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**INTERNATIONAL PULSE**

**J/24 World Championship  
in Plymouth, UK**

**Cillian Dickson and Crew  
on *Headcase* Take the Title  
in Thrilling Final Day**



**Issue 48  
November  
2025**

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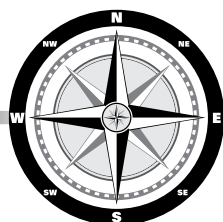
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# J/24 World Championship in Plymouth, UK

## Cillian Dickson and Crew on *Headcase* Take the Title in Thrilling Final Day



By James Mills

**18-20 knots of breeze and a 3-4m swell greeted the fleet for the final day of racing at the 2025 J/24 World Championship. Competitors looked excited with the possibility that they may get to use their genoas for once. The course was set south of Plymouth Sound breakwater and with minimal shipping movements, race officer Sean Semmens could set a good and uninterrupted course.**

Heading into the day, it was always going to be a four-way shootout for the title with the Irish team of Cillian Dickson in the driving seat overnight, but in no way assured of victory as the very experienced American Tony Parker and crew in *Bangor Packet* and fellow American Michael Goldfarb and crew in *War Canoe* were very close indeed. In fourth was *Gekko* from Japan, and Koehei Ichikawa clearly had a plan to get on the podium.

The first race finished with the four top boats taking the four places with *Gekko* earning the win, *Headcase* with a controlled second place and *Bangor Packet* just beating *War Canoe* on the line. Just after the first four finished, a decent squall met the remainder of the fleet finishing, making for a spectacular (if at times slightly out of control) fairground ride for some of the boats. The spectators loved it!





The final race of the day was one of control, process and clear thinking from Cillian Dickson and his crew, who dominated the race. It was fitting that they won the last race and their fifth race of the series to take the title, and it didn't take long for the champagne to flow and celebrations to start in earnest when *Headcase* was back behind the breakwater. Tony Parker and his crew had a very accomplished day with a third and then second to *Headcase*, but ultimately they finished 7 points behind *Headcase* in second. The other big story was the aggressive *Gekko*—the team from Japan won the first race of the day and they had calculated that they needed to attack *War Canoe* to get on the podium. That is exactly what they did as the two boats duelled their way across the course and into oblivion, scoring a 43 and a 40 respectively. It was an amazing race to watch and one that will live long in the memory.

James Torr from the UK was the best of the rest in fifth. The UK National Champion was super pleased with his team's performance during the week in what proved to be a hugely competitive top half of the fleet. Sam Hopper and his crew on *Saltine* won back-to-back Youth Under 25 World titles and are already looking forward to Melbourne, Australia in November 2026 to defend. The young crew, who were hosted locally, were very focused and consistent throughout the week.

**DAY ONE RECAP:** Nearly 50 J/24s from 12 countries (Argentina, Australia, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Sweden, USA and the UK) descended upon Plymouth for their five-day World Championship. After champagne sailing conditions for the practice race south of Plymouth breakwater, day 1 of racing proper found a stark difference in weather, forcing the management team to postpone ashore in the hope to find a moderating weather window. The conditions were bleak with 4m waves, gusts in excess of 30 knots, rain and to complicate the management team further, they had to contend with a number of shipping movements. The wind clocked further East and a weather window opened finally, with a start line set and located at the Western entrance to Plymouth sound in the vicinity of Cawsand Bay and a windward leg south of the breakwater. There was still lots of wind, rain and big waves, but Race Officer Sean Semmens and his team did a great job of setting a course. Starting one single race on a black flag, the fleet sensibly took a conservative approach to the start to avoid a general recall. First round the windward mark was Bow 40 from Argentina *Tata Patagonia* helmed by Ramiro Clemente Diaz, closely followed by Goldfarb's *War Canoe* who had reigning J/24 World Champion Travis Odenbach on board. The race went to form with the top eight finishing boats all pre-event favorites. *War Canoe* and *Tata Patagonia* fought hard right across the track, but it was *War Canoe* who took the win after a tight downwind battle. Very close behind in third place was local boat *Majic* helmed by Torr, who held off the hard-charging Italian boat *La Superba* helmed by Ignazio Bonanno.







**DAY TWO RECAP:** More challenging conditions with a 20-knot breeze, low visibility and damp conditions made for uncomfortable but exciting race conditions for sailors and the race management team. That didn't matter to the Irish team *Headcase* Bow 10. Dickson and his team won both races and were level points with the low-scoring *La Superba* helmed by Bonnano. In the day's first race, it was *La Superba* who got to the top mark first, with *Headcase* rounding in fifth. Goldfarb and his team on *War Canoe* were always in the top three rounding the windward mark but were disappointed to receive a black flag after crossing the finish in second. The subsequent request for redress regarding the black flag decision did not go the way of *War Canoe* or other members of the fleet who took a similar approach to the black flag they received. German team *Jux* helmed by Thomas Cramer had a fine and controlled race with good speed across the course and were rewarded with a solid podium. The race finished 1. *Headcase*, 2. *La Superba*, 3. *Jux*. The next race was a dominant victory for *Headcase*, always leading from the front. *War Canoe* were totally fired up and

rounded the windward mark in second but had to settle for a fifth-place finish. The French team of *Jeronimo* were third around the windward mark but were unable to finish inside the top 10. The positions changed a lot over the next two legs with the exception of *Headcase* who were super focused, and that focus was rewarded with a second bullet of the day. Another UK local team *Mr Mann* helmed by Shane Hewlett had a three-way battle for second over the line, and they managed to hold for second place to the delight of the local support and also receiving a huge cheer when walking into the home club, Saltash Sailing Club, for the J/24 host club party. In third was Parker's *Bangor Packet* who quietly but consistently improved their already low scores to sit in third overall. The U25 Champions from the USA *Saltine* had a great day and moved up the rankings. And a nice story further back in the fleet was the UK teams *Motley Crew* helmed by Andy Willet and *Jabberwocky* helmed by Gail Berriman making huge performance gains in race three, jumping 20 places.





**DAY THREE RECAP:** The wind pressure remained. The race management team had the opportunity to run two races within the relative protection of Plymouth Sound inside the breakwater. Plymouth Sound was still experiencing 25 knots gusting 30+ on occasion from a Westerly direction. After the flurry of black flag DSQs, the fleet was cautious not to collect more penalties, and it was a clean day in that regard. The big news of the day was that Parker's *Bangor Packet* continued the NASA-like countdown scoreline—just missing a fourth to complete the set 6,5,4,3,2,1. Thursday they were the top performing boat recording an impressive 1,2 to move into second overall on 11 points behind Dickson's *Headcase*, who themselves had a great day recording a 3,1 with a huge moment downwind in race 5 from the lead of the race. They were able to regain control and continue on to win the race. Goldfarb's *War Canoe* again had a super consistent day recording a pair of fourths. They sat in third, not far behind Parker. Bonanno's *La Superba* was disqualified in the protest room from race 5 at the first windward mark after colliding with Lynn Wolgast's team from Germany sailing *Derbe Kerle*. Start of the day went to the team from Saltash UK, Jason Culmer's *Violent J*. After barely making it off the dock after a heavy collision the previous day, they had what the Race Officer described as the best start of the regatta, nailing the line and recording their best result.

**DAY FOUR RECAP:** After a three-hour delay to allow the various warships and ferries to come and go, Plymouth Sound emptied and 20 knots of breeze welcomed the fleet. The heavy wind regatta was starting to take the toll on both the boats and the sailors. Race 6 was dominated by *Gekko* from Japan who stole a march and out-hiked the fleet for a well-deserved and accomplished victory. In Race 7, they scored a 10, finding themselves in fourth overall. Friday was, however, about the team on *War Canoe*, who were the boat of the day scoring two seconds and moving into second overall, just 3 points off *Headcase* who scored an 8 in Race 6 but who followed up with a win in Race 7. Parker's *Bangor Packet* had a third in Race 6 to keep them on track but dropped their discard in Race 7 with an 11<sup>th</sup>. Local Torr's *Majic* had an excellent day with a seventh and a fourth for sixth overall, level on points with the Argentinian *Tata Patagonia* in fifth.

