

J/24 TEXAS NOTICE OF CIRCUIT

(Effective March 1, 2019)

Invitation

You are cordially invited to participate in the 2019 J/24 Texas Circuit (the “Circuit”) to be held from March through November 2019, and sponsored by the U.S. J/24 Class Association (USJCA) District 14 and the Fleets therein, along with their local yacht clubs, which are designated as the organizers and hosts, respectively.

Eligibility

The Circuit is open to all J/24 boats as defined by the International J/24 Class. Helmspersons must be Full Members (\$90) of the J/24 National or International Class. In addition, all boats and competitors must meet all requirements set forth in this Notice of Circuit (“NOC”), as well as individual regatta registration requirements, in order to become Circuit participants.

Crewmembers, other than helmspersons, are not required to be class members. However, they are encouraged to join in support of the Class by becoming Associate Members (\$35 per year).

Full and Associate membership may be obtained online at <http://j24usa.com/membership/>

Most of the regattas will offer a discount on the entry fee with a US Sailing membership. Although not required, we encourage US Sailing membership. Membership may be obtained online at <https://www1.ussailing.org/mem/default.aspx>

It has become regular practice to require proof of insurance as a condition of entry to regattas. Each participating boat should be prepared to provide proof of valid third party insurance with a minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident or the amount as required by the regatta organizers. Each helmsperson should research insurance options. One option is Gowrie Group who provides One Design focused insurance. <https://www.gowrie.com/USsailingPrograms/OneDesignProgram.aspx>

Rules

The Circuit and the series of regattas that make up the Circuit will be governed by the rules as defined in the 2017-2020 RRS, the 2019 International J/24 Class Rules (“Class Rule”), this NOC, and the respective Notices of Race and Sailing Instructions for each regatta. Certain Class Rules are outlined herein to highlight some pertinent rules. However, **each person participating in the Circuit is encouraged to review and learn all of the Class Rules.** Class Rules can be found at <http://www.j24class.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/11/J24-Class-Rules-2019.pdf>.

In accordance with Class Rule A.11.1, all boats must have a current, valid Measurement Certificate issued by the J/24 Class and current (completed annually) Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment. In accordance with Class Rule B.3, all boats must carry aboard the current Measurement Certificate and Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment.

Measurement Certificate – Any boat without a Measurement Certificate should contact the USJCA District 14 Governor of record (“Governor”) and Texas Circuit Representative (“Circuit Rep”) to arrange for boat measurement in order to obtain a Measurement Certificate. A boat without a

Measurement Certificate may race in the Circuit only with prior approval of and during the timeframe as designated by the Governor.

Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment – It is the sole responsibility of each owner or helmsperson to complete this form. Completing this form does not require a class measurer. Each boat shall use the designated form provided by the Circuit Rep.

A boat and/or its equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with Class Rules by the Governor, Circuit Rep, a J/24 class measurer or race official prior to, during or at the conclusion of each regatta, and without prior notification. Any violations of the Class Rules shall be subject to penalties as set forth in the Sailing Instructions for that regatta.

Pursuant to Class Rule C.2.1, all crews must consist of at least three (3) persons with weight not exceeding 400 kg (882 lbs). All competitors will be weighed during registration at each regatta and the crew shall remain the same for all races of that regatta. Any crew substitution shall be given only in exceptional cases and requires that the helmsperson submit a written request to the Governor or Circuit Rep at least 2 hours prior to racing on the day in which the substitution is requested.

It is intended for the respective protest committees of the host clubs for each regatta to have authority on all matters within their jurisdiction. In the event there is a protest or violation relating to Class Rules that fall outside of the protest committee jurisdiction, a committee consisting of District 14 Fleet Captains of record and chaired by the Governor will resolve such matters. These include, but are not limited to, circuit scoring, helmsperson substitution, and noncompliance of certain Class Rules or this NOC.

