



## **J/109 UK and Ireland Class Association**

### **Special General Meeting**

#### **Minutes**

**Date of AGM:** Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2020  
**Time:** 11:00am  
**Location:** Virtual via Zoom

**Attendees:** **Full Members**  
Simon Perry, Class Chairman, Jiraffe (Chairman)  
Chris Burleigh, Class Treasurer, Jybe Talkin' (Treasurer)  
David McGough, Class Technical Officer and Measurer, Just So

Rob Cotterill, Mojo Risin'  
David Richards, Jumping Jellyfish  
John Smart, Jukebox  
Mike Yates, Jago  
Lesley Brooman, Jumunu  
Steve Horne, Jambo

**Services Members**

Jamie Will, Red Arrow

**Associate Members**

Christopher Copeland, Jukebox

**Apologies:** Wayne Palmer, Flying Jackal  
Anthony Tahourdin, Jedi

**1. Confirmation of quorum and validity of meeting.**

This Special General Meeting was called by 5 paid up full members of the Class Association in order to conduct the business which would normally be transacted at the AGM.

With more than 5 full members in attendance, quorum for the meeting was confirmed.

2. **Approval of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at the Royal Southern Yacht Club, Hamble**  
Proposed by David McGough, seconded by John Smart, accepted as presented and available on the Class Association Website, [www.j109uk.org](http://www.j109uk.org).

3. **Class Committee;**

- a. Resignations
  - i. Owain Franks has notified the committee of his intention to resign as Secretary
- b. Committee member elections
  - i. Rob Cotterill has put himself forward to be considered for the role of Secretary and was duly elected.
  - ii. We seek a volunteer to take on Marketing and Publicity, including managing content for the web site. In the absence of nominations, this role remains open. Chris Burleigh noted that there is no obligation for the holder of this role to be a full member or even associate member of the Class Association
- c. Committee members;
  - i. Simon Perry - Chairman
  - ii. Chris Burleigh – Treasurer
  - iii. David McGough – Measurer and Technical Advisor
  - iv. Rob Cotterill – Secretary

The Chairman thanked Rob for stepping forward for the role of Class Secretary and Owain Franks for his service to the class over the last few years and noted that Owain is happy to make himself available to the class to assist with issues as required.

4. **Chairman's Report:**

Presented as attached below

5. **Treasurer's Report:**

Presented as attached below.

The Treasurer mentioned the costs associated with trackers in the 2019 season and commented that we did not see as much take up from members as hoped, suggesting that we may want to revisit this in 2021. The Chairman commented that the main issues with trackers was delivering rented trackers to boats at the start of an event, then recovering them at the end of the event. The company providing the tracking services now offer a mobile phone-based service, eliminating the need to rent tracker units and this may make this service more practical for next season. The Chairman agreed to investigate costs for use of this system at one-design regattas for next year.

Outgoing secretary Owain Franks had proposed to the Treasurer that we continue to attract sponsorship money by selling advertising space on the web site, at some point this becomes a business, and we would have to

consider proper accounts and corporation tax and perhaps converting the association to a limited company. It was agreed for the time being to avoid this and remain an association and not to aim to generate any profit from those activities.

Rob Cotterill raised the question as to what we'd spend any such revenue on. The Treasurer responded that this revenue could be used to fund the purchase of trophies. The Chairman commented that running a website can be very expensive, so if we were to seek to do more with the website, we may need also to attract sponsorship to achieve this. The example of the excellent JOG website was cited, but the cost of developing such a web site is way out of scope for the J/109 Class Association.

The Treasurer commented that we should aim to get more onto the website on technical issues to do with owning and maintaining a J/109 and David McGough supported more activity in this regard. The Chairman invited sending materials to him to put onto the website and commented that the more traffic we can generate on the website, the more we will be able to attract advertising on the site and so revenues to offset some of the cost of running the site.

David McGough suggested that we should look for opportunities to get equipment suppliers to offer support to Class Association members with discounted offers.

The Accounts were proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Mike Yates and were duly accepted by the association.

## **6. Subscription Fees:**

- a. There are no proposed changes to the annual subscription of £20.00
- b. It was agreed that, in the light of the disruption to the 2020 season as a result of COVID 19 that any subscriptions received for the 2020 season remain valid for 2021

## **7. Approval of amendments to Class Rules as detailed in the attached proposed draft.**

Class Rules for 2021 accepted as proposed and will be published on the web site.

Jamie Will sought input from the committee regarding the reliability of the cascade backstay offshore. David McGough suggested that he did not feel that the cascade system was any more likely to fail than a hydraulic system and potentially could be more reliable. David commented that it's up to every crew to make sure that they are diligent when letting off the backstay at the

windward mark, but that the introduction of the cascade backstay didn't materially change the risks associated with adjusting backstay tension.

## **8. Calendar of events for 2021**

Calendar and events for the Solent Series adopted as proposed.

The Treasurer enquired what from the calendar should count towards the full season championships. It was agreed that we'd count all events for which there were 6 or more J/109s entered and that we'd count the corrected time results for any non-one design event included in the series.