#### Results:

<https://www.sailwave.com/results/J/24WorldChampionship2025.htm>

Event video: [J/24 World Championship Plymouth 2025](#)

**Images:** Joe Woodyear & Chambers film & media

J/24







# J/24 World Championship Plymouth 2025 Technical Report

By Michael Peters, Event Technical Chair

***Following the submission of the technical report prepared by Nick McDonald and myself to the J/24 Class Association and World Sailing, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude.***

My heartfelt thanks go to all sponsors whose generous support made this event possible, to the Yacht Club, and to all the volunteers who dedicated countless hours over many months to ensure the success of this Championship.

A special thank you goes to David Cooper and his wife for their warm hospitality – I truly felt at home. I would also like to commend Sam Marshall and his team for their outstanding work, as well as all the crews who

travelled from near and far to be part of this remarkable J/24 community.

Congratulations to *Headcase*, with skipper Cillian Dickson and his crew, on their well-deserved World Championship title. My congratulations also go to all other teams for their excellent performances. I hope you all returned home safely.

It is an honour and a privilege to have been nominated and confirmed as Technical Chair for the 2026 World Championship in Melbourne. I very much look forward to seeing you all there. Until then, I wish everyone fair winds and good health.

For any technical questions, please feel free to contact me: [michaelpeters1501@googlemail.com](mailto:michaelpeters1501@googlemail.com)



# J/24 North American Championship returns to Port Credit Yacht Club in 2026



The Port Credit Yacht Club and the J/24 Canada Class Association are excited to announce that the J/24 North American Championship is returning to the club for the first time since 2016. Former J/24 World Champion Rossi Milev is leading the effort to host the regatta in partnership with the Canadian class association to help support the revival of the J/24 class in Canada. Both parties are excited by the prospect of bringing together some of North America's best J/24 crews for a fun-filled and competitive event to be held from September 30 to October 4, 2026.

The club and organizing committee are no strangers to hosting large, world class sailing competitions. One year after hosting the North Americans, PCYC staged the J/24 World Championship in 2017, where Milev and crew battled to win it all! PCYC's location in Mississauga, a suburb of Toronto, is sure to attract Canadian boats from Ontario and Quebec, as well as American crews from the US northeast, midwest, and beyond. The 2016 North Americans attracted 46 J/24 entries, while the 2017 World Championship saw 63 crews compete for the ultimate J/24 title.



The Port Credit Yacht Club was founded in 1936 and continues to be a vital and energetic hub for sailing and boating on the shores of Lake Ontario.

The J/24 still ranks as one of the most popular one-design classes in the world, with over 1,000 members worldwide. Director of the International J/24 Class Association, Chris Howell, is also enthusiastic that Port Credit is hosting the event again. "The International J/24 Class is excited to return to Port Credit for the 2026 North American Championship. The club has been host to J/24 World and Continental Championships in the past and has always exceeded expectations with its hospitality."

After a period of dormancy, the Canadian J/24 class association was revived in 2025 with veteran J/24 sailor

Vince Somoza leading an enthusiastic team of councillors to provide competition and comradery to J/24 enthusiasts across Canada. The Canadian National Championship, held at the Nepean Sailing Club in Ottawa this past June for the first time since 2019, saw Evan Petley-Jones and the crew of Lifted (CAN 4025) take first place overall.





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# Greece Report

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For 2025, the Greek J/24 Class scheduled a total of seven regattas – three in Athens during the first half of the year (April-May) and four in Crete during the second half (September-November). So far, six regattas have been successfully completed, with the final event – the second phase of the National Championship – to be held this coming weekend (November 7-9). All six regattas have been conducted smoothly, and participation has steadily increased, reaching a record of 11 boats in the most recent event. In total, 13 Greek boats have competed in at least one regatta this season, and 16 boats are expected to take part in the second stage of the National Championship.

## Athens Regattas – Spring 2025

The first regatta of the year took place on March 1-2, hosted by the Nautical Club of Voula, a long-standing supporter of the Greek J/24 Class. On Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, light southerly winds of 4–6 knots (190°–200°) allowed for three races to be completed. Sunday brought similar conditions, with steady breezes of 5–6 knots from 150°–160°, enabling another three close races.

The championship title was decided in the very last race, as teams were tied on points up to the fifth one, keeping the suspense high until the end. The award ceremony followed, with NAOV once again hosting an excellent event and warmly honoring the top three crews.

## FINAL RESULTS:

**1<sup>st</sup> place:** JMania (NOPF) skippered by Stelios Sotiriou and crew Christos Kyfides, Kynthia Skotida, Rania Vergou, Kostas Tridimas

**2<sup>nd</sup> place:** EYNIKI (IOAN) skippered by Anthimos Nikolaidis and crew Dimitris Altsiades, Manolis Gerontis, Thanasis Siouzos, Thodoris Alexas

**3<sup>rd</sup> place:** June 22-Hellenic Police (SEANATK) skippered by Michailos Karvelas and crew Thanasis Giokas, Giannis Pachakis, Andreas Tsadaris, Nikos Kaligeris

**At the 4<sup>th</sup> place:** KRAKER, a newly formed team making a promising debut.

The second regatta of the season marked the return of the **Nautical Club of Palaio Faliro** as a host, reaffirming its renewed support for the class. Eight boats took part, featuring both Olympic-level athletes and promising young teams that brought fresh energy to the Greek fleet. Team **June22-Hellenic Police** skippered by **Michailos Karvelas**, took first place, followed by **Team EVNIKI** (Anthimos Nikolaidis) and **Team EVNIKI II** (Theodoros Tsoulfas). The 4<sup>th</sup> place took the team Jmania skippered by S. Sotiriou, the 5<sup>th</sup> place took the team SIMERA skippered by G.Moniakis, the 6<sup>th</sup> place took the team MINOAN SPIRIT skippered by A. Pallikaris, the 7<sup>th</sup> place took the team ZOUZOUNI skippered by N. Kozonakis and finally the 8<sup>th</sup> place took the team MOMENTUM skippered by G. Vitsakis.



# Greece Report

The third regatta, which served as the **first phase of the Greek National Championship**, was hosted for the first time by the sailing club **SEANATK** on April 11-13. With nine boats from across Greece and ideal racing conditions, nine exciting races were completed. Constant shifts in wind direction and strength made for tight competition and frequent changes in standings. **Team JMANIA** skippered by Stelios Sotiriou secured victory, followed by **Team EVNIKI** (Anthimos Nikolaidis) and **Team June22- Hellenic Police** (Michailos Karvelas).

## Crete Regattas – Autumn 2025

The autumn leg of the 2025 J/24 Greek calendar continued with three dynamic regattas across Crete.

The fourth regatta was hosted by the Sailing Club of Agios Nikolaos on September 20-21, featuring stronger wind conditions and the club's trademark hospitality. Saturday brought northwesterly winds of 12–14 knots (320°–330°), allowing three dynamic races to be completed, while Sunday offered lighter and steadier breezes of 6–8 knots from 70°, ensuring another three competitive heats. The regatta featured close racing throughout the fleet, with six races completed in total. At the awards ceremony, IOAN once again demonstrated its excellent hospitality and organization, celebrating the top three teams.



## FINAL RESULTS:

The 1<sup>st</sup> place took the **Team June22-Hellenic Police** (Michailos Karvelas), followed by **Team EVNIKI** (Anthimos Nikolaidis) and **Team KIKA** (Georgios Kassapakis). Other finishers included the boats JMania, Minoan Spirit, Simera, and Physalia Physalis.