Sails

Pursuant to Class Rule A.9.1., the mainsail, 150% genoa and spinnaker must all have the same sail numbers as their boat's hull number. Any boat whose sail numbers do not match their hull number may race in the regatta by submitting a written request at least 2 hours prior to racing on the day in which the substitution is requested to the protest committee informing them of the sail type and sail number in which they will be competing. This request shall be approved by the Governor or Circuit Rep prior to presenting to the protest committee.

Class Rule C.10.2 is amended herein and in the Sailing Instructions to allow boats to carry an additional spinnaker. Boats shall comply strictly to this amendment as it is stated in the Sailing Instructions.

Boats must compete with the same set of sails for the entirety of a regatta. Lost or damaged sails may be replaced with the authorization of the Governor or Circuit Rep, or as it is outlined in the respective Sailing Instructions, and requests for sail replacement shall be made to at the first reasonable opportunity. Replacement sails shall comply with this NOC and Class Rules.

Entry

Each boat shall register for each regatta pursuant to the Notice of Race posted on the J/24 Texas Circuit Facebook or webpage, or the host club for that regatta, and complete registration as outlined therein and as set forth in this NOC.

Circuit Membership Fee

As part of the entry to participate in the Circuit, membership is required for all helmspersons participating

in any of the Circuit regattas. This fee is separate of the J/24 Class membership fee. **Prior to participation in their first regatta of the current Circuit year, helmspersons are required to pay the fee.**

Fee payments are payable as follows:

1. For boats that will participate in two (2) or more regattas, the Membership Fee is **\$45**; and
2. For local boats that intend to participate in only one (1) regatta the Membership Fee is **\$15**.
3. The Membership Fee shall remain with the helmsperson and not the boat.

Membership Fees can be paid as follows:

1. Check made payable to Tonja Sanchez-Holmes c/o District 14, 909 Glenngary Way, Denton, Texas 76208
2. PayPal at (for a single regatta) <https://www.paypal.me/THolmesD14/15>
3. PayPal at (for 2 or more regattas) <https://www.paypal.me/THolmesD14/45>
4. Venmo at Tonja-Holmes-1,
5. By making payment arrangements with the Circuit Rep prior to the regatta in which a boat is participating, or
6. Other payment options that will be outlined on the J/24 Texas website.

Boats that have not paid their Membership Fee prior to any regatta in which they participate have not completed registration and may not be scored.

Schedule

The 2019 Circuit comprises of the following seven (7) scheduled regattas:

Date	Regatta Name, Host Fleet & Host Club
March 23-24	Texas Championship: Fleet 21 and Austin Yacht Club
April 27-28*	Annual Regatta/Cowtown Stampede: Fleet 54 and Fort Worth Boat Club
May 18-19	Heritage & Corinthian Cup: Fleet 163 and Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club (Southwest Championship World Qualifier)
June 15-16*	Surfin' Safari: Fleet 3 and Corpus Christi Yacht Club
September 21-22*	HOOD/Beasley Cup: Fleet 5 and Houston Yacht Club
October 26-27*	J/Fest Southwest: Fleet 5 and Lakewood Yacht Club
November 9-10*	Texas Circus: Fleet 21 and Lake Canyon Yacht Club

** Indicates a combined event with the J/22 Southwest Circuit*

Racing

Up to six (6) races will be scheduled at each regatta. Racing will be windward/leeward courses or variations thereof. Offset weather marks and leeward gates may be used.

Circuit Scoring

RRS Appendix A, as modified herein, will apply after substituting “regatta” for “race” and “Notice of Circuit” for “sailing instructions”.

Only those regattas for which at least three (3) races are completed will be scored in the overall Circuit scoring.

When four (4) or fewer regattas are scored, a boat’s series score will be the total of her regatta scores. When five (5) regattas are scored, a boat’s series score will be the total of her regatta scores, excluding her worst score. When seven (7) regattas are scored, a boat’s series score will be the total of her regatta scores, excluding her two (2) worst scores.