## **9. Any Other Business**

The Treasurer raised the question of the annual dinner and proposed that we start to plan an event for late spring/early summer. There was a discussion on location – London vs. South Coast. It was agreed that during the summer, it's probably best to do something on the South Coast. Conclusion was to aim to organise an event to coincide with the Royal Southern May Regatta (8<sup>th</sup> May).

Mike Yates raised the question of how to engage with new owners of J/109s as there are a number of boats that have changed hands recently. Mike recognised that the new owners may not be as focused on one-design sailing as the existing members and perhaps some sort of Rally or passage event may draw in a bigger participation. The Treasurer recalled that the class had tried to organise a rally in the past, but that there was not a very enthusiastic take up, so it was agreed to focus efforts on the class dinner proposed for May and try to encourage as many new owners as possible to attend.

Rob Cotterill raised the question of how to identify new owners and whether Key Yachting would be prepared to share contact details. The Treasurer pointed out that Key Yachting are not the only ones selling secondhand J/109s at the moment. It was agreed that all present would try to engage with new owners and encourage them to join the class association, providing their contact details in the process and their approval to contact them on class related matters.

Rob Cotterill also raised the issue of replacement winches and whether the Harken Radial ST winches he has sourced are class compliant. David McGough highlighted the change in the rules which opens up the allowable options to any replacement of "similar size, weight and power ratio and which performs the same function". David proposed Harken 46 ST Performa Series for Primary and 40's for Secondaries

## **10. Follow up Items**

- a. Investigate mobile phone-based tracking for 2021 – Chairman

- b. Add technical comments section to the website – Chairman and David McGough
- c. Plan Class Dinner for early May, contingent on COVID-19 situation – the committee

Appendices:

- 1. SGM Request
- 2. Chairman's Report 2020
- 3. Financial Report and accounts to 28 Feb 2020

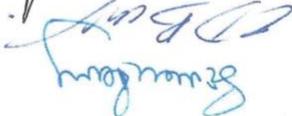
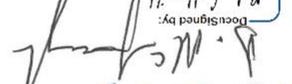
Note to the Secretary J/109 UK and Ireland Class Association

Dated 28/11/20

Sir

We the undersigned being 5 paid up full members of the Class Association hereby requisition a Special General Meeting of the Class Association to be held on 12 December 2020. At that meeting we wish the business which would normally be transacted at the AGM to be placed on the Agenda.

Names and signatures:

|  |                |
|--|----------------|
|  | Simon Perry    |
|  | Chris Burleigh |
|  | David McGough  |
|  | Rob Cottrell   |
|   | Mike Yates     |

# J/109 UK Class Association Chairman's Statement 2020

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## On the Water

Well, I think it's fair to say that 2020 has not gone strictly according to plan.

We managed to squeeze in a great Dinner and Prizegiving at the Royal Thames, but from that point onwards, things started to go downhill a bit.

Spring Series cancelled after the first race, Vice Admirals Cup, Round the Island and Taittinger all cancelled. All offshore racing cancelled. No Cork week. We got half the Winter series done, then that was cancelled too, courtesy of the second lockdown. I do hope that everybody has managed to stay healthy through this very difficult period.

In spite of the difficulties, I know a lot of people enjoyed getting out on the water in their family bubbles early on. Then, as the first lockdown was eased, JOG and RORC organized some fantastic passage racing and with Cowes Week cancelled, the Royal Southern put on a very enjoyable and relaxed regatta for a few days in its place. It was interesting to see that with fewer events on the calendar, participation in those events that did occur was very strong. Jago, Just So, Jybe Talkin', Mojo Risin' and Jiraffe all managed some notable moments in these regattas.

In September, Key Yachting managed to pull off a flawless execution of the J-Cup, hosted by RORC in Cowes to deliver our only one-design racing of the year. In an incredibly tight tussle between the top four boats, Jiraffe just managed to pip last year's champion, John Smart's Jukebox to the winning slot, with past champion Dave Richards in Jumping Jellyfish just one point behind in third and Mike Yates Jago narrowly missing a podium finish. Ross Walker's chartered Brown Teal, Rob Cotterill on Mojo Risin' and the RAF on Red Arrow completed the fleet of 7 and all agreed it was a great achievement for the organisers to pull off a very high-quality regatta in such challenged circumstances.

## Review of Class Business

2021 sees the end of the transitional period for converting to non-overlapping jibs from the traditional overlapping headsails, bringing all boats back onto a level playing field. As agreed at last year's AGM, we will also be allowing rope-based cascade backstays as an alternative to the existing hydraulic ram. We will be voting to approve the new rules the forthcoming General Meeting.

I don't think we will be in a position to host a prizegiving in February next year and it's too early to plan on any later alternative event. We'll keep an eye on this as the season progresses.

After several years of dedicated service to the class, Owain Franks has informed the committee of his intention to step down from the role of Secretary, so we are inviting nominations for this position and will select a candidate at the forthcoming General Meeting.

We've not had so much to report on the web site and Facebook this year, but we are keen to identify a member or associate member that would be interested in taking up the role of Marketing and Publicity, helping the Chairman to run and provide content for the website. Please do let me know if you would be interested in helping out.

