

Minutes of the 2025 J/24 World Council Meeting
Open Virtual Session October 16, 2025

- 1) **Call to Order, Roll Call and Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. EDT. We have a quorum. Attendees: David Cooper (Chair, GBR), Maike Hass (Vice Chair, GER), Nancy Zangerle (ITC Chair, USA), Ramiro Clemente (Executive Committee, ARG), Mark Usher (Executive Committee, IRL), Will Welles (Past Chair, USA), Michael Peters (ITC, GER), Finn Hadlock (ITC, USA), Hugo Ottaway (AUS), Jeff Jorgensen (CAN), Vince Somoza (CAN), Sam Marshall (GBR), Tim Octon (GBR), Chris Randall (GBR), Gianni Riccobono (ITA), Monica Persson (SWE), Marcus Rogers (USA), Lee Ann Zaretsky (USA), Christopher Howell and Julie Howell (ODAM, USA).
- 2) **Appoint Secretary:** Maike Hass appointed Julie Howell as the secretary.
Dropbox link: [J24 2025 WC AGM - Dropbox](#)
- 3) **Approval of 2024 WCM Minutes:** *Nancy Zangerle made a motion to approve both of the 2024 WCM minutes as posted at <http://www.j24class.org/organization/class-documents/wcm-minutes/>, seconded by Marcus Rogers. Approval of the minutes passed unanimously.*
- 4) **Chair's Overview:** David thanked everyone for joining! He traveled to the US Midwinters and participated in the UK Worlds. The Europeans were in The Netherlands with a lighter turnout but a good event.
- 5) **Review of Reports:**

Executive Director: See Attachment A. Chris H. summarized that we will get into the financial details at the Business meeting. The updates we made to the budget put the Class back in the black for the fiscal year. The Class Office continues to work through measurement certificate processing and quarterly newsletters. Check out the social media charts in the report to see demographics and the great reach received during the World Championship. Excellent job of coverage from the UK! Nancy mentioned the quality of the photographic and video content drove social media. She talked to the photographers and videographers onsite, and they are actually new to sailing...outstanding work!

Technical: The Rules proposals have been published and circulated for review and will be voted on at the November Business Meeting. Nancy shared that there will be some additional comments/background added. We need to do a better job of adhering to the Regatta Regulations with Championship hosts, based on our many years of experience. The World Council should support our hosts in this endeavor. Nancy highlighted that our "Agreement to Host" should be implemented, and our guidance is needed when it comes to adhering to our Regatta Regulation standards. World Sailing sets the standards for World Championship events, including the international jury requirement. Tim hopes we can evaluate our options to lessen the financial burden for OAs, especially as sponsorship support is decreasing. Nancy explained that we can evaluate whether the Class wants arbitration, and if not, this can reduce the number of Jury members. The question is whether the membership prefers having arbitration or not; perhaps more resolutions are happening outside the Jury Room these days.

Chris shared that Tony Parker is promoting that the IJCA create an opportunity to raise money for Championships. We will discuss this idea in more detail at the Business meeting. Chris H. wondered if raising the entry fee provides more value to the entrants in that they do not have to feed their crews as much offsite. Chris R. thinks that this would reduce attendance from the regional level.

6) **Championship Reports:**

2025 World Championship Recap: Plym Yacht Club & Saltash Sailing Club Plymouth GBR, September 6-14. Sam summarized that they were able to get some good racing in, even with the wild weather. Marcus shared that there were many creative ideas and a fun social side. Sam recapped that a huge rainstorm and flooding had damaged Plym YC the week before the event and the club is just now re-opening. There were five rudders damaged during the event. Tim asked about new rudders, since many need replaced in Europe. Chris H. confirmed that J/Boats is aware of the need and is working through the process. The Class cannot license or approve suppliers.

2026 World Championship Report: Sandringham Yacht Club, Melbourne, Australia, November 4-11. Hugo described that they have a sponsor, including money in the bank, in addition, the sponsor provided promotional spinnakers and clothing for the Australian teams in Plymouth. The yacht club has 20 J/24s and two cranes as well as trollies...the club has been very supportive! The club has undergone extensive renovations. A freight company (freight forwarding, customs, etc.) is onboard as a sponsor to assist with logistics. The event website will have details soon. North Sails is also a sponsor. There should be plenty of space for inspections, social, etc. The Race Committee, Technical Committee and Jury are being finalized. Michael Peters will be the Event Technical Chair, and will assist in measuring charter boats. Hugo admitted that charter boats are their biggest challenge, but they expect at least 10. The realistic goal is 20 overseas competitors, including possibly a few boats will be shipped. Reach out to Hugo anytime with questions!

