

A Message from the J/109 Class - January 2020

This message is being sent to the J/109 Class Owners and includes information on the following topics:

- J/109 Officer Transition
- 2019 Highlights
- 2020 Scheduled Events & Future North American Championship Schedule
- Reminder - Please renew your J/109 Class Membership
- Proposed Rules Change for 2020 North American Championship

Bill Kneller here - outgoing J/109 Class President. I would like to thank those who served on the board with me for the past five years. There have been many exciting changes during this time. One notable was evaluating a stand alone North American Championship for 2018 at Larchmont YC and 2019 at New Bedford YC. Valuable information was learned as the Class plans future events. As Cindy and I move forward with the addition of grand children in our lives, I decided it was best to work an orderly transition of Class Leadership. John Greifzu and I discussed the change, and he agreed to transition a year early from Vice President to fill the final year of my term as Class President. John is a great sailor and dynamic individual with the leadership skills to keep the class moving in the right direction. Other folks have agreed to step up for Class roles over the next year until elections are held for the 2021 board. I have agreed to continue helping the Class with the website, and will assume responsibilities as New England & Maritime Fleet Captain from Brooke Mastrorio as she concentrates on the demands of her new job.

The J/109 Executive Board to serve through 2020, until elections are held later this year for the 2021 slate are as follows:

President: John Greifzu, Jr. – owns *Growth Spurt* hull number 261 home port Stamford, CT. John previously served as the Class Vice President.

Vice President: Peter Priede – owns *Full Tilt* hull number 249 home port Chicago, IL. Pete previously served as the Great Lakes Fleet Captain.

Secretary: Cory Eaves – owns *Freedom* hull number 255 home port Larchmont, NY. Corey continues in the Secretary role.

Treasurer: Bud Rogers – owns *Big Boat* hull number 360 home port Sag Harbor, NY. Bud previously served on the J/109 Class board as Treasurer & Secretary.

Measurer: Bengt Johansson – owns *Zig Zag* hull number 37 home port New Rochelle, NY. Bengt previously served as Class Measurer 2017-2018. He also leads the Technical Committee.

At-Large: Position is vacant. If anyone is interested in serving as the Member at Large, please contact any of the Class Officers.

Copyright Holder: Jeff Johnstone – is the President of J/Boats Inc. Newport, RI.

Assistant Measurer: Ted Herlihy – owns *Gut Feeling* hull number 72 home port Padanaram, MA. Ted previously served as Assistant Measurer and serves on the Technical Committee, appointed by the President.

Technical Committee:

- Class Measurer Lead: Bengt Johansson – owns *Zig Zag* hull number 37 home port New Rochelle, NY.
- Copyright Holder Representative: Jonathan (JR) Rechtschaffer – owns *Emoticon* hull number 200 home port Stony Point, NY. JR previously served on the J/109 Class board as Vice President and the Technical Committee. He also serves as the Long Island Sound fleet captain in addition to his role as the Technical Committee.
- Appointed by the President: Fred Beckham – owns *Augenblick* hull number 243 home port Westbrook, CT. Fred served as class measurer during 2019.

Listed below are some highlights from 2019:

- J/109 Class Association had 63 active dues paying members
- "Stand-alone" J/109 North American Championship held at New Bedford YC with 11 boats
- Class finances are in a strong position with a balance just over \$31,000 as we start 2020.
- Congratulations to the 2019 winners of our major regattas:
- 2019 North American Championship overall winner: *Loki* (David Rosow)
- 2019 North American Championship Corinthian Trophy winner: *Zig Zag* (Bengt Johansson)
- 2019 East Coast Championship at Ida Lewis YC
 - Leading Edge (Tom Sutton) 1st of 8 Boats
 - Gut Feeling (Ted Herlihy) 1st Corinthian
- 2019 East Coast Regatta Series Results - Emoticon (JR Rechtschaffer) 1st of 13 Boats Qualified
 - 1-3 June Cedar Point OD Regatta (The mandatory event)
 - 16 J/109s in OD Class Class - Rush 1st, Emoticon 2nd, TBD 3rd
 - 6-7 July Sail Newport Regatta
 - 4 J/109s in OD Class - Growth Spurt 1st, Vento Solare 2nd, Gut Feeling 3rd
 - 28-29 September, 5-6 October American YC Fall Series
 - 13 J/109s in OD Class - Loki 1st, Incendiary 2nd, Emoticon 3rd
- LIS Pequot Invitational Regatta - Loki (David Rosow) 1st of 11 boats
- 2019 Mackinac Cup J/109 Division - Goat Rodeo 1st of 14 J/109s (all finished)
- 2019 Great Lakes Championship – *Callisto* 1st, *Smee Again* 2nd