## Membership

The committee took the decision to allow 2020 subscriptions to roll forward into 2021, reflecting the lack of activity during 2020, so please make sure you are paid up for 2020 ahead of the General Meeting next month and this will cover you for 2021 as well.

We've welcomed some new members this year in Wayne Palmer and Flying Jackal, Anthony Tahourdin and Jedi, David Whitehouse and Jaha and Lesley Brooman and Jumunu. Please don't judge your new class on activity in 2020!

## Sailing Calendar 2021

### Solent Series

We've proposed the following events for the Solent Series for 2021, adding in the JOG Nab Tower alongside the established one-design events of the Vice Admirals Cup and Taittinger. Results in the following regattas/races will contribute to the trophy to be awarded for the 2021 season:

- JOG Nab Tower, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021
- Vice Admirals Cup, 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021
- Taittinger Royal Solent Regatta, 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> July 2021
- JOG Cowes – Poole – Cowes, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September 2021

We very much hope that the Round the Island Race and Cowes Week will be able to run as planned next year and we also expect a very high level of participation by J/109s in the RORC and JOG seasons, especially given that 2021 is a Fastnet year.

We will hold our National Championships at the J-Cup again, which next year will be hosted by the Royal Southern Yacht Club from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June.

I very much hope 2021 will see a return to a greater social element to our sport and perhaps even an excuse to break out the rum, ginger beer and cooler bucket for a dock party here and there.

Simon Perry, Jiraffe.

**J/109 UK and Ireland Class Association**  
**Notes on Accounts March 2019 to February 2020**

The Association has been maintaining a balance of around £6,500 to £7,000 in the bank for several years now. We use the money to buy trophies, pay for website hosting, pay for initiatives such as regatta race tracking and to make advanced booking payments for functions like the Annual Dinner.

Income is primarily from members' annual subscriptions and the sale of tickets for functions. We aim to break-even overall but usually end up with a small net surplus or deficit from year to year, depending on how we did on subscription numbers and ticket sales since we have to set the price in advance based on estimated numbers.

During 2018 to 2019 we had sponsorship on the website from North Sails and UK Sailmakers but this coincided with the change of Class sailplan so was probably a one-off event. This sponsorship was not repeated in the 2019 to 2020 period.

The major items of expenditure were the social functions. The Annual Dinner this year was slightly less well attended than last year but we also held a hog-roast during Cowes Week that was well attended. We make a regular Class subscription to SCRA. The J/109 website continues to be piggy-backed onto Key Yachting's web hosting, for which we pay an annual fee.

Membership and subscriptions have remained steady at around 30 (including Associates and Services) despite boats changing hands, members leaving and new members joining. As treasurer, I would recommend no change be made to the subscription fees at this time.

The outlook for the March 2020 to February 2021 period affected by Covid restrictions will not damage the Association in any significant way. We have sufficient funds to cover our activities. We will effectively lose a whole year's worth of membership subscriptions as we intend to roll over 2020 paid subscriptions to include the 2021 season. However, we have not had to pay for anything very much.

Chris Burleigh  
Treasurer

**J109 UK&I Class Association**  
**Accounts for the year ended 29 February 2020**

|                                     | <b>29-Feb-20</b>  | <b>28-Feb-19</b>  |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Income</b>                       |                   |                   |
| Annual Dinner Tickets               | 4900.00           | 7920.00           |
| Social - Cowes Hog Roast Tickets    | 2113.00           |                   |
| Invoice 02-2018 North Sails         | -                 | 420.00            |
| Invoice 03-2018 UK sailmakers       | -                 | 350.00            |
| Misc. Income Items                  | 60.00             | -                 |
| Association Membership Subs         | 745.27            | 764.79            |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>7,818.27</b>   | <b>9,454.79</b>   |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                  |                   |                   |
| Subscriptions                       | (55.00)           | (110.00)          |
| Website (& Tracker)                 | (339.00)          | (84.00)           |
| Social - Cowes Hog Roast            | (1,971.60)        | -                 |
| Annual Dinner                       | (5,384.75)        | (8,045.05)        |
| Trophies & Prizes                   | (442.10)          | (532.98)          |
| Other                               | 0                 | 0                 |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>(8,192.45)</b> | <b>(8,772.03)</b> |
| <b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>          | <b>(374.18)</b>   | <b>682.76</b>     |
| <b>RESERVES</b>                     |                   |                   |
| Opening Balance:                    | 7,143.49          | 6,460.73          |
| Income less Expenditure             | (374.18)          | 682.76            |
| <b>Closing Balance:</b>             | <b>6,769.31</b>   | <b>7,143.49</b>   |
| 02/03/2020 Bank balance, Lloyds TSB | 6769.31           | 7143.49           |
| Plus receipts not cleared           | -                 | -                 |
| Creditors (North Sails)             | (70.00)           | (70.00)           |
| Less payments not cleared           | -                 | -                 |
| <b>Closing Balance</b>              | <b>6,699.31</b>   | <b>7,073.49</b>   |