Just two weeks later, the open regatta “**JSON**” was successfully held by the Sailing Club of Heraklion on October 4-5. Ten boats competed, delivering exciting, high-level racing. Six races were completed over the weekend under favorable sailing conditions that allowed teams to showcase both skill and teamwork. On Saturday, north-northwesterly winds of 8–12 knots (340°–350°) provided excellent racing, with gusts reaching up to 18 knots in the final heat. Sunday continued with steady winds of 8–12 knots from 345°, setting the stage for another three races and tight battles across the fleet. The regatta concluded with a perfectly organized award ceremony, marking another successful event for the Heraklion club. Team EVNIKI (Athnimos Nikolaidis) claimed victory, followed by Team June22 (Michailos Karvelas) and Team JMANIA (Christos Kifidis). The 4<sup>th</sup> place took the team Minoan Spirit skippered by A. Pallikaris, the 5<sup>th</sup> place took the team KIKA skippered by G.Kassapakis, the 6<sup>th</sup> place took the team NOSTROMO skippered by M. Sourligas, the 7<sup>th</sup> place took the team SIMERA skippered by G. Moniakis, the 8<sup>th</sup> place took the team Activista skippered by I.Kovatzis, the 9<sup>th</sup> place took the team Physalia-Physalis skippered by P. Trachanias and finally the 10<sup>th</sup> place took the team MOMENTUM skippered by G. Vitsakis.





# Greece Report



The sixth regatta took place at Pantanassa Harbor on October 18-19, organized by the Nautical Club of Gazi. Eleven boats competed over six races, showcasing the fleet's strong talent and teamwork. Northwestern winds of up to 15 knots provided ideal sailing conditions and exciting competition. A special highlight was the participation of **Olympic gold medalist Aimilia Tsoulfa** (Athens 2004, 470 class), sailing with **Team EVNIKI II**. She remarked that "sailing never ends – there are always things to learn, test, and improve". **Team June22-Hellenic Police** (Michailos Karvelas) emerged victorious, followed by **Team JMANIA** (S. Sotiriou) and **Team KIKA** (G. Kassapakis). The 4<sup>th</sup> place took the team SIMERA skippered by G. Moniakis, the 5<sup>th</sup> place took the team NOSTROMO skippered by M. Sourligas, the 6<sup>th</sup> place took the team EVNIKI II skippered by V. Loizos, the 7<sup>th</sup> place took the team ZOUZOUNI skippered by N. Kozonakis, the 8<sup>th</sup> place took the team Minoan Spirit skippered by A. Pallikaris, the 9<sup>th</sup> place took the team Minoan Wind, the 10<sup>th</sup> place took the team MOMENTUM skippered by G. Vitsakis and finally Physalia-Physalis skippered by P. Trachanias took the 11<sup>th</sup> place.

## Looking Ahead – National Championship & General Assembly

The 2025 season will conclude with the **second phase of the National Championship**, hosted by the Sailing Club of Chania on November 7-9. During the event, the annual general assembly of the Greek J/24 Class will take place, including the presentation of the financial and administrative reports of the Executive Committee.

The Greek J/24 Class Association (GREJCA) warmly thanks all participating clubs, volunteers, and sailors for an outstanding and competitive season. The class continues to grow – the racing is tight, the camaraderie strong, and the energy within the Greek fleet remains high.

Finally, the GREJCA extends its sincere appreciation to **ANEK LINES - SUPER FAST FERRIES member of Attica Group** for their generous sponsorship and continued support in facilitating the transportation of boats and crews throughout the 2025 season.



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# ***J/24 US National Championship Concludes with Light Air Drama***

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***Forty J/24 teams from across the continent gathered November 21-23 for the 2025 J/24 US National Championship, an event defined by patience, persistence and tactical mastery in unusually light and challenging conditions.***

Racing was scheduled to begin Friday, but a complete absence of wind kept the fleet ashore. Saturday delivered shifty, inconsistent breeze that allowed the Race Committee to complete three races, with a fourth race abandoned as conditions deteriorated. On Sunday, the Race Committee once again attempted to get racing underway, but the wind never materialized, solidifying Saturday's results as final. Despite the limited racing, competition was fierce, and several teams put on exceptional performances. In the end, local *Tremendous Slouch* led by Paul Abdullah took the title!





## OVERALL TOP FIVE

1. *Tremendous Slouch* – Paul Abdullah, Ian Hunter, Tucker Gilliam, Jeff Hayden & Max Vinocur
2. *Lifted* – Evan Petley-Jones, Ben Maloney, Emily Merry, Savannah Taylor & Matt Soosalu
3. *Sparcraft* – John Mollicone, Chris Morgan, Will Welles, Matt Coughlin & Nick Turney
4. *Amuse Bouche* – Kurt Dammeier, Peter Keckemet, Mike Marshall & Ben Lamb
5. *Majic* – Michael Reddaway, Will Newton, Molly Robertson, Kim Rosenberg & Luke Koeschner

## Special Recognitions

- Top Junior Team: *Pringle* – Sam Hopper, Piper Easton, Alexis Chomyn, Ella Notdurft & Annika Phillips
- Top All-Women's Team: *Lady MINX* – Lee Ann Zaretsky, Shelly Strachan, Marcy Lake, Jill Gutelius & Sandy Reid
- Top Female Helmsperson: Kelly FitzGerald's *Rush Hour*

## Corinthian Division (All-Amateur Teams)

1. *Lifted* – Evan Petley-Jones, Ben Maloney, Emily Merry, Savannah Taylor & Matt Soosalu
2. *Majic* – Michael Reddaway, Will Newton, Molly Robertson, Kim Rosenberg & Luke Koeschner
3. *Blitz* – Al Constants, David Hammond, David Constants, Michael Constants & Stephen Constants







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The 2025 Championship showcased the resilience and camaraderie of the J/24 Class, with sailors navigating the curveballs of a wind-challenged weekend while maintaining strong camaraderie. Thank you to Chip Till, the Race Committee, Vakaros RaceSense and host FYC who rolled out the red carpet. The Club welcomes sailors back March 13-15 for the 2026 J/24 Midwinter Championship.





# 2025 J/24 National Champions

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Complete results may be found at  
[2025 J/24 US NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP.](#)



# Ireland Report



## J/24 Western Championships 2025 Sligo Yacht Club.

The weekend of 17/18<sup>th</sup> May produced some super weather, brilliant racing and the usual great craic at Rosses Point Sligo, with 15 teams entered for the first event of the year the 2025 season was off to a good start.

Current back to back European champions *Headcase* skipped by Cillian Dickson dominated day one taking all three races leading from start to finish. The racing for the next number of spots was intense with any of 6 boats battling it out. Daragh McCormack in *Stouche* claimed 2<sup>nd</sup> in race 1 with Conor Haughton's *Jupiter* finishing 3<sup>rd</sup>. The wind picked up for race 2 and with *Headcase* taking the honours it was *Blind Squirrel* driven by Colm O'Flaterty who followed them across the line with *Jupiter* again in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The wind held up for race 3 and *Headcase* took the bullet but it was Team *Hedgehog* with Mark Usher at the helm who found their groove to finish second and *Stouche* crossing the line to take 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Another beautiful sunny day greeted the fleet on Sunday morning and PRO Derek Bothwell was hoping to get the remaining 3 races in despite the lack of wind. However after a 2 hour delay and a false start the wind finally



settled in and racing got underway. This time *Headcase* didn't have it all their own way, JP McCaldins *Il Riccio* took an early lead for the first lap only to be overhauled by them at the second windward mark closely followed by *Hedgehog*. The 3 boats had a great battle downwind with several position changes however it was *Headcase* that prevailed to take the win just ahead of *Il Riccio* and *Hedgehog* crossed in 3<sup>rd</sup>. With time running out there was only an opportunity to have one more race, this time it was *Hedge-*



# Ireland Report



*hog* who led at the first mark, a lead they held onto until second time round when *Headcase* crossed them on starboard to move into the lead, positions stayed like this to the finish with *Il Riccio* holding off the fleet to finish in 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Congratulations to *Headcase* on their Championship win and Team *Crazy Horse* (Luke McBride) on winning the Silver Feet Trophy .

### Southern Championships - RCYC

The J/24 European Champions retain their south coast title with four wins from six races at Royal Cork Yacht Club on weekend of 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> June.



