



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

### **2018 Annual General Meeting**

#### **Minutes of Meeting**

**Date of AGM:** Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2018 during J-Cup Regatta.  
**Time:** 18:00  
**Location:** Island Sailing Club, Cowes

**Present:**

Simon Perry (M) (Jiraffe), Neil Angel (M) (Diamond Gem), John Smart (M) (Juke Box), Jim Will (A) (Red Arrow), Ed Bolton-King (M) (Red Arrow), Chris Preston (M) (Jubilee), Mike Yates (M) (Jago), David Richards (M) (Jellyfish), Chris Burleigh (M) (Jybe Talkin').

**Apologies:**

Jean Lockett, Owain Franks, David McGough, Richard Marsden.  
Gemma Dunn and Paul Heys of Key Yachting.  
Andrew Craig on behalf of Irish fleet.

#### **MINUTES**

1. Chris Burleigh chaired the meeting.
2. It was noted that the meeting was quorate, the minimum quorum of five full members was exceeded.
3. Class Committee;
  - a. Resignations;
    - i. Jean Lockett, Class Chairman is standing down.
  - b. Current Committee members;
    - i. Chris Burleigh – Treasurer
    - ii. David McGough – Measurer and Technical Advisor

- iii. Owain Franks – Secretary
  - c. Committee member elections;
    - i. There were no volunteer candidates.
    - ii. Subsequent to the AGM, Simon Perry volunteered for the role of Acting Chairman (pending formal election as Chairman at a future EGM). This is yet to be confirmed.
4. Chairman's Report:  
A Chairman's Report was provided by Jean Lockett, in absentia and is appended to these Minutes.
5. Treasurer's Report:  
A summary of the financial position was given. A copy of the accounts and financial statement are appended to these minutes.
  - a. The 2017 accounts closed with a balance of £6,460.73
  - b. The current balance is £6,605
  - c. There were 41 paid-up Members and Associate Members in 2016 and 33 in 2017. There were fewer Associate members in 2017 owing to a reduction in charter boat activity at Class events.
  - d. There are currently 16 paid-up Members and Associate Members in 2018 but more are expected ahead of Cowes Week, as is usual.
6. Subscription Fees:
  - a. The proposal to reduce the annual subscription fee was rejected by the Membership.
  - b. It was directed that better effective use of the Class funds be made to promote the Class and events. See items in AoB.
7. Amendments to Measurement Rules:  
A number of minor amendments were proposed. These were reviewed and agreed as follows:
- a. **Rule Affected: Equipment Rule 4.3.2**  
Proposed Amended Rule:  
4.3 The following ***ARE*** permitted while racing:  
Amended Rule:  
**4.3.2. Cruising and day sailing amenities that do not enhance performance and alterations made for the installation or mounting of safety equipment.**
  - b. **Rule Affected: Equipment Rule 4.2**  
**4.2.** All J/109s racing in the UK and Ireland *shall* as a *minimum* conform to, and carry safety equipment in accordance with **World Sailing Offshore Special Regulations; Category 4 Monohulls**, and *shall* carry safety equipment that meets with the requirements in force through the Notice of Race or other relevant regatta or event documents.

c. **Rule Affected: Equipment Rule 5.0**

Proposed Amended Rule:

**5.2. Sails carried aboard during a Class one-design event shall be limited to seven sails: one Class mainsail, three Class headsails and three Class asymmetric spinnakers. In addition, boats shall carry (and may use) a heavy weather jib or storm sails when required by the World Sailing OSR Category in force through the Notice of Race or other relevant regatta or event documents.**

All sails shall be specifically declared at the start of a class one-design regatta and during a regatta run on consecutive days, including any lay days, the sails on board shall remain the same and be on board for all races. Exceptionally, in the case of significant damage or loss, sails may be replaced with similar sails. Boats shall obtain permission from the Race Committee before replacing a sail.

d. **Rule Affected: Equipment Rule 4.3**

4.3 The following **ARE** permitted while racing:

New Rule:

**4.3.16. A “bob-stay” attached to the tip of the bow sprit. The bob stay must be made from rope line and must not impede normal deployment/retraction of the bow sprit. Additional holes or fittings may be used to attach the bob-stay to the hull and bow sprit and the pole-out line system and blocks may be reinforced.**

e. **Rule Affected: “J/109 ISAF Declaration”**

The rules contain an addendum titled “J/109 ISAF Declaration” describing the process for obtaining a Sailor ID and Classification. References to ISAF will be updated to “World Sailing” in line with the parent organisation changes. References to the website [www.sailing.org](http://www.sailing.org) are still current, despite the organisation’s name change.

