

NOTICE OF CIRCUIT

2016 J/24 Texas Circuit

Invitation

You are cordially invited to participate in the 2016 J/24 Texas Circuit (the "Circuit") to be held from March 2016 through November 2016, and sponsored by the United States J/24 Class Association (USJCA) District 14 and the Fleets therein, along with their local yacht clubs, which are designated as the organizers and hosts, respectively.

Eligibility

The Circuit is open to all J/24 yachts as defined by the IJCA. Helmspersons must be full members of a NJCA or the IJCA. In addition, all yachts and competitors must meet all requirements set forth in this Notice of Circuit, as well as individual regatta registration requirements in order to become Circuit participants.

Crewmembers, other than helmspersons, are not required to be class members. However, they are encouraged to join in support of the class by becoming Associate Members (\$35 per year).

Rules

The Circuit and the series of regattas that make up the Circuit will be governed by the *rules* as defined in *The Racing Rules of Sailing* and this Notice of Circuit.

In accordance with Class Rule 2.5.3, all yachts must have a current, valid Measurement Certificate. Any yacht without a Measurement Certificate should contact a class measurer or the USJCA District 14 Governor of record ("Governor") to arrange for yacht measurement in order to obtain a Measurement Certificate. A yacht without a Measurement Certificate may race in the Circuit only with prior approval of the Governor.

All yachts must also carry aboard the *Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment* per Class Rules 2.5.6 and 3.7.3. It is the sole responsibility of each owner or helmsperson to complete this form. Completing this form does not require a class measurer. Yachts will be subject to inspection at any time prior to, during or after any of the regattas.

Teams are reminded that pursuant to Class Rule 5, all crews must consist of at least three (3) persons with weight not exceeding 400 kg (882 lbs). All competitors will be weighed during registration at each regatta and the crew shall remain the same for all races of a single regatta. Any crew substitution requires written permission of the Governor or his designated representative, which will be given only in exceptional cases.

The respective protest committees of the host clubs for each regatta shall have authority on all matters within their jurisdiction. A committee consisting of USJCA District 14 Fleet Captains of record and chaired by the Governor will resolve all matters not within the jurisdiction of individual protest committees (e.g. circuit scoring, helmsperson substitution).

Sails

Yachts must compete with the same set of sails for the entirety of a regatta pursuant to Class Rule 3.6. However, a yacht that has damaged a sail during the regatta may request permission to substitute the

sail pursuant to Class Rule 8.1.1 at the discretion of the Governor and Judges for that particular regatta. Yachts are subject to inspection and measurement of sails at any time prior to, during or after a regatta for compliance of Class Rule 3.6. **Violation of illegal use and substitution of sails during any regatta will result in the yacht not being scored for that regatta.**

Entry

Each Yacht shall register for each regatta pursuant to the Notice of Race posted on the J/24 Texas Circuit website or host club for that regatta and complete registration as outlined in each Notice of Race, and as outlined in this Notice.

Membership Fee

As part of the entry to participate in the Texas Circuit, membership in the form of a trophy fee is required for all yachts participating in any of the Texas Circuit regattas. This fee covers the end-of-year awards for the Circuit. This fee is separate of any J/24 Class membership fee. Prior to participation in a regatta, yachts are required to pay the fee. Fee payments are available as follows: (1) for yachts that will participate in two or more regattas, the Membership fee is \$35; and (2) for local yachts that intend to participate in only one, they may pay a single fee of \$10. [Membership fees can be paid by check made payable to Tonja Sanchez-Holmes c/o District 14, 909 Glenngary Way, Denton, Texas 76208 or by PayPal by requesting a link to pay to \[sailboats4sanity@yahoo.com\]\(mailto:sailboats4sanity@yahoo.com\).](#) **Yachts that have not paid their Membership fee prior to any regatta in which they participate have not completed registration and may not be scored.**

Schedule

Seven (7) scheduled regattas comprise the 2016 Circuit:

March 19-20	Texas State Championship: Fleet 21 and Austin Yacht Club
April 16-17	Cowtown Stampede & Southwest Regional Championship: Fleet 54 and Fort Worth Boat Club
May 21-22	Corinthian Cup: Fleet 163 and Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club
June 11-12	Surfin' Safari: Fleet 3 and Corpus Christi Yacht Club
September 17-18	Beasley Cup at the Houston Offshore One Design (HOOD): Fleet 5 and Houston Yacht Club
October 29-30	J/Fest Southwest: Fleet 5 and Lakewood Yacht Club
November 19-20	Texas Circus: Fleet 9 and Lake Canyon Yacht Club

Racing

Up to six (6) races will be scheduled at each regatta. Racing will be windward/leeward courses or variations thereof. Offset weather marks and leeward gates may be used.

