta much more than just the one day of racing on the water. The event, the practice and the on-land events have increased my interaction with the J/105 class ten-fold. The talent pool is growing with the new influx of crew and the sailors who were already in the class are embracing and mastering more roles on the water, but also behind the scenes. Planning the event together on land builds our friendships and the evidence of this plays out on the water. Since getting involved in this event as a competitor and now as part of the organizing committee, I'm much closer with the class, invested in its continued success and cheering for its future."



trophy and their keepers.

Photos courtesy of Wilbur Keyworth, SpinSheet Magazine



Linda Flanigan presenting the Maggie Flanigan Perpetual Trophy to *Firebrand* for the Best Dressed Crew.



London Calling setting behind Mayhem



ABOUT

The Annapolis J/105 Women's Regatta is a one-day, one-design regatta, hosted by J/105 Fleet 3, with the Sailing Club of the Chesapeake (SCC) as the Organizing Authority. First held in 2022, this was the largest edition to date and the largest regatta of its kind, with 131 female sailors on 19 boats.

J/105 Fleet 3 is the largest fleet in the J/105 class, and the largest cruising one-design fleet in Annapolis. This women's regatta is part of an overall J/105 class initiative to get more women involved. Multiple J/105 women's events

have been held in 2024, including in Toronto, San Francisco, Seattle, Galveston Bay, and Charleston.

The Sailing Club of the Chesapeake (SCC) altered the J/105 rules for this regatta to encourage all women teams. The SCC specializes in hosting "signature" regattas that each have their own personality, like the EWE Spirit Regatta, the J/105 Women's Regatta, and the Hospice Cup, to be held on September 14.

RESULTS

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1	Patriot	Eliot Caple	5
2.	4-teenz (Good Trade)	Marie Crump	10
3.	MAYHEM	Ashley Love	10
4.	Mirage	Molly Wilmer	12
5.	Smoke n'Oakum	Beth Scheidt	16
6.	Syndicate	Claire Ward	21
7.	Rum Puppy	Alexandra Wardell Clary	26
8.	Go Nil-Doghouse	Sandra Libby	27
9.	CrashHERS	Sara Morgan Watters	28
10.	Santas Reign Dear	Heather McCann	32
11.	Maggie (Firebrand)	Katherine Zimmerman	33
12.	London Calling / PPRT	Sarah Schaill	34
13.	Chessie	Jessica Oswalt	37
14.	Juggernaut	Robyn Bollhorst	38
15.	Tenacious	Emily Decker	40
16.	Avenger	Isabelle Navolio	43
17.	Lagniappe	Jayne Durden	49
18.	Break Away	Amy Harris	52
19.	Maggie (Relentless)	Theresa Rosbeck / Meredith Glacken	57

LINKS

Wilbur Keyworth Photos: https://drive.google.com/open?id=10KomZxfAfGk5qc2bSA4fl0kBKLnG8bxZ&usp=drive_fs

Dan Phelps Photos: https://www.danphelpsphoto.com/Sailing/Bay-Sailing/2024-Annapolis-Womens-Regatta

Official Regatta Page: https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?elD=16426

Official Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/772714321344026

Calendar

2025

The Southernmost Regatta 2025 at Key West, FL

Key West, Florida, United States January 20 – January 25

Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta Series 2025 at St. Petersburg Yacht Club

St. Petersburg, Florida, United States February 14 – February 16

Charleston Race Week 2025 at Charleston, SC

Charleston, South Carolina, United States April 10 – April 13

Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta Series 2025 at Annapolis Yacht Club

Annapolis, Maryland, United States May 2 – May 4

Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta Series 2025 at Bayview Yacht Club

Detroit, Michigan, United States May 30 – June 1

Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta Series 2025 at Chicago Yacht Club

Chicago, Illinois, United States June 6 – June 8

Block Island Race Week 2025 at Storm Trysail Club

Block Island, Rhode Island, United States June 22 – June 27

Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta Series 2025 at Boston Yacht Club

Marblehead, Massachusetts, United States July 24 – July 27

Rolex Big Boat Series 2025 at St. Francis Yacht Club

San Francisco, California, United States September 10 – September 14

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

Toronto, Ontario, Canada September 23 – September 27