8. Any Other Business:

The following items were discussed;

- a. Class website: This has been ineffective for several years now and needs to be refreshed or replaced. It was suggested that somebody be paid to take on his task. However, Jean Locket has an initiative underway that could resolve the matter. It was agreed to wait until we have an update from Jean before initiating any alternative action.
- b. It was proposed that additional/re-purposed Class trophies be introduced for other competitions e.g. top RORC result, top JOG result, selected IRC races/regattas using extracted results and events outside

the Solent. Only Class Members would be eligible so this could encourage more J/109 owners to join the Association. This was agreed. Proposals are to be sought.

- c. It was proposed that the Class Annual Dinner be reinstated, to be held during the winter. Class prizes and trophies will be awarded at the dinner. This was agreed.
- d. It was proposed that a social event be organised during Cowes Week. This was agreed.
- e. Date of J-Cup: It was requested that the Class be consulted and have some input to selection of the date for the J-Cup. This will be raised with Key Yachting. A suggestion that the J/109 National Championships be separated from the J-Cup was not supported.

9. Strategy for proposals to change the Class sail-plan:

This item was raised under Any Other Business but is minuted as a special item. There have been on-going discussions and debate about changing the Class sail-plan for One-Design events by eliminating the Genoas and switching to “non-overlapping” headsails. The proposed headsail would be essentially in line with those used by many Solent based boats when racing under IRC and would consider the Irish and US headsail rules. The new headsail proposal will probably (pending consultation) be limited to a Luff Perpendicular measurement of LP=4.25m.

The following was agreed:

- a. A specific and definitive rule will be drafted for consideration by the membership.
- b. There will be active consultation on the rule and sail definition between now and Cowes Week.
- c. An EGM will be held during Cowes Week to vote on the rule change, this being the group of Members most affected by the change.
- d. Should a headsail rule change be voted at the EGM, it will come into force for the 2020 season.

Chris Burleigh, Treasurer  
AGM Chair



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

### **2018 Annual General Meeting**

#### **Chairman's report (in absentia)**

If I may, I will start my report with a personal remark. I am very sorry that neither I nor Owain are able to be at the AGM. That also means that for the first time in a very long time Jynnan Tonnyx is not competing in the JCup. We are very sad about that as it is a major highlight of our sailing year.

We have had a very traumatic late 2017 and indeed this year with Owain having to undergo 4 major operations on his leg so far and one more to go. We will be back on the water in good form next year - watch out!!

I have also told the Committee that for personal reasons I am stepping down as Chair. My work commitments have grown in the last 18 months (despite my best efforts to the contrary) and coupled with Owain's health problems I simply do not have the time to be an active Chair of the Class Association.

We have transferred hosting of the old website from David McLeman to Igloo Web Design (owned and run by my younger son). I am working with him to get the site back up and running by the end of June this year in a cleaned up and user-friendly format. I will continue to see that through and hand it over to the Association.

Owain has agreed that he will stay on as Class Secretary for the time being and will work with the Committee remotely until more fully recovered.

The Class continues as a very strong one-design fleet in the Solent and is very active in the RORC/JOG offshore world as well. I would like to see the Class Association continue to embrace both the one design world and also the IRC fleet so that they have a home and we can encourage them to come one design racing and vice versa.

We tried various experiments over the last two years to create an event where both groups of boats came together and we raced pretty much level by limiting the sail wardrobe. So far, we haven't made much progress but I would love to see that initiative continue.

I would also suggest that consideration be given to whether we might want to try to establish a little Solent based Match racing competition - one design classes are obviously essential for this and J109s would be ideal (perhaps not with spinnakers at first...). Owain and I are members of the Royal Thames and we could easily float the idea there with the Rear Commodore Sailing. RTYC is a centre of excellence for match and team racing and I am sure we could persuade them to provide the infrastructure for a small league over, say, three weekends in the year.

We could also find some of the RTYC match racers to teach those of us who haven't done much before the basics of the rules and tactics. We might also be able to persuade some of the young sailors in the RTYC Academy to sail with us and perhaps enthrall them to crew more generally in our fleet. What do you all think?