The Cillian Dickson skippered *Headcase* may have had an uncharacteristic slip in the championships opening race, finishing a lowly seventh from the 10 starters, but recovered well to win the next two races outside Cork Harbour under Race Officer John Corkery on Saturday afternoon.

The all-Ireland team could not be caught on Sunday when racing was held on the harbour's eastern bank and *Headcase* finished the regatta eight points clear of Martin Mahon's *Snoopy's J* on 15 points. Third was Darragh McCormack's *Stouche* from Foynes Yacht Club on 16.

Rank	Boat	Sail No	Helm
1	<i>Headcase</i>	4247	Cillian Dickson
2	<i>Snoopy's - J</i>	4265	Martin Mahon
3	<i>Stouche</i>	4215	Darragh McCormack
4	<i>Hedgehog</i>	4217	Mark Usher
5	<i>IL Riccio</i>	5219	JP Mccaldin
6	<i>Hard on Port</i>	4794	David Bailey
7	<i>Jupiter</i>	5270	Conor Haughton
8	<i>Jelignite</i>	4532	Finbarr Ryan
9	<i>Crazy Horse</i>	4533	Luke McBride
10	<i>Jambalaya</i>	4263	Max Tolan



# Australia Report

By Hugo Ottaway

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Adam Keys-Tilley, *Pokerface*, leading the pack

## Update from the Victorian Fleet

The Winter has finally passed, and the winners of the Hodges Sandringham Winter Series were Adam Keys-Tilley in *Poker face*, Warren Slater fresh back the Plymouth Worlds in *Jab* and Hugo Ottaway's *Bruschetta VI*.

Our Summer season has begun, and already we have had our first regatta as a lead up to our National Championship and Worlds selection in January. The Sail Sandy Regatta held at Sandringham Yacht Club attracted 150 entries with a strong fleet of J/24s all feeling how they are progressing toward Worlds selection. Two boats came from interstate—Janet Syme in *Jet* from Queensland and Dave West in *Ace* NSW. David won the regatta on a countback from Adam Keys-Tilley in *Poker Face*; Hugo Ottaway's *Bruschetta VI* one point behind third.

Our season start has been a mixture of light and heavy winds, which is typical for this time of year. This was evident when the Thursday night social race, which included 10 J/24s in a fleet of 60, was hit with two cyclonic wind events—the first with gusts of 47 knots, the second 10 minutes apart at officially recorded 58 knots.



Tight racing at the Sail Sandy Regatta

This resulted in varying degrees of damage, however fortunately no injuries. The Js suffered one blown out mainsail on *Hyperactive* and one blown out mainsail and cracked boom on *Bruschetta VI*. It was a testament to the seamanship of the fleet that the boats all made it back to the harbour, many under their own steam.





The fleet returning to the dock with various levels of damage following a 58-knot gust. Time for some sail shopping.

Looking forward, we are using our Vakaros race system in most club races and in the NSW State titles. The Race Committees are enjoying this new technology along with the sailors. Our fleet continues to grow with boats still changing hands toward January.

## It's All Systems Go for the NSW J/24 Class Association!

The spring–summer season kicked off in October for sailing clubs around New South Wales, and the buzz is building fast! With the Epigen 2026 J/24 World Championship heading to Melbourne, all eyes are on the Australian National Championship that will determine who represents the country on the world stage. NSW is aiming to send a strong contingent to the Nationals at Sandringham Yacht Club 6-11 January 2026—including at least one youth team, one women's team and around 10 other crews ready to take on Australia's best.

### Embracing Innovation and Growth

To sharpen their performance in the lead-up, NSW teams will be training with the newly acquired Vakaros RaceSense system. Several clubs have already completed RaceSense training and are planning to host lead-up regattas using the system.

President David West reaffirmed the Association's commitment to youth and women's sailing, proudly noting that *youth sailors now make up 40% of new members*, evenly split between girls and boys. At Middle Harbour Yacht

Club, Lyn Humphries has launched a new youth program that encourages teams to race every second Friday night in twilight spinnaker racing — an initiative already proving popular.

It's shaping up to be an exciting 2025–2026 season for NSW J/24s — all systems go!

## 2025 J/24 NSW State Championship

Twelve teams lined up at Middle Harbour Yacht Club on November 1-2 for the 2025 NSW J/24 State Championship—the first regatta in the state to feature the Vakaros Race Sense system.

Day one brought light, shifty winds that kept Race Officer Steve Tucker and his MHYC team on their toes. Once the course was finally set, Sean Kirkjian's *Checkmate* made their intentions clear, taking a commanding lead in Race 1 that was never challenged as the breeze faded. Andrew Forbes and Katie O'Meara's *Birubi* took second, with David West's *Ace* close behind in third. Race 2 started in just 5 knots of breeze and light rain. At the top mark, the fleet compressed into a "carpark," creating chaos before a major wind shift turned the course inside out. Dave McKay's *Stamped Urgent* from Cronulla Sailing Club made the best of it, taking the win ahead of *Tinto*, skippered by Australian J/24 President Steve Wright, and *Checkmate* in third. With the final shift making conditions unworkable, racing was called off for the day, leaving sailors to enjoy a well-earned barbecue and MHYC hospitality.



# Australia Report

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Top Mark Carpark – Photo: Marg's Yacht Photos

Day 2 Sunday dawned overcast again, with fickle breezes that tested patience and tactics. The top mark was set near South Head, where the wind split the fleet dramatically—boats on the port layline found fresh offshore breeze, while those only metres away stalled in a hole. *Ace*, sailing left, rounded just behind Jack Felsenthal's *Sailpac* (a rapidly improving youth team from Pacific Sailing School), while *Checkmate* recovered from the right-hand side to challenge downwind. Race Management shortened the course, and *Ace* took the win ahead of *Checkmate* and *Sailpac*, with the next three boats finishing within 20 seconds. Race 4 brought more light-air drama. *Ace* again led early, with *Birubi* close behind, but both were becalmed 50 metres from the bottom mark as new breeze filled from the middle of the course. *Tinto* capitalised brilliantly, surging ahead to take the win from *Checkmate* and *Sailpac*.

Race 5 finally delivered a steady breeze, allowing a fairer contest. *Checkmate* started strongly at the pin, crossing John Crawford's *Innamincka* at the first cross, with *Ace* recovering from an OCS. They finished in that order—*Checkmate*, *Innamincka*, *Ace*—in a classic J/24 three-way duel. In the final race, podium positions were wide open, with *Stamped Urgent*, *Innamincka*, *Ace* and *Tinto* all in contention. *Checkmate*, already secure at the top after a string of consistent results, sealed the regatta with another win; *Innamincka* took second, *Stamped Urgent* third. After countback, three boats tied on 17 points—*Tinto* claimed second overall, *Ace* third and *Stamped Urgent* fourth, just one point ahead of *Innamincka*.

Tight racing in light conditions – Photo: Marg's Yacht Photos





# Australia Report

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Pre-start jostling – Photo: Marg's Yacht Photos

## Performance Handicap and Spirit Award

In the Performance Handicap results, it was fantastic to see two Pacific Sailing School youth teams on top of the leaderboard. *Sailpac* took first (showing impressive tactical improvement through the regatta), followed by Ashleigh Larkin's *Pacatack* in second and Philip Sewell's *Unreal Race*

*Team* from RANSA in third. Long-time J/24 sailor Clinton Hood from Cronulla was a well-deserved winner of the 2025 J/24 Spirit Award. As President David West remarked, "Clinton is someone who shows up, helps out and enjoys his sailing and post-race camaraderie. That's the J/24 Spirit." Full NSW State Championship results are [here](#).