2020 J/109 Major Regattas

The complete schedule will appear on the J/109 website and be updated regularly as events are added and regatta documents are posted by the host organizations. If there is a regatta planned that does not appear on the website, please let us know, so we can help spread the word. Here is an overview of the major J/109 events for 2020:

- **J/109 North American Championship**—August 13-16 at Columbia YC – Chicago, IL

- **J/109 East Coast Championship**—July 14-18 at New York YC Race Week in Newport, RI
- **J/109 East Coast Regatta Series**—**Cedar Point OD regatta** (May 30-31); **New York YC 166th Annual Regatta** (July 12-14); and **American Yacht Club Fall Series** (September 26-27, October 1-2)
- **Race to Macinac** – (July 18) Chicago YC
- **ORC/IRC World Championship**—September 23-October 3 at New York YC, Newport, RI. There will be J/109s competing - J/109 *Leading Edge* is planning and J/109 *Vento Solare* will be used as a loaner for the J/109 *Mojito* team coming from the UK.

If you are interested in chartering a J/109 for the North American Championship please let a board member know. Our J/109 colleagues in Europe do a lot of chartering for their regattas. The borrower would probably bring their own sails and the owner/lender might join the team for the regatta. Payment might be a good race bottom job (based on whatever the owner and person chartering agree to) and the class will pay the loaner boat insurance policy that covers the event.

Future J/109 North American Championships

Subsequent to the 2019 North American Championship, the class conducted a survey about the past five North American Championships. The decision for the next two North American Championships are as follows:

2020 - 13-16 August at Columbia YC – Chicago, IL

2021 - 20-26 June at Storm Trysail Club Block Island Race Week

2020 J/109 North American Championship

Planning is underway by the Great Lakes Fleet and Columbia YC to for the 2020 J/109 North American Championship. More information will be announced shortly as the Notice of Race gets finalized. Hold the dates 13 - 16 August at Columbia YC in Chicago..

Proposed Class Rule Change for 2020 North American Championship

Proposed rule changes were approved by the Executive Board on 9 December 2019 and forwarded to J/109 Class eligible voting members on 22 December for a vote. The votes are submitted on line and will be tallied after the voting period closes on 23 January 2020. Should the proposed change be approved by the class, the change would be incorporated in the class rules effective 1 February 2020.

Background: At the 2019 Annual Meeting held 17 October 2019, the 2020 North American Championship was awarded to Fleet #11 (Great Lakes & Lake Champlain). The event will be held in August 2020.

Fleet 11 has traditionally conducted its class racing using "oversized" spinnakers (spinnakers larger than the 108 square meters permitted under the Class Rules). In order to ensure broad participation in the 2020 event, Fleet 11 has requested to use those same "oversized" spinnakers for the North American Championship. The Class officers believe this is a reasonable request, but only with appropriate controls in place that will ensure fair racing.

As such, in accordance with Class Constitution Section 7.2(b), the Executive Board voted on the following proposed Class Rule addition on December 9, 2019. The Executive Board approves with the proposal submitted to the full Class membership for a vote.

The proposed rules change would add after J/109 Class Rules paragraph 5.7 the following paragraph 5.8.

5.8 For J/109 Class sanctioned events hosted by Fleet #11 (Great Lakes & Lake Champlain) during the 2020 calendar year, including the 2020 North American Championship and any event advertised as a 'pre-NAs,' 'tune-up' or similar, the following applies to spinnakers:

*(a) The asymmetric spinnaker shall be manufactured from woven nylon with a minimum nominal weight of not less than 40grams per square meter. The area of the asymmetric spinnaker ("SA") shall not exceed 120 square meters, based on the formula: $SA = (\text{luff length} + \text{leech length}) * .25 \text{ foot length} + (\text{half width} - .5 \text{ foot length}) * (\text{leech length} + \text{luff length}) / 3$. Adjustable leech, luff, and foot lines shall be fitted to the asymmetric spinnaker.*

(b) All asymmetric spinnakers declared for use during the events must be measured for compliance with 5.8(a) and issued a J/109 sail tag. Sailmakers are responsible for obtaining sail tags, conducting measurement, and submitting measurement data in accordance with Rule 5.1.

