

NOTICE OF REGATTA

March Madness J/24 Texas State Championship Austin Yacht Club March 26-28, 2021

1. INVITATION

USJCA Fleet 21 and the Austin Yacht Club (AYC) cordially invite you to attend the J/24 March Madness Regatta (“Regatta”) which this year will host the J/24 Texas State Championship. This is the 2nd Circuit Stop of the 2021 J/24 Texas Circuit. USJCA Fleet 21 and the AYC are the organizer and host, respectively.

2. LOCATION

AYC is a private yacht club, located at 5906 Beacon Drive, Austin, TX 78734. Directions and other information relating to AYC can be found at <http://www.austinyachtclub.net>.

3. RULES

3.1. The Regatta will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* (2021-2024), except as modified by this Notice of Race, the 2021 Notice of Circuit (as amended if necessary) for the J/24 Texas Circuit and the 2021 International J/24 Class Rules Effective 2021-03-02 (“Class Rule”). Where there is a conflict between the Notice of Race and any addendum, the addendum shall govern.

3.2. Bow numbers will be assigned to each boat pursuant to the J/24 Texas Notice of Circuit and will be used as the identification for the boat during the Regatta.

3.3. Pursuant to Class Rule Section C, boats shall comply with all Class Rules while racing, as amended or waived herein or in the Sailing Instructions.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION

4.1. The Regatta is open to all J/24 boats as defined by the International J/24 Class and whose entries are accepted by the organizer.

4.2. Helmspersons must be full members of the J/24 National or International Class.

4.3. Competitors must meet all ownership and class membership requirements, complete all requirements set forth in the Notice of Circuit, including payment of the J/24 District 14 Participation Fee outlined therein, and pay all required Regatta registration fees to become official participants.

5. FEES

5.1. Entry fee is \$75. **There is no late fee for this event. Competitors can register online up to 9:00 a.m. on Saturday March 27, 2021.**

5.2. Registration may be completed online using the Online Registration link at:

<http://www.j24fleet21.com/events/2021/J24CircuitStop/>

and payment can be made by using the electronic form to pay by credit card.

5.3. The entry fee includes participation in the Regatta, use of mast hoists for mast stepping, trailer storage/boat dockage for the duration of the Regatta, use of a hoist or ramp to launch and retrieve boats, and participation in the Regatta’s social and awards presentation.

6. SCHEDULE

Friday, March 26	1600-1900	Registration Open
Saturday, March 27	0800-0915	Registration Open
	0915	Competitors' Meeting
	1030	Warning Signal for first race, additional races to follow
Sunday, March 28	0930	Warning Signal for first race, additional races to follow
	1300	No Warning Signal will be made after this time
	Approximately 1 (one) hour after committee boat enters harbor	Awards Presentation

7. INSPECTION & MEASUREMENT

- 7.1. 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. A boat without a Measurement Certificate may race only with prior approval of the Governor. This changes Class Rule A.11.1. No formal provisions for boat measurement will be available at the Regatta.
- 7.2. In accordance with Class Rule B.3, all boats must carry aboard the current Measurement Certificate and Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment.
- 7.3. A boat and/or its equipment may be inspected at any time for compliance with Class Rules by the Governor or 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.