*Checkmate*, NSW Champions: Skipper Sean Kirkjian, Shane Guanaria, Tony Renolds, Will Haughton and Pauliina Mattila - Photo: Marg's Yacht Photos



# Hungary Report

By Jeno Gacs

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© MVM SE /Cserta Gábor

The second half of the Hungarian J/24 season once again delivered everything that makes this Class so exciting — close racing, changing conditions and a strong community spirit. After the stormy adventure of the Blue Ribbon Regatta, the fleet had only a few weeks to recharge before diving straight into the fourth stop of the **One Design Balaton Tour**, hosted by the **Balatonfüredi Yacht Club**.

Thirteen boats lined up on the starting line, greeted by a crisp northerly breeze of 12–15 knots. *J-Bond* quickly showed they were in peak form and ready for the upcoming World Championship, where they would later finish an impressive ninth overall. After four races, they secured a confident victory with just four points, followed by *Jukebox* (7 points) and *J’Korszak–Laurel* (8 points).



TÖRÖK BRIGIT<sup>®</sup>



# Hungary Report

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The season's highlight, the **National Championship**, brought the fleet to **Révfülöp**, a new venue for the Class. Seventeen boats turned up, and from the very first race, it was clear this would be one of the most competitive Nationals in recent memory. Going into the final day, the leaderboard was incredibly tight — *Django* led with 8 points, just ahead of *J-Bond* (9 points) and *iIroncat* (11 points). Although light winds were forecast, the sailors were greeted by a gentle 5–7 knot easterly that allowed for one final showdown. When the scores were tallied after six races, *J-Bond* and *Django* were tied on points, but *J-Bond* claimed the **National Champion title** on countback, thanks to more race wins. *Django* took a well-earned silver, while *J-Spot* snatched the bronze with a clutch win in the final race.

The season concluded, as tradition dictates, with the **Fleet Championship** in early October, organized by **MVM SE** in Balatonfüred. Autumn conditions were at their very best — steady 15–18 knots of breeze and sunshine over 20°C — the perfect farewell to the season. Five races were completed in total, with *Django* taking the overall win with four points, ahead of *J'Korszak-Laurel* and *Montem*.

With close finishes, new venues and strong performances across the fleet, 2025 once again proved that the Hungarian J/24 Class remains one of the most vibrant and competitive one-design communities on Lake Balaton.



# 2026 J/24 Midwinter Championship

March 13-15, 2026

**Florida Yacht Club**  
Jacksonville, Florida  
Home - Florida Yacht Club

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EST 1876



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By Tom Werff



## Jack Around Triumphs in Stormy J/24 Dutch Championship at WV Arne

Storm Benjamin forced the organizers of the Open Dutch Championship J/24, held from October 24-26 at Watersportvereniging Arne, to drastically shorten the event's schedule. Of the seven planned races, only two could be sailed, but that didn't dampen the competitive spirit of the 15 participating teams. *Jack Around* claimed the title with two convincing victories, ahead of *DutchJees* and *Joint Venture*. When sailing became impossible, the organizers improvised with a lively bingo night.

The Championship kicked off on Friday with high expectations, despite ominous weather forecasts following Storm Benjamin's passage on Thursday. The J/24 Class opened the event at the Roergangershut with an ambitious program: three races, an after-sail gathering, a communal dinner and karaoke. The first warning signal sounded at 12:25 PM.

However, the wind proved to be an unpredictable factor. Of the three scheduled races on Friday, only two were completed. *Jack Around*, competing with the same team that sailed the European Championship, immediately showed why they were among the favorites, dominating both races with strong performances.

**Experience Pays Off on Day One** *DutchJees* demonstrated that their participation in the World Championship in Plymouth—where they gained experience in winds exceeding 30 knots—was a worthwhile investment. The team secured second place in both races, firmly positioning themselves in the standings. The battle for third place brought plenty of excitement.

In the first race, *Joint Venture* took third, but in race two, it was *Jigsaw* who stepped onto the podium. For *Jigsaw*, this result was a rewarding confirmation of the progress the team had made over the past year. The increasing wind took its toll, with several teams forced to withdraw early due to equipment failure and worsening conditions.

Despite the challenges, Friday ended on a cheerful note. During the after-sail, sailors enjoyed satay with fries, and Uco delivered a solo performance that added to the atmosphere. The combination of competitive sailing and camaraderie ashore proved to be a winning formula, even as the weather threw a wrench in the plans.



# Dutch Report

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**Bingo Replaces Racing on Saturday** Four races were scheduled for Saturday, but wind and rain led to repeated delays. The start was first postponed to 1:00 PM, then to 3:00 PM. Ultimately, the Race Committee deemed sailing unsafe: force seven winds with gusts exceeding 30 knots made racing impossible.

Fortunately, the Class Association had a backup plan: J/24 Bingo. It kicked off at 4:15 PM, with Paulien as the enthusiastic caller. Prizes, provided by Jachtwerf Oostwatering, Zwemer Watersport, Quantum Sails and 5Voet, added excitement. For two hours, bingo cards were the center of attention.

Afterward, fresh mussels were served, and despite the lack of sailing, the atmosphere remained excellent. Participants appreciated the organizers' improvisation, which showed that a Championship is about more than just competition—it's also about the social cohesion within the J/24 fleet.

**Sunday: Final Decision After Two Races** Weather models offered some hope for Sunday, but the morning brought renewed strong gusts. At 8:15 AM, the final decision was made: no further races would be sailed. Thus, this edition of the Class Championship entered the history books with only two races completed.

The official awards ceremony took place at 11:00 AM. *Jack Around* received the coveted title, with *DutchJees* in second and *Joint Venture* rounding out the podium in third. The full results are available via Manage2Sail under the name "Open Dutch Championship J/24 2025."



Despite the limited sailing program, the organizers considered the event a success. The presence of 15 J/24 teams, including two newcomers—*Jeppe* and *Jachtkraker*—was a positive sign for the Class. Sponsors and numerous volunteers contributed to the weekend's success.

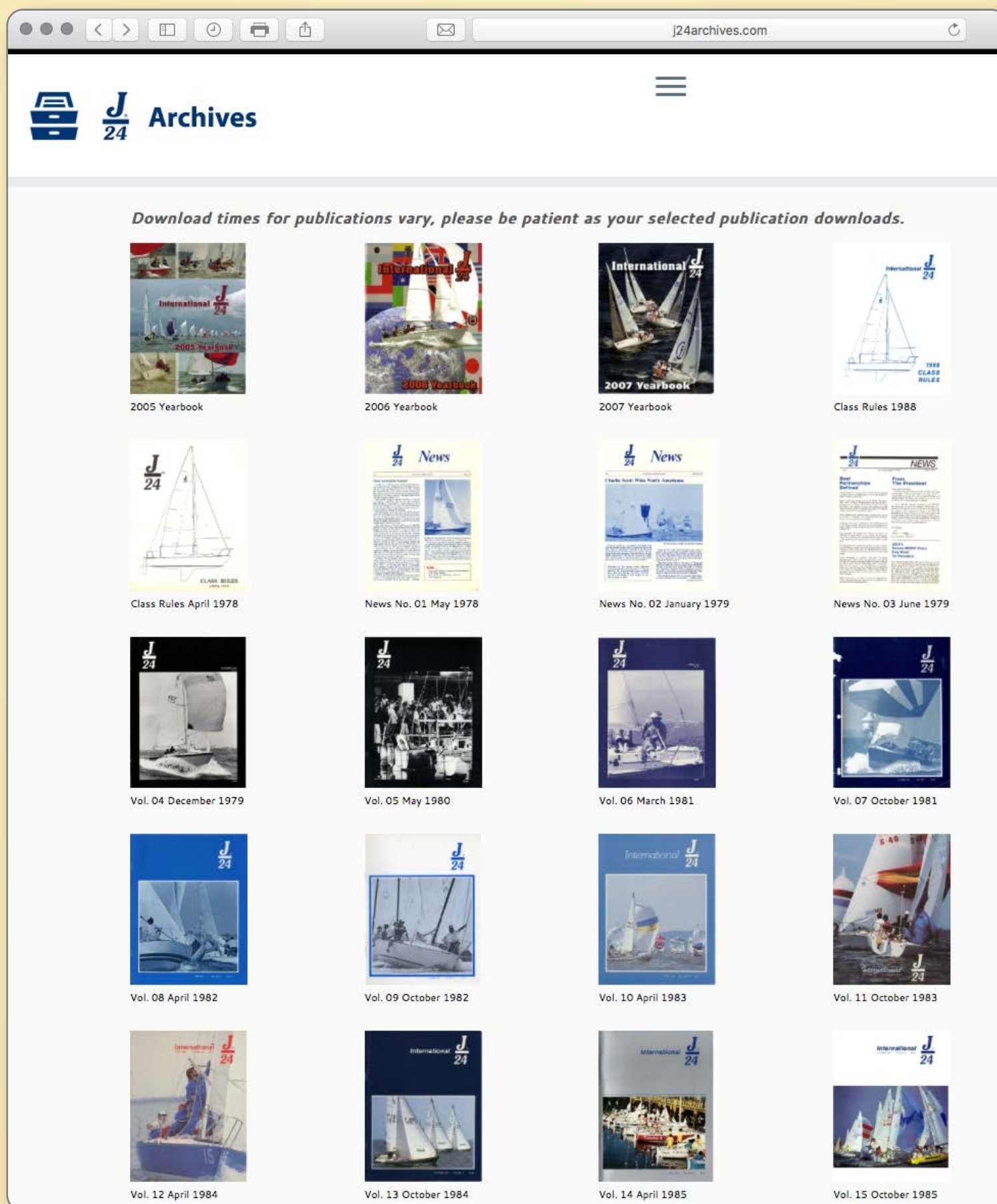
**Looking Ahead to the Winter Program** Most of the fleet will remain in Oostwatering for the winter sprint races. The J/24 Class continues to show its activity and engagement, even outside the regular season. For more photos, information, and full results, visit J24.nl and the J/24 The Netherlands Facebook page.