Co-Helmsperson

There may be more than one, but only up to two (2) Helmspersons (“Co-Helmspersons”), in a team. A team would consist of 5 persons.

For a team to have Co-Helmspersons, the team must designate a primary Helmsperson at the beginning of the Circuit year, and all scoring will be recorded under the primary Helmsperson’s name. The Co-Helmspersons must both sail with the remaining 3 team members for at least 50% of the regattas in which the team has or will compete. Co-Helmspersons that do not meet this requirement must have approval by a majority vote of a committee consisting of the Governor, as committee chair, and District 14 Fleet Captains for those fleets that have a member who has participated in at least one (1) Circuit regatta or plans to participate in the regatta that is the subject of the request. If a Fleet Captain is unavailable, the Governor shall designate a member of that Fleet to represent the Fleet Captain.

In the event a team earns a berth to the Worlds, the Helmspersons that was designated as the primary Helmsperson is also designated as the recipient of the berth for World qualification purposes.

Prizes

Awards for the Circuit will be presented to the final overall top five (5) Circuit helmspersons, as well as to those crewmembers that participated in all scheduled regattas that are held, irrespective as to whether such held regattas are scored as part of the Circuit or not (i.e. Road Warriors). In the event a helmsperson or crewmember is not present for a Circuit regatta because the helmsperson or crewmember is racing in a J/24 Regional, Continental or World event at the same time, then that helmsperson or crewmember is considered to have participated in the Circuit solely for the purposes of being considered a Road Warrior.

Bow Numbers

For scoring and identification of boats, unique bow numbers are required to be fixed to both external port and starboard sides of the forward bow area of each competing boat’s hull. These numbers must be affixed as follows:

1. The leading edge of the forward number shall be approximately 12” aft of the stem.
2. The top edge of both numbers shall be approximately 6” from the rail.
3. All numbers must contrast with the color of the hull and be at least 12” in height.

It is the responsibility of each participating boat to obtain and affix their bow numbers to their boat.

Bow numbers will be assigned to each participating boat for the duration of the Circuit year. Bow numbers 01 through 10 are pre-assigned to the top ten (10) teams based on previous year's circuit standings.

Bow numbers 11 through 99 are available for teams on a first come basis. Bow numbers 11 through 99 used in the previous circuit year will be reserved for the boat that declared it in that previous year. Available Bow numbers can be requested from the Circuit Rep. They will also be available on the J/24 Texas website at a future date.

Bow numbers for the current Circuit are considered declared once a boat has registered for a regatta using the declared bow number. Issues relating to bow numbers (e.g. assignment, placement, size, etc.) will be resolved solely by the Governor.

2019 J/24 Worlds Qualification

The District 14 Championship, known as the J/24 Texas Circuit, and the Southwest Regional Championship, which is the standing J/24 World Qualifier for USJCA Districts 14 and 18, both qualify for berths to the 2020 Worlds.

The highest finishing helmsperson of: (i) the 2019 Texas Circuit and (ii) at the 2019 Southwest Regional Championship, that meet the provisions of Section 18, titled World Championships, in the International J/24 Class Regatta Regulations, will qualify for a berth at the 2020 J/24 Worlds to be held at Parkstone Yacht Club, Poole UK from September 12-18, 2020.

If the Southwest Regional Championship does not qualify as a scored regatta of the Circuit (see Scoring section above), the next completed regatta will become the Southwest Regional Championship World Qualifier.

Additional Information

For more information regarding the Circuit, you may contact the following:

- John Parker, District 14 Governor at (512) 983-2582 or captain@j24fleet21.org
- Tonja Holmes-Moon, Texas Circuit Representative at (940) 808-6477 or sailboats4sanity@yahoo.com

More information is located at:

J/24 Texas Circuit Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/J24Texas/>

J/24 Texas website <http://www.j24texascircuit.com> (currently under construction)