8. PERTINENT CLASS RULES & CHANGES TO CLASS RULES

- 8.1. 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). Boats shall sail with the same crew during the regatta. **Due to CDC recommendations regarding safe operations of events during Covid, crew will not be officially weighed. However, crews shall not exceed the 400 kg (882 lbs) weight limit and will be subject to protest or inspection at any time during the Regatta.**
- 8.2. Not more than one mainsail, one jib and one genoa shall be carried aboard. In the event a mainsail, jib or genoa is damaged beyond repair during the regatta, boats may request a sail replacement by submitting a request in writing to the race officials, evidencing written approval by the Governor or Circuit Rep. Said request may be made at the first reasonable opportunity. Replacement sails shall comply with Class Rules.
- 8.3. Class Rule C.10.2 is changed to allow boats to carry aboard two (2) spinnakers, subject to the following
 - 8.3.1. The Sail/Royalty Tag Nos. for all sails used during each regatta must be declared in permanent writing on the Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment.
 - 8.3.2. Spinnakers may be used interchangeably during a regatta; however, in the event one of the declared spinnakers is lost or damaged beyond repair during a regatta, a replacement spinnaker is not allowed and the boat must sail only with the remaining declared spinnaker.
 - 8.3.3. A competitor or technical committee (which includes the Circuit Rep and/or Governor) may submit a protest for violation of Class Rules C.10.2(a) or (b), as amended. If a violation is found to have occurred, the race officials shall impose a scoring penalty of 40% as calculated by RRS 44.3(c), applied to the race(s) in which such violation occurred, without a hearing.

- 8.4. 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 sails do not match their hull number may race in the regatta, but requires that the helmsperson submit a written request to the protest committee informing them of the sail and number in which they will be competing with, and will include the prior approval of the Governor or Circuit Rep at least 2 hours prior to racing on the day in which the substitution is requested.
- 8.5. Any requests and replies to sail number changes, crew substitution or sail replacement shall be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 8.6. Haul-Out Restrictions - Boats shall not be hauled out during the regatta except with prior written permission by submitting a request in writing to the race officials, evidencing written approval by the Governor or Circuit Rep. However, in the case of emergency, permission may be granted retroactively. Any replies to haul-outs shall be posted on the Official Notice Board.
- 8.7. Diving Equipment, Plastic Pools and Careening Restrictions
 - 8.7.1. Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used around boats between the time a boat is launched and the end of the regatta.
 - 8.7.2. Careening by any means for the purposes of cleaning or inspecting the hull is prohibited.
 - 8.7.3. The hull may be cleaned by swimming or keelhauling using ropes or cloth.

9. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be distributed to competitors at registration.

10. VENUE

All races will be sailed on Lake Travis, in the vicinity of the Austin Yacht Club harbor.

11. RACING

The Regatta will consist of as many as six (6) races over two (2) consecutive days.

12. SCORING

- 12.1. Three (3) races must be completed to count towards the overall 2021 J/24 Texas Circuit series scores.
- 12.2. The low-point scoring system of RRS Appendix A will apply. There will be no throw-outs. This modifies RRS Appendix A.
- 12.3. The scoring penalty as provided by RRS 44.3 and as modified by the sailing instructions will apply.

13. COURSES

Races will be sailed on windward/leeward courses or variations thereof. Offset weather marks and leeward gates may be used.

14. TROPHIES

Trophies will be presented to at least the top 4 (four) finishing competitors. Additional overall awards may be added depending on participation. The Kenyon Cup perpetual trophy will be awarded to the winner of the regatta.

15. DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

- 15.1. Competitors participate in the Regatta entirely at their own risk. See RRS 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the Regatta.
- 15.2. It is critical to be mindful of how you feel, and particularly when ANY of the potential COVID-19 symptoms are present to stay home.

16. LAUNCHING/RETRIEVING BOATS

Two mast cranes will be available near the ramp at AYC for raising and lowering masts. Launching boats will be via ramp. Loaner trailers and assistance will be available for boats which don't have ramp-launch-capable trailers. An A-frame hoist will be available to swap boats onto loaner trailers. Regatta participants will be responsible for setting up, launching and retrieving their own boat.

17. BERTHING

Competitors may tie anywhere along the T-heads of docks. Boats may also be tied overnight along the rigging docks next to the launch ramps.

18. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

18.1. If you have questions regarding this Regatta, contact Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas at (512) 363-9401 or jorgemdn@gmail.com.

18.2. For more information regarding the Texas J/24 Circuit, you may contact the following:
John Parker, District 14 Governor at (512) 983-2582 or governor@j24district14.com
Tonja Holmes-Moon, Texas Circuit Representative at (940) 808-6477 or txcircuit@j24district14.com
Website: www.j24district14.com and www.j24texascircuit.com