Circuit Scoring

RRS Appendix A, as modified herein, will apply after substituting "regatta" for "race" and "Notice of Circuit" for "sailing instructions".

Only those regattas for which at least three (3) races are completed will be scored in the overall Circuit scoring.

If four (4) or fewer regattas are scored, then no scores will be excluded. If five (5) regattas are scored, each team's worst score will be excluded. If six (6) or more regattas are scored, each team's worst two (2) scores will be excluded.

Helmsperson and Helmsperson Substitutions

If there are to be co-helmspersons, then one must be declared as the primary helmsperson for World qualification purposes.

For a yacht/team to have a substitute helmsperson for a regatta, the substitute helmsperson must sail with the team for the lesser of: (a) at least three (3) Circuit regattas (regardless of whether those regattas are counted in the final overall Circuit standings), or (b) at least 50% of the regattas in which the team competed. Substitute helmspersons that do not meet this requirement must have approval by a majority vote of a committee consisting of the Governor or his designated representative (committee chair) and USJCA District 14 Fleet Captains for those fleets that have participated in at least one (1) Circuit regatta or plan to participate in the regatta that is the subject of the request. If a Fleet Captain is unavailable, the Governor shall designate a member of that fleet to represent the Fleet Captain.

Prizes

Awards will be presented to the final overall top five (5) Circuit yachts/teams, as well as to those yachts/teams that participated in all scheduled regattas that are held, irrespective as to whether such held regattas are scored as part of the Circuit or not (i.e. Road Warriors).

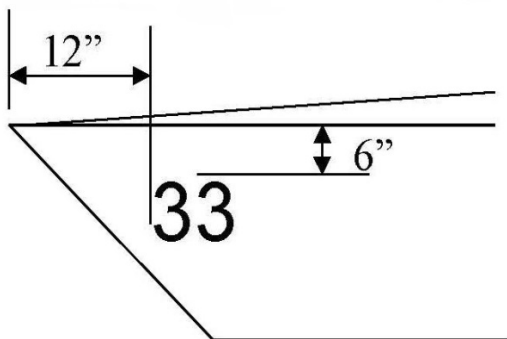
Bow Numbers

For scoring and identification of yachts, unique bow numbers are required to be fixed to both external port and starboard sides of the forward bow area of each competing yacht's hull. These numbers must be affixed as follows:

- a) The leading edge of the forward number shall be approximately 12" aft of the stem.
- b) The top edge of both numbers shall be approximately 6" from the rail.
- c) All numbers must contrast with the color of the hull and be at least 12" in height.

Bow Numbers

Position bow numbers on your boat as shown in the figure below.



It is the responsibility of each participating yacht to obtain and affix their bow numbers to their yacht.

Bow numbers will be assigned to each participating yacht for the duration of the Circuit year. **Bow numbers 01 through 10 are pre-assigned** to the top ten (10) teams based on previous year's circuit standings.

Bow numbers 11 through 99 are available for teams on a first come basis. Bow numbers 11 through 99 used in the previous circuit year will be reserved for the yacht that declared it in that previous year. Available Bow numbers can be found at www.j24texas.com.

Bow numbers for the current Circuit are considered declared once a yacht has registered for a regatta using the declared bow number. Issues relating to bow numbers (e.g. assignment, placement, size, etc.) will be resolved solely by the Governor.

2017 J/24 Worlds Qualification

The Southwest Regional Championship regatta is the standing J/24 World Qualifier for USJCA District 14's and USJCA District 18. In addition, the Texas Circuit is designated as a World Qualifier. The highest finishing USJCA District 14 or 18 helmsperson at the 2016 Southwest Regional Championship and the highest finishing USJCA District 14 helmsperson in the Texas Circuit that meets the provisions of that section titled World Championships under paragraphs 5.3 and 5.4, as specified in the International J/24 Class Regatta Regulations, Rev. 6.0, will qualify for a berth at the 2017 J/24 Worlds to be held at Port Credit Yacht Club in Mississauga, Ontario, Canada from September 15-23, 2017. If the Southwest Regional Championship does not qualify as a scored regatta of the Circuit (see Scoring section above), the next completed circuit stop will become the USJCA Southwest Regional Worlds Qualifier. In the event the highest finishing helmsperson of the Texas Circuit has already qualified for a berth, the berth will pass down to the next highest helmsperson. Further pass down information can be found in the J/24 Class Regatta Regulations, Rev. 6.0.

Additional Information

For more information regarding the Circuit, you may contact Kelly Holmes-Moon, District 14 Governor at (940) 399-9805 or Bryan Dyer, Texas Circuit Representative, by e-mail at bdyer@woodmont.com.

Changes to this Notice of Circuit and Schedule of Races will be posted on the USJCA District 14 website at <http://www.j24texas.com/>.