Organizers are already looking forward to the next edition—hopefully with less wind, but certainly no less energy and enthusiasm from the participants and volunteers who make the J/24 Championship a truly special event.



## All J/24 Magazines Now Archived Online

The IJCA took on the project of scanning ALL the old Class magazines. Go to <http://J/24archives.com/> to view the editions dating back to 1978!







## The Apulian J/24 Jebedee won in Agropoli and took a commanding victory in the National J/24 Circuit.

*Viva Papà, owned by local Maddalena Sangiovanni, and the other Apulian Fleet J/24, L'Emilio, owned by Compagnia del Mare, also finished on the podium. The fifth stage, well organized by the local LNI section, also served as the Biagio Manganelli Memorial.*

**Agropoli.** This year, too, it was the J/24 ITA 427 Jebedee, owned by Apulian Fleet Chief Nino Soriano (crewed with Andrea Camporeale in the cockpit, Elena Piccolo in the center, and Francesco Russo and Alessandro Favia at the bow, all from the Circolo Il Maestrale Sailing School), that prevailed in the splendid waters of Agropoli during the Biagio Manganelli Memorial National Regatta. This event, organized by the local branch of the Italian Naval League (LNA), delegated by the FIV (Italian Naval Federation) and under the patronage of the Municipality of Agropoli, serves as the fifth stage of the J/24 National Circuit. After nine unmissable heats in Italy's most beautiful locations from April to November, the Francesco Ciccolo Perpetual Challenge Trophy will be awarded to the winner, excluding discards, and the J/24 Helmsman-Owner Trophy, the score of which is calculated on the best four races completed.



With five wins out of five races held over the two days, the Apulian J/24 Jebedee (4 points; 1,1,1,1,1) outclassed the other crews competing in the event, which commemorates the young 16-year-old sailor, a passionate sailor who loved his J/24 and its performance, and who sadly passed away prematurely in an accident at sea.





On the podium, in second place, was Maddalena Sangiovanni's ITA 217 Viva Papà (10 points; 3,3,2,2,4) representing the local fleet, and in third place was the other Apulian fleet J/24, ITA 439 L'Emilio, owned by Compagnia del Mare (11 points; 2,2,4,4,3) and helmed by Ciccio Mastropierro. Followed by Ita 124 Ossoduro by Francesco Saverio Dambrosio (13 points), Ita 466 Biagio by Giuseppe Manganelli (18 points), Ita 188 Ice Spray by Antonio Chiodero (24 points) and Ita 186 Indiana Jones (30 points) of the LNI Agropoli Section.

"This year's trip to Campania was a wonderful experience again!" Soriano commented enthusiastically. "The event was well-organized and characterized by beautiful weather conditions with light, uneven winds across the course, which complicated the race strategy. For my part, I was happy to see that my friend Peppe Manganelli's J/24 fleet, while not growing in numbers, has significantly improved its competitiveness. In fact, with more than one of their boats, we pleasantly experienced very close encounters that were resolved within a meter only on the finish line. I'm also happy with the result of our fleet's other J/24, L'Emilio (CV Molfetta), which, in addition to Ciccio Mastropierro at the helm, employed Mimmo Guglielmi on sheets, Antonio Marinaro on center, Fabio Rana on mast, and Gabriele Allegretta on the bow."

"We are proud and very happy to have had the opportunity to once again host a stage of our National Circuit and to have seen that all the crews appreciated our hospitality, enthusiasm, and the commitment we put into organizing this stage," concluded Peppe Manganelli, Head of the

local J/24 Fleet, made up of highly enthusiastic crews and formed in April 2020 with the aim of introducing many young people to sailing and reminding them of the importance of always looking forward, despite adversity. "I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the success of this stage, the Race Committee, the LNI Agropoli Section and in particular President Alessio della Torre and Sports Manager Domenico Parisi, the racers who animated the sea trials and especially the two crews from Puglia who once again made the trip to race with us."



### Francesco Nucara's J/24 Rabbit won the Italian Cup in Anzio, the sixth stage of the National Circuit.

*Rabbit was also awarded the 2025 Fabio Apollonio Trophy and the Marina Spaccarelli Bulgari Perpetual Challenge Trophy. The first six stages of the 2025 National Circuit were held in Marina di Carrara (won by Jamaica), Livorno (La Superba), Lerici (44<sup>th</sup> Italian Open Championship, La Superba), Caldonazzo (Bruschetta Guastafeste), Agropoli (Jebedee), and Anzio (Rabbit).*





**Anzio.** With a brace of victories in the five races held overall and regular partial races, the J/24 Ita 438 Rabbit Toio, owned by Francesco Nucara (C.Vela Mare) and helmed by Fabio Ascoli (crewed with Paolo Boero, Simone Fojanini, Nicolò Gaddi) won (8 points; 4,7,1,2,1) the sixth stage of the 2025 National Circuit held over the weekend just ended in the waters of Anzio. Rabbit also received the Marina Spaccarelli Bulgari Perpetual Challenge Trophy, reserved for the first place finisher, and the Fabio Apollonio 2025 Trophy, dedicated to the unforgettable President of the Class, who passed away in 2021.

On the podium, in second and third place respectively, were the winner of the penultimate race, ITA 501 Avoltore, owned by the Honorary President of the Italian J/24 Class, Massimo Mariotti, and skippered by Francesco Cruciani (CNV Argentario, also crewed with Fulvio Cruciani on sheets, Goffredo Russo and Maria Sole De Blasi on the bow, 10 points; 2, 5, 7, 1, 2), and the protagonist of the opening race, ITA 358 Arpione, the J/24 of the SVMM of Anzio skippered by Michele Potenza, crewed by Panfilo Del Beato Corvi taylor, Italo Paulini tactician, Giuseppe Speciale mastman, and Elisabetta Centeone bowman (11 points, 1,2,8,4,4).

The winner of the second race, Ita 428 Pelle Rossa, owned by the Vice President of the Italian J/24 Class, Gianni Riccobono, finished sixth (CV Roma, 21 points), behind Ita 487 American Passage, owned by Rome Fleet Chief Paolo Rinaldi (CV Roma, 17 points), and Luca Silvestri's Ita 458 Enjoy 2 (LNI Anzio, 20 points).