I can also see from the emails and Facebook posts that the perennial subject of moving to using only number 3 genoas has reared its head again. Three years ago, we undertook a survey of owners and there was surprisingly little enthusiasm for a rule change.

In part that was because a fair number of boats, ourselves included (then and now) have spent a fair amount on a sail wardrobe which would become redundant before being flogged to death racing! If there is an appetite for a change then I would suggest that a small working group volunteer to repeat the survey, assess the appetite for a change and then draft a rule change to come into effect 12 months after next year's

AGM. This would give people notice not buy more number 1 or number 2 genoas and allow them to use their existing sail wardrobe.

Speaking personally, my vote and Owain's would be to stick with the existing one design rules. Our bowman and pit crew love the drama of changing sails in a race, it gives them a key role in the success of the boat in many races and helps them not to get bored!

I am not able to comment on the quality of the racing this year and whether boats are "pushing it" with regard to the rules or not. I do think it is important that we all honour the rules and play by the book. It is key to keeping a class alive. That even goes to paying the Class membership fees.

I would also suggest that we start to look at and embrace some of the new technology emerging onto the racing scene, from drone videos of mark roundings and boat handling to using systems like TracTrac to follow our races and allow us to look at what happened and make videos to popularise our class on YouTube!

The Association also needs to sort out the relationship with the Irish Class Association, if that is what it has now become and agree how we will relate to each other and to co-ordinate local rule changes.

I commend the rule changes on the Agenda to you all.

I offer both my personal thanks and thanks on behalf of the Association to Chris Burleigh who has pretty much carried the flame singlehandedly in the last year for the Committee and has done much to keep the Association in good health.

Finally, therefore, I hope that the AGM is successful and that you are all enjoying great weather and fantastic racing. We hope to see you soon.

Jean

*Jean Lockett*  
*Chair*

**J109 UK&I Class Association****Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2016 and 31 December 2017**

<b>Income</b>	<b>31-Dec-17</b>	<b>31-Dec-16</b>	<b>31-Dec-15</b>
Annual Dinner Tickets		-	-
Cowes Week Party Tickets		-	-
Coaching Day		-	-
Nationals refund from W&PSA		-	-
Association Membership	699.45	900	780.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>699.45</b>	<b>880.00</b>	<b>780.00</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Subscriptions	(55.00)	(50.00)	(50.00)
Website	-	-	-
Social	-	-	-
Dinner	-	-	(842.50)
National Prizes & Expenses	-	(8.92)	(19.25)
Other	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>(55.00)</b>	<b>(58.92)</b>	<b>(911.75)</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/DEFICIT</b>	<b>644.45</b>	<b>821.08</b>	<b>(131.75)</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>			
Opening Balance:	5,816.28	4,995.20	5,126.95
Income less Expenditure	644.45	821.08	(131.75)
<b>Closing Balance:</b>	<b>6,460.73</b>	<b>5,816.28</b>	<b>4,995.20</b>
Lloyds TSB:			
Bank balance	6460.73	5,676.28	5,055.20
Plus receipts not cleared	-	140	-
Less payments not cleared			(60.00)
Membership fees in advance			
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>6,460.73</b>	<b>5,816.28</b>	<b>4,995.20</b>



## Membership Numbers

Total of Members and Associate Members

	2017	2016	2015
<b>Members</b>	23	28	26
<b>Associates</b>	10	13	11
<b>Total</b>	33	41	37

## Financial Report for the year ended 31 December 2015

Membership has been reasonably stable over the past few years, with small fluctuations as boats change hands and people join and leave. Membership enforcement at Class regattas has not been rigorous, resulting in a few people slipping through the net and not paying subs and therefore not appearing in the annual numbers.

A number of J/109s are being sailed in the region whose owners do not enter Class events and therefore see no benefit to joining the association.

There was no AGM held in 2017 so I have presented the accounts for 2016 above. At the 2016 AGM, held late in the year, provisional accounts for 2016 were presented by Jonny Allett. Those accounts were made up only to the date of that AGM not the year-end. The 2016 figures shown above are for the full year and reflect the transactions that occurred between Jonny's report and the actual year-end.

At the end of 2017 the bank balance stood at £6,460 and as such, the Association's balance sheet remains in a healthy position. The membership and committee should come up with useful employment of the Association's funds.

It is proposed that the Full and Associate membership fees be reduced to £10 for the coming year and the Service Associations' fees reduced to £20.

Chris Burleigh  
Treasurer