(c) All asymmetric spinnakers shall be listed in the J/109 sail tag database and the notes field will distinguish sails used under this Rule by stating the actual measured area in the following format: "Oversized Spinnaker Area xxx.xx square meters." This rule shall expire on December 31, 2020 and be automatically deleted from the J/109 Class Rules as of that date. The expiration of this rule shall not cause the sail tag or accompanying notes to be deleted from the database.

J/109 Custom Boat Website Subscriptions Available

The J/109 Class has arranged with Crew Manager LLC (started by outgoing J/109 Class President Bill Kneller) to make custom J/109 boat websites available. [Crew Manager](#) provides a boat website with features the Skipper & Crew will use throughout the sailing season. In a nutshell, the team website provides a "Who, What, When, Where and Wear" schedule with automatic reminders. After an event, the Skipper may post results and crew members may submit comments, pictures and stories about the event. Crew Manager works on most any device with a web browser including PC, Mac, iPad, Android tablet, iPhone and Android Phone. The cost for an [annual subscription is \\$90 and includes the website setup](#). The following J/109s have Crew Manager websites.

- [J/109 Vento Solare](#)
- [J/109 URSA](#)
- [J/109 Incendiary](#)
- [J/109 Strider](#)
- [J/109 Leading Edge](#)

J/109 Class Membership

One of the best ways to insure your investment in the J/109 is to support the Class. Owners and Co-owners are strongly encouraged to become Members of the J/109 Class Association. Others may become Associate Members. Members are owners or co-owners. Associate Members are crew and supporters of the J/109 Class. The membership fee is \$50.00 for Members and \$50.00 for Associate Members. Members

who are current with annual dues are provided access to restricted areas on the class website and are able to view complete lists of owners and members.

Existing Members – If you are already an owner with an email address on file, all you need to do is get a password by clicking the *Login* button located on the menu bar of the website <https://j109.org>. When in doubt, try this first. Use the Forgotten Password section of the Login page. Once you enter your email address, we will send you a link to reset your password at that address, or if no account exists, provide immediate indication on the screen. As an existing or previous member you can inspect and edit your contact information (after you have logged in) by clicking *Update My Info* under the *Members* menu. Existing or previous members can pay annual dues (after you have logged in) by clicking on *Renew Membership – Dues* under the *Members* menu.

New Members – If you are not currently registered or do not have an email address on file, register by filling in the form by navigating the menu on the class website <https://j109.org> – Mouse over *Market*, then click on *New Membership* to open that page. Submit your information, then once we review your contact information we will add you to the database. This may take a day or two.

More information about registration and passwords is available in the *Login* page available by clicking on the *Login* button located on the menu bar of the website.

Happy Sailing!

Bill Kneller,

J/109 Past Class President



Additional Information and Links of Interest are provided below

Click the Member Update logo below to update your information.

Update your contact, boat and home port information.

J/109 Class Association
Member Update



Use the email address you received this message from as your login.

Need more help? **Click on this link** and read the section labeled *Existing Members*. If you still have a problem logging in, email the **J/109 Class Administrator - admin@j109.org**.

Click the J/109 Class Forum logo below to read and share boat information.

The forum has information owners have shared on maintenance, sails, tuning, cruising and events. If you have something boating related to buy or sell, this is the place to look. The J/109 Class Forum is the designated

method for people to ask the J/109 Class Measurer questions about rules and rules interpretations.



Anyone may read the forum without logging in, but to be able to post on the forum, you will need to register for a free account. Once you navigate to the forum, click *Register* near the top right to setup an account. If you already have a forum account, click on *Login* located next to the *Register*. There are helpful hints on using the forum **located at this link**.

Click the J/109 Class Calendar logo below for upcoming events.

Keep up to date on planned J/109 events via the website calendar.



For questions or comments, please contact the **J/109 Class Administrator**.

This message was sent from the **J/109 Class Association** email system. We periodically send out messages about the J/109 Class including one design events, class rules, cruising, member updates, maintenance information, and technical advisories from equipment manufacturers concerning the J/109. If you would like to update your email preferences, please send a message the **J/109 Class Administrator**.