"It was my first time in Anzio, both as a competitor and as an owner, and I must say the race course did not disappoint, giving us a first day of light winds with a few jumps that created quite a few difficulties... including an out-of-place start in the second race," commented Francesco Nucara. "The second day featured stronger winds, conditions that were more favorable to us, fresh from our recent experiences in Wemeldinge and Plymouth. The level of the boats present was good, and the warmth and friendliness of their crews was great. Our heartfelt thanks also go to them for the welcome we received, even though we were hoping for a few more boats for the most important national event on paper after the Italian Championship in Lerici. We are moving forward with our project, which we started at the beginning of the year with Fabio and Olympic Sails, to try to bring an Italian sailmaker and a boat with a great history to compete and win at national and international level, even if no longer very young, but still in good shape. Abroad we see many young people still competing in this timeless class, and I hope to see more of them." Even more so here in Italy because it's a preparatory and technical boat."

The event, also valid as the Italian Cup, was well organized, on behalf of the Italian Sailing Federation (FIV), by Circolo della Vela Roma with the collaboration of Rome Fleet Chief Paolo Rinaldi, Vele al Vento a.s.d., Reale Circolo Canottieri Tevere Remo, the Italian Naval League Anzio Section, the Navy Sailing Section, the technical support of Marina di Nettuno, and the patronage of the Municipality of Anzio.





## The SVMM J/24 La Superba wins the Cervia National J/24 Regatta.

*The seventh stage of the National J/24 Circuit, also counting as the Antonio Antonelli Trophy, has concluded after three races. It was perfectly organized by the Cervia Friends of Sailing Club. Bruschetta Guastafeste and J Capitan Nemo also made the podium. The organization and warm hospitality were greatly appreciated by the numerous crews present.*

**Cervia.** With two first-place finishes and a second-place finish, the Italian Navy Sailing Section J/24, ITA 416 La Superba, skippered by Ignazio Bonanno (SVMM, 4 points; 2,1,1), won the seventh stage of the 2025 National Circuit. The event was perfectly organized, with the help of the Italian Sailing Federation (FIV), by the Cervia Friends of Sailing Club.

The reigning Italian champions finished ahead of the opening race's protagonist, the ITA 469 Bruschetta Guastafeste, owned by sisters Sonia and Alessia Ciceri and helmed by Pierluigi Puthod (CV Tivano, 6 points; 1, 2, 3), and Guido Guadagni's ITA 499 J Capitan Nemo (CV Ravennate, 20 points; 4, 8, 8).

The Romagna heat, which also counts as the Antonio Antonelli Trophy—in memory of the owner and helmsman of Kismet, a great friend of the J/24 Class and the sailing world, a unique individual and highly esteemed professional who passed away prematurely in 2016—was

attended by around twenty crews representing numerous Italian fleets. All participants greatly appreciated the excellent organization, the engaging hospitality, and the work done by the Race Committee, chaired by Marino Fattori, with 1<sup>st</sup> member Franco Minotti, Enrico Pozzi Pavirani, and Aldo Ricci.

"I am very happy with the success of this event. The Antonio Antonelli Trophy National Stage of the J/24 is, for the Circolo Nautico Cervia Amici della Vela, a very important regatta, one that is truly important to us," commented Massimo Frigerio, President of the Italian J/24 Class and Fleet Leader of Romagna. "The large participation of boats from other FIV Zones shows that the J/24 Class is still full of vitality. Many important boats participated in the event which, although it took place on just one day of splendid sunshine, demonstrated the high values in the field. Our Club and the Class are working hard to bring more and more young people to the J/24. The somewhat informal evening on the New Ghibli motor vessel was — I believe — a different and fun interlude, a way to add something new to our regattas and to have fun not only in the water. Unfortunately, on Sunday we were anxiously awaiting the developments of that "perfect storm" that the forecasts predicted would happen. Therefore, the choice to prepare the boats for the start on Saturday and to hold the race was an excellent one." The awards ceremony will take place after dinner, allowing the crews to return safely the following morning."



# Italy Report

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With the first seven legs concluded—held in Marina di Carrara (won by Jamaica), Livorno (La Superba), Lerici (44<sup>th</sup> Italian Open Championship, La Superba), Caldonazzo (Bruschetta Guastafeste), Agropoli (Jebedee), Anzio (Rabbit Toio), and Cervia (La Superba)—and pending the update of the provisional rankings of the 2025 National Circuit, which will also award the Francesco Ciccolo Trophy this year—established in memory of the President who passed away prematurely and reserved for the first place finisher of the National Circuit—and the Best Helmsman-Owner J/24 Trophy, the Italian fleet of the most widespread and popular one-design keelboat in the world is already ready for a new trip and a new challenge. The National J/24 Circuit will continue in October with the National Regatta - XXIV Coppa Città di Valmadrera, organized by the Circolo Vela Tivano and Fleet Leader of the Lario and J/24 Class Advisor Mauro Benfatto, on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> in the Lario waters of Lecco-Pare' di Valmadrera.

And finally, after nine events from April to November in Italy's most beautiful locations, enchanting Sardinia and Fleet Leader and J/24 Class Advisor Marco Frulio will, as per tradition, host the final stage of the National Circuit on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> of November, organized by the Olbia section of the LNI.



## The J/24s Rabbit Toio and Jamaica lead the Ciccolo Trophy and the Best J/24 Helmsman-Owner Trophy.

*After the first seven events and with two to go, the provisional standings for the 2025 National Circuit have changed again, awarding the two coveted Francesco Ciccolo Trophies and the Best J/24 Helmsman-Owner.*

A new update to the provisional standings for the J/24 National Circuit has been released. This year, after nine events from April to November in Italy's most beautiful locations, the Francesco Ciccolo Trophy will be awarded to the winner of the 2025 National Circuit and the J/24 Trophy to the Best Helmsman-Owner.



# Italy Report

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Having just concluded the seventh stage in Cervia (won by the J/24 of the Navy Sailing Section La Superba), and archived the other six—held in Marina di Carrara (won by Jamaica), Livorno (La Superba), Lerici (44<sup>th</sup> Italian Open Championship, La Superba), Caldonazzo (Bruschetta Guastafeste), Agropoli (Jebedee), and Anzio (Rabbit Toio)—the Italian J/24 Class has, in fact, integrated the new results. While they left the Ciccolo Trophy standings unchanged, they have instead seen Jamaica overtake the J/24 Trophy standings.

ITA 438 Rabbit Toio, owned by Francesco Nucara and skippered by Fabio Ascoli, maintains its lead (197 points; 2, 2, 7, 6, dns, 1, 7) in the provisional standings—calculated without considering discards—of the Perpetual Challenge Trophy, established in memory of the prematurely deceased President. Also Ita 469 Bruschetta Guastafeste, owned by sisters Sonia and Alessia Ciceri and by Ancilla Scaccia and helmed by Pierluigi Puthod (190 points; 7,3,2,1,dns,dns,2) and the winner of the past editions and reigning Italian champion Ita 416 La Superba, helmed by Ignazio Bonanno (SVMM, 173 points; 3,1,1,dns,dns,dns,1) confirmed their second and third place respectively,

followed however by Ita 212 Jamaica (129) and Ita 432 Kaster (126 points).

The provisional ranking of the J/24 Helmsman-Owner Trophy has been modified, however, with the score calculated on the best four races disputed: in fact, the winner of the past editions, Ita 212 Jamaica of the Councillor Pietro Diamanti (129; 1,6,9,dns,dns,dns,8) has taken the lead, overtaking Ita 432 Kaster of Federica Cattarozzi (112 points, 10,7,10,4,dns,dns,12), who dropped to second position, and Ita 476 Dejavù of Ruggero Spreafico (107; 8,8,17,2,dns,dns,5), Ita 304 Five for Fighting of Eugenia De Giacomo (91; 6,dns,3,dns,dns,dns,dns) and Ita 487 American Passage of Paolo Rinaldi (82.5 points; dns, dns, 6, dns, 4, dns) confirming their rankings.