2027 World Championship Report: Rochester Yacht Club, Rochester, NY USA, October 2-9: Lee Ann stated that Mark Foster is secured as PRO.

2028 World Championship Report: Gianni Riccobono submitted the following update: The Championship will be held in Porto Cervo, the very famous site for sailing races located in the north of Sardinia, in the beauty of the Costa Smeralda. The Organizing Authority is the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda. The date for the event might be either the first week of June or the last one of September. Both dates guarantee very good weather conditions for sailing. As specified in the proposal and communicated during the 2024 International Council, the YCCS has requested the participation of external sponsors for cost sharing reasons. Unfortunately at this date, no sponsors have been yet identified. We are going ahead to search for possible sponsors that could favorably consider the great advertising opportunity that such an important event can give them. Moreover, the YCCS's organization has recently changed, so we are going to contact the new management to verify their attitude about the event and if the budget constraints are still in place. We are reasonably hopeful that the problems with the YCCS might be over in the early future and the 2028 World Championship will be regularly carried

out in Porto Cervo. In case of a major problem that should not allow holding the competition in Porto Cervo, the Italian Class Association is also looking for other alternative locations. Of course, in case any changes should occur, the IJCA will immediately inform you.

2029 Worlds Discussion: North America would be the host; there is some backing for Newport but nothing official.

Regarding the European Championship rotation, Sweden is slated to host in 2026. Monica explained that the Swedish Chairperson suddenly changed so there has been a delay in confirming details with the Club. Chris H. recommended that the European NCAs work together to plan their continental schedule. David and Maïke will lead a working group. Sam thinks there is a lot of enthusiasm in Europe right now among many countries so let's book several years. He suggested that in years when the Worlds is in Europe that the European Championship be suspended.

- 7) **New Business/Open Discussion on Future Strategy:** David reiterated the importance of reducing event cost as well as having approved parts more available to the members. Hugo recalled seeing social media comments from the Worlds in regard to repairing outboard engines. Plymouth had a small motors expert on call which helped many who had engine problems. He has also noticed four different boom profiles. Michael agreed that we need continental suppliers. Will suggested group orders by boat owners would be more efficient than the process of getting new suppliers approved. Chris H. will be in Argentina later this month and will talk directly with J/Boats Argentina to confirm their commitment to J/24 rudders. Will stated that US boat owners have placed bulk orders of 10 which helps production costs, but admittedly shipping is expensive. He heard that J/Boats Italy would also fulfill mass orders, but this would need confirmed directly.

Chris R. pushed for a goal of making participation more accessible to youth and women, such as actively sourcing boats at affordable pricing and free accommodations at our Championships. Hugo concurred and noted successful youth regattas and high female participation in Australia...there is a need to keep this focus for the 2026 Worlds.

Gianni asked about the Navy proposal for the 2026 Worlds. Nancy described that the IJCA is always looking for ways to expand our reach, but she didn't think it was wise to introduce this new format in Australia due to distance and timing. Although the idea from the sponsor has great intention, the AUS-JCA doesn't have the capacity to get this off the ground. Hugo hopes we can consider this fresh concept for future locations. Chris R. foresees a special prize for top military boat, and perhaps the Rochester Worlds would be a proper place to start the tradition. The Executive and Technical Committees should discuss the idea offline, especially taking into consideration availability of charter boats.

Chris H. congratulated our South American NCAs for resurrecting the South American Championship in a few weeks in Chile!

- 8) **Closing Remarks:** David is pleased to see all the enthusiasm! See you on November 6!

ATTACHMENT A: Executive Director's Report, Christopher Howell

Administration

We are marking 13 years of administering the IJCA and feel we are contributing to the strength of this 47-year-old Class. The IJCA lodged another active year at the World Championship in the UK, European Championship in The Netherlands, North American Championship in the USA and the revival of the South American Championship in a few weeks in Chile.

Financial

The fiscal year ended on 30 September, and as projected, the P&L will show a positive income this year. Royalty tag sales and memberships came in slightly above budget. The Class is strong financially with over \$95,000 on the Balance Sheet (two times our yearly budget). This is a healthy sign for any non-profit organization. As you may recall, the 2024/25 budget reflected a change in travel and management fees of the Executive Director. This shift of the Championship Event Class Representative duties to regional volunteers and the Technical Committee plus discontinuing ED travel was financially successful. The IJCA is back in the black and getting ahead again. We hope that this change will help sustain the Class for the future, without a further increase in costs to the membership.

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 the Technical Committee/Measurers 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

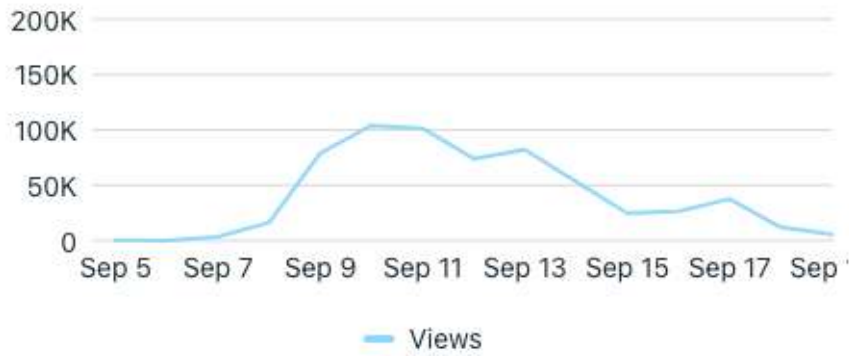
Since 2013, we have distributed 47 editions of the newsletter with four per year since 2016. The archive of all editions is at <http://www.j24class.org/newsletter/>. Thank you to all the NJCAs for their contributions. The Class Office distributes the newsletters via e-mail in a PDF format to supplement 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

Social media continues to give the Class exposure worldwide, showing that the Class is durable and vibrant. Julie and I coordinate Major Championship media coverage with the help of a regional team for timely updates/videos as well as daily post-race photos. This is supplemented by daily press releases to the sailing media. The International J/24 Class Facebook page has more than 7,400 followers, better than many comparable Classes. The Class Instagram account has more than 3,600 followers. The graphs below show views and reach of social media on Facebook and Instagram for the 2025 World Championship. How many other (almost) 50-year-old Classes can maintain this type of vitality? This protects the brand and the value of nearly 6,000 boats. The bottom two charts show the breakdown of followers.

Views ⓘ

620.6K ↑ 45.1K%



Views ⓘ

272.9K ↑ 9.9K%



Reach ⓘ

162.4K ↑ 35.6K%



These are

Reach ⓘ

46.7K ↑ 52.4K%



Audience

Demograph...

Trends

Potential audience

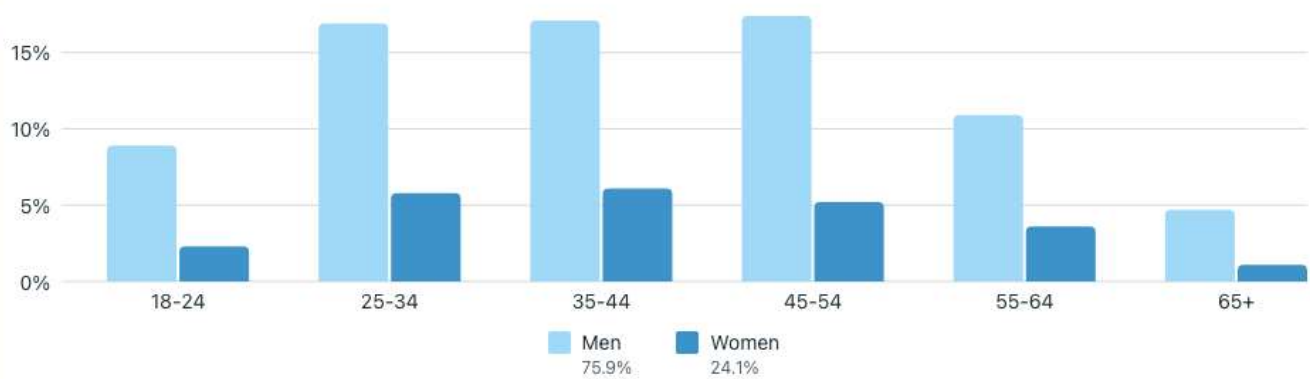
Followers ⓘ

Lifetime

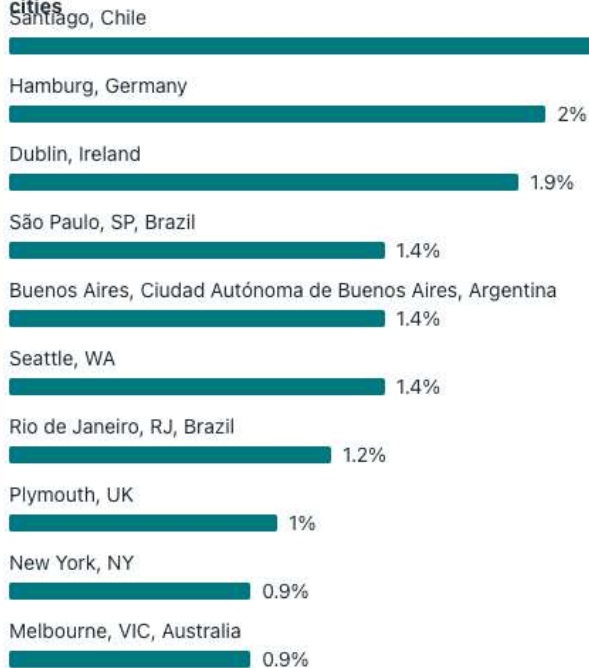
3,626

Age & gender ⓘ

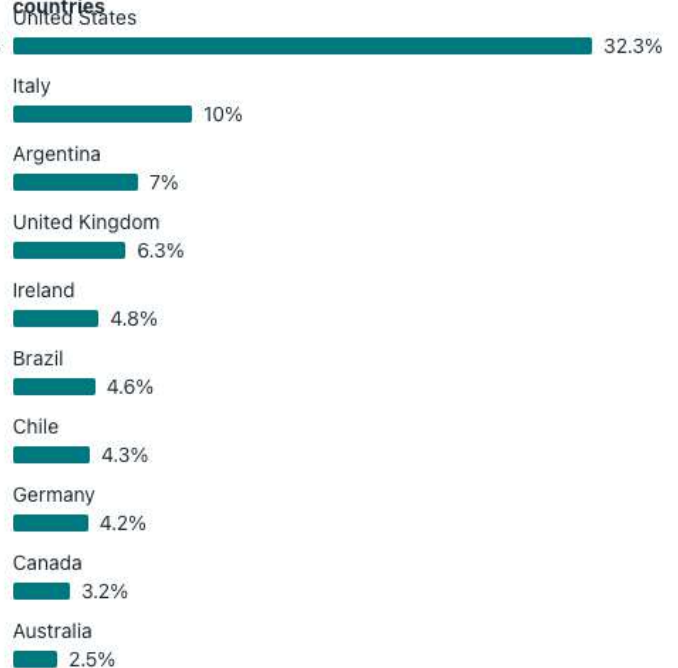
20%



Top cities



Top countries



Audience

Demograph...

Trends

Potential audience

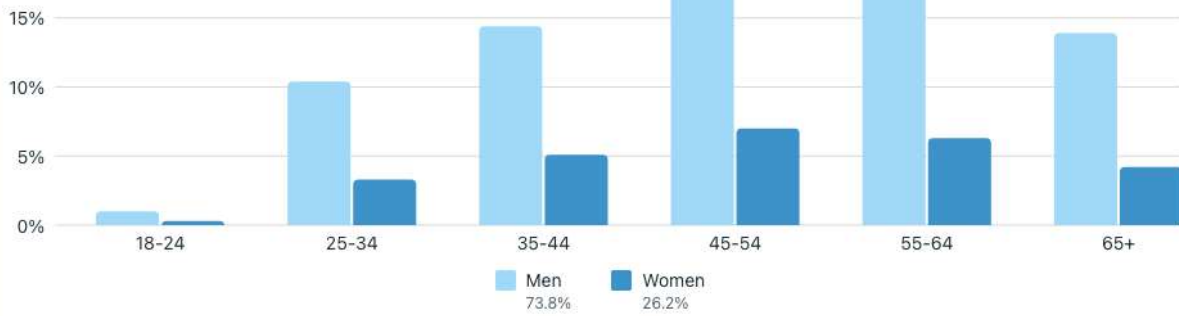
Followers ⓘ

Lifetime

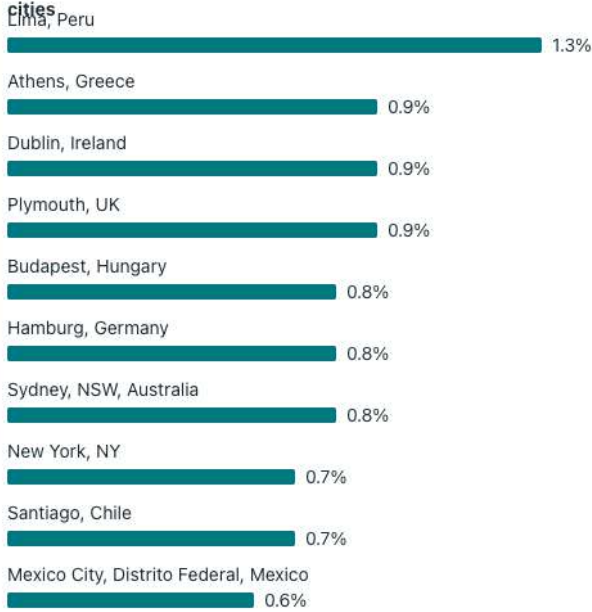
7,401

Age & gender ⓘ

20%



Top cities



Top countries

