

J105 Fleet 3 Annual Meeting
 January 14, 2024
 AYC Sailing Centre, Annapolis, MD

Who	What
Bill Carruth	Meeting called to order at 10:05 AM and welcomed everyone. 18 Fleet 3 boats were represented by owners or representatives at the start of the meeting. 2 boats participated by phone.
All	Individual introductions were performed for everyone in attendance.
Officers for 2024	<p>Fleet 3 2024 Board was proposed:</p> <p>Fleet Captain - Don Santa Treasurer - John Kircher Secretary - Pete Boland Scheduler - Dave Scheidt Measurer - Angelo Guarino Scorer - Carl Gitchel Member at large - Doug Stryker</p> <p>Motion to approve the 2024 Board was approved without objections.</p>
Pete Boland	<p><u>Secretary's Report:</u> The minutes of the previous annual meeting on February 26, 2023 were reviewed and accepted. Vote to accept minutes: Approved, no objections or corrections.</p>
John Kircher	<p><u>Treasurer's Report:</u></p> <p>We had an end of year balance of \$3,235 which is \$675 greater than prior year. We expect to receive an additional \$3,027 from the women's regatta. Revenue for 2023 was \$1,875 (+21% vs PY) consisting of \$7375 in fleet dues and \$5500 from the women's regatta (net of the \$3000 pending). Expenses were \$12,201 compared to 2023's \$9,928, consisting mainly of Women's Regatta costs and National Dues.</p> <p>Fleet 3 roster: There were 35 registered boats in 2023 up from 33 the year before and 25 in 2015. Bill noted that the health of the fleet is a tribute to its high level of competition - and the way we in which we compete. It was commented that we have the largest J/105 fleet nationally, in fact possibly the largest big OD fleet nationally – and perhaps the world!</p>

	<p>John Kircher will send the membership roster to the Fleet. Please contact him if you would like to see bank statement or expense details.</p>
<p>Angelo Guarino</p>	<p><u>Rules and Measurement Report:</u></p> <p>An upcoming rule interpretation will involve headliners and how they can be replaced.</p> <p>Angelo proposed that we align our Fleet 3 language and intent on women sailors with Class rules, but with a different threshold. Currently, Fleet 3 rule 9.1.4.2 provides for “a total of six crew members, no more than four of whom can be of the same sex.”. This has resulted in women’s regatta crews being required to weigh in. In contrast, Current J105 Class rule 7.1 states that “a crew of up to 6 members with 3 or more women has no restriction on crew weight.”</p> <p>Angelo proposed that we adopt the same language except for number of women sailors, i.e. new Fleet rule would allow for two or more women rather than three. Final language in our Fleet rules will necessarily differ from class rules given the need to fit with Fleet rules. Angelo will distribute draft and final language for this rule change.</p> <p>The motion to adjust the Fleet 3 language was approved.</p> <p>Angelo announced this will be his last year as Fleet Measurer (after 10 years). Doug Stryker is interested in taking the role and will be working with Angelo this season on rule interpretations. Bryan Robinson is interested in taking Doug’s spot as member at large.</p> <p>Doug on behalf of the entire fleet expressed his appreciation for Angelo’s role as Fleet Measurer.</p> <p>Bill thanked Doug for his role as the inaugural ‘member at large’, including his initiation with Angelo of last year’s new member meeting.</p>
<p>Dave Scheidt</p>	<p><u>Schedule Report:</u></p> <p>Dave shared the proposed 2024 schedule that will be finalized at the upcoming CBYA meeting. The initial draft was provided to fleet a few weeks ago. Eighteen boats gave feedback. Key changes:</p>

1. Addition of the Down The Bay race. We need a minimum of five boats (seven boats have committed to race with two maybes).
2. Addition of Southern Bay Race Week: SBRW needs at least 7 to be meaningful. We have nine committed and three maybes with potentially three local J/105s joining. Doug has asked Hampton Roads Boat Club if we can keep boats there at discounted rates, with perhaps slips together so that Fleet 3 boats can be rafted up together at club. Plan is for up to eight W/L races, each of 1-1.5 duration. Racing would take place in Big Boat circle with ORC. Dave is investigating the possibility of a chartered bus to take people up and back from Annapolis
3. Seven boats said 'yes' to the Race to Baltimore which will be returned to the schedule.
4. EWE Spirit Cup will be a 3C rather than counting for high point. Don Santa suggested next year we could ask for uniform rules for J105 participation.
5. Seafarers Regatta is a new regatta planned for Sept 21. This is likely to be a fairly casual event with racing on a small fixed circle, 1-2 laps depending on wind. Not a high point event but good if the fleet supports.

The EYC OD event scheduled for June 15 has not been confirmed by EYC. If they are not supporting then we will remove from the schedule. Jon Slabaugh reminded the meeting that EYC OD often has some of the best racing of the season because of typical wind conditions.