The Italian fleet of the world's most widespread and popular one-design keelboat is already preparing for the penultimate leg of the 2025 National Circuit, which could once again alter the provisional rankings: on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup>, the Larian waters of Lecco-Pare' di Valmadrera will host the National Regatta - XXIV Coppa Città di Valmadrera, organized over six races (Skipper meeting at 11:00 a.m. and warning signal for the first race at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday) by the Circolo Vela Tivano ([www.tivanovela.it](http://www.tivanovela.it)) and the Lario Fleet Leader and J/24 Class Advisor Mauro Benfatto.

And finally, on Saturday the 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 16<sup>th</sup> of November, as per tradition, the enchanting Sardinia and the Fleet Leader and J/24 Class Advisor Marco Frulio will host the final leg of the National Circuit, organized by the Olbia branch of the Italian Naval League.



# Italy Report



## The Italian Navy's J/24 La Superba has won the 24th Coppa Città di Valmadrera.

*The historic event, organized by the Circolo Velico Tivano, has concluded and counts as the eighth and penultimate stage of the National J/24 Circuit.*

**Valmadrera.** Repeating the success of last year's edition, with three victories out of six races held over the past weekend, Gruppo Sportivo Marina Militare helmsman Ignazio Bonanno—helming the ITA 416 La Superba and crewed by bowman Alfredo Branciforte, Francesco Picaro on halyards, Simone Scontrino on sheets, and Francesco Ciccio Linares as central sailer—took the top step of the podium at the 24th Coppa Città di Valmadrera – 14<sup>th</sup> Trofeo Lario Mi Auto, the historic event organized in the waters off Valmadrera by the Circolo Velico Tivano and counts as the eighth stage of the 2025 National Circuit of the J/24 Class.

La Superba (SVMM, 9 points; partial scores of 1, 1, 3, 3, 1, 3) also won the XIV Challenge Lario Mi Auto, a trophy reserved for the crew with the best score without discards, which will remain on display at the CV Tivano headquarters until the next edition, when it will be up for grabs again.

Second place in the final standings went to the winner of the third and fourth races, the Carrara-based J/24 ITA 212 Jamaica, owned and helmed by Italian Class Councilor Pietro Diamanti (Club Nautico Marina di Carrara, 5, 4, 1, 1, 7, 2). Diamanti tied for 13 points, beating the local J/24 ITA 469 Bruschetta Guastafeste, owned by sisters Sonia and Alessia Ciceri and Ancilla Scaccia, and helmed by Pierluigi Puthod (Circolo Velico Tivano; 3, 2, 2, 2, 4, dnf), who had retired in the final race.



Among the other crews representing the organizing association, ITA 498 Pilgrim, owned and helmed by Lario Fleet Chief and J/24 Class Advisor Mauro Benfatto, finished seventh overall, and ITA 476 Dèjavù, owned and helmed by Ruggero Spreafico, finished eighth.

The Lake Como J/24 ITA 461 Miky Il Armageddon (CN Brenzone), owned by Fabio De Rossi, was awarded the Vallespluga Prize for winning the final race of the second day. Eleven highly skilled crews took to the water.

"Our magnificent lake has once again provided six beautiful races," commented Benfatto. "A huge thank you to everyone who participated in this edition, especially those who traveled so many kilometers to take part in our leg; thanks to the volunteers who worked hard; thanks to the Race Committee chaired by Davide Ponti, president of the 15th FIV Zone, and assisted by judges Enea Beretta, Lorenzo Crippa, and Walter Ghezzi, who professionally handled a couple of protests without affecting the final ranking;



# Italy Report



thanks to the Circolo Tivano who pampered us and its president Beppe De Luca; thanks to those who patiently supported us (LNI of Mandello); thanks to the organizations that sponsored us, and also to our sponsors!!! What can I say: the J/24 Class certainly makes you work hard, but it's also so much fun!!! See you soon and fair winds to everyone."

The event, sponsored by the Lombardy Region, CONI Lombardia, the Province of Lecco, the Municipality of Valmadrera, and the Lario and Minor Lakes Basin Authority, with main partner Lario Mi Auto – Honda, took place over two days. On Saturday, weather conditions proved ideal, with a steady 10-knot wind allowing for three regular races. On Sunday, however, the wind held until midday, but the Tivano still allowed for all scheduled races to be completed, rewarding the crews most skilled at reading the race course in light air. As is tradition, the organization of

the Circolo Velico Tivano was highly appreciated by all the competitors, both for its efficiency on the water and for its customary hospitality on land – the convivial dinner of stew and taragna polenta was particularly appreciated.

With the penultimate stage now over, the Italian fleet of the world's most popular one-design keelboat is preparing to compete in the final round of the 2025 National Circuit. After nine unmissable stages held from April to November in Italy's most beautiful locations, the Francesco Ciccolo Perpetual Challenge Trophy will be awarded to the winner (excluding discards) and the J/24 Helmsman-Owner Trophy (based on the best four races completed). On Saturday, November 15th and Sunday, November 16th, as is tradition, enchanting Sardinia and Fleet Chief and J/24 Class Advisor Marco Frulio will host the final round of the National Circuit, organized by the Olbia branch of the Italian Naval League.







## J/24 Zonal Championship – First Round in Olbia

*Vigne Surrau of the Arzachena Nautical Club is in the lead, followed by Aria of the LNI Olbia organizing club and Giuseppe Taras' Dolphins tied for first place.*

The first part of the J/24 Zonal Championship, which will take place from October 19<sup>th</sup> to November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, has begun in Olbia, hosted with great organizational care by the Lega Navale Italiana, Olbia Section.

Eight crews took part in the event, competing on a race course facing the picturesque Pittulongu beach. Weather conditions were characterized by a light easterly wind (around 75-80°), which tested the crews' tactical skills.

The Race Committee, composed of Claudio Razzuoli and Salvatore Corda, managed to complete three races on the opening day of the four scheduled for the championship, the last two of which will also count as races for the national circuit.

The first race was won by Giuseppe Taras' Dolphins, ahead of Vigne Surrau of the Arzachena Nautical Club and Mariolino Di Fraia's Botta Dritta.

The second race was won by Aria, a boat from the organizing club LNI Olbia, ahead of Dolphins (helmed by Andrea Mariani) and Vigne Surrau (with Aurelio Bini at the helm).

The third race saw the victory go to Vigne Surrau, with Evero Niccolini calling tactics, ahead of Aria (with Fabrizio Masu on sheets) and Botta Dritta.

After three races, the provisional standings see Vigne Surrau in the lead, tied—with three points behind—by Aria and Dolphins.

It's worth noting the presence, aboard several J/24s, of numerous young athletes from the local 420 class team and other local clubs, a sign of significant generational change and positive synergy between the classes. The day concluded in a convivial atmosphere, with a lunch hosted by the LNI Olbia for all crews and collaborators.

### Provisional ranking:

Vigne Surrau – Club Nautico Arzachena  
Crew: Aurelio Bini, Evero Niccolini, Pietro Alvisa, Danilo Deiana, Antonio Fedele



# Calendar

## 2025

**November 27 - November 30**

**2025 J/24 South American  
Championship**

Yacht Club de Chile  
Viña del Mar, Chile

**November 4 - November 11**  
**Epigen J/24 World Championship**  
**Melbourne 2026**

Sandringham Yacht Club  
Melbourne, Australia

## 2026

**September 30, 2026 - October 4, 2026**

**2026 J/24 North  
American Championship**

Port Credit Yacht Club  
Mississauga, Ontario, Canada

## 2027

**October 2 - October 9**  
**2027 J/24 World Championship**

Rochester Yacht Club  
Rochester, NY, United States

[J/24class.org/events/](https://j/24class.org/events/)

# THANK YOU!

**to all NJCAs who participated in the  
2025 World Council Meetings.**

**The minutes are posted here:**  
[World Council Meeting Minutes | J/24 Class](#)