Angelo raised the possibility of the EYC OD being a candidate for changing from a high point to a 1C event to allow coaches the rare opportunity to race with crews in W/L racing.

Doug Stryker reported that Bill Simon had reached out to discuss opportunity to provide for a J/105 start on Thursday night racings – perhaps on a once-a-month frequency. This would be an opportunity for multiple starts in one evening, notwithstanding that the emphasis of Thursday nights is traditionally on fun rather than competitive racing. Dave reminded the fleet of the risk of splitting the fleet and diluting WNR (as was case with J24 fleet). A quick hand-raising poll was called, at least eight boats expressed interest. Dave agreed to pursue.

Motion to approve the 2024 Fleet 3 Schedule was passed.

Dave recommended that we experience other events in addition to the core Fleet 3 events like NOODs. For example, in future there may be a CBYA Race Week involving Annapolis, Baltimore and Hamptons events.

	<p>Dotty Holoubek (Rocket J Squirrel) remarked that the 2023 Screwpile race was well run and very enjoyable.</p>
<p>Carl Gitchell</p>	<p>Chesapeake Cup (This is total beaten yachts over the entire season counting all HP and non HP races): 1st Crescendo 125 2nd Mirage 120 2nd MAYHEM 120 4th Santa's Reign, Dear 113 4th Good Trade 113</p> <p>Spring Circuit (AYC Spring OD to Annapolis -Miles River (6 race days)): 1st Mirage 72 2nd Good Trade 71 3rd Patriot 67</p> <p>Summer Circuit (Twilight Race to CRAB Cup (6 race days)): 1st Firebrand 27 1st Smoke n' Oakum 27 3rd Patriot 26</p> <p>Fall Circuit (Labor Day Regatta to CBC (7 race days)): 1st MAYHEM 53 2nd Santa's Reign, Dear 46 3rd Crescendo 45</p> <p>Distance Series (EWE Spirit Cup, Annapolis to Miles River, Twilight, Boomerang, Oxford): 1st Smoke n' Oakum 29 1st Crescendo 29 3rd BreakAway 28</p> <p>Most Improved (Most places climbed): Good Trade NQ - 1</p> <p>White Trophy (The top HP scoring fleet member in the current year who received no other silver the current year (Daily top 3's)): Avenger</p> <p>IronMan (Most racing days): Chessie (17)</p>

	Top Newcomer Rocket J Squirrel
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New Business	<p>Women’s Regatta (Molly Wilmer)</p> <p>The 2023 Women’s Regatta was a very successful event that gained national media coverage, with pro sailors commenting on its tight, competitive racing. There were 13 boats on the line which is almost as many as the Toronto event (15). Molly asked for any feedback from the fleet on the regatta, rules etc. It was noted that one boat took advantage – of the new rule to allow a male on boat to count as an owner’s representative.</p> <p>The 2024 Women’s regatta is scheduled for September 1st. Given conflicting regattas there’s little room to change the date.</p> <p>Molly noted that Charleston Race Week has a women’s regatta after CRW, perhaps an opportunity for any travelling boats to compete.</p> <p>There are upcoming changes to the Hospice Cup board. Molly encouraged boat owners to consider serving on the board (as not all board members race or have sailing experience)/</p> <p>Don Santa raised the notion of changing owner/driver rules under a waiver. Angelo mentioned that this is possible now, individual can request special dispensation for specific events. This is then reviewed by the fleet.</p> <p>No actions or votes were taken related to new business.</p>
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	<p>The following boats were represented at the meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Good Trade 2. Rocket J Squirrel 3. Peregrine 4. At-Tack 5. Sterling 6. Inigo 7. Mirage 8. Mayhem 9. Juggernaut 10. Santa’s Reign Dear 11. Rum Puppy 12. Crescendo 13. Chessie
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Firebrand 15. Syndicate 16. Smoke N Oakem 17. Tenacious 18. London Calling 19. Breakaway
Announcements	<p>Don reported that there is an opportunity to host NAs in 2027 or 2028. Cedric reported that AYC would probably be happy to host but would need to talk to AYC Sailing Committee and put a proposal together. Anyone interested in working on the NA proposal please contact Don.</p> <p>Don also mentioned that he and Kevin Fitzgerald have lent boats to the AYC 321 team race / match-racing program. There's a need for a 3rd boat as a reserve. Owner's rep would sail on board so no insurance issue.</p> <p>Finally, on behalf of the entire fleet, Don recognized Bill's contribution as Fleet Captain since 2019, leading the Fleet through Covid and the resurgence of the J/105 fleet, and being a staunch champion of the Women's Regatta.</p>
Bill Carruth	Adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM