

NOTICE OF CIRCUIT

2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit
2/17/14

You are cordially invited to participate in the United States J/22 Class Association (USJ22CA) Southwest District 2014 Championship Series (a.k.a the 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit) to be held from March, 2014 through November, 2014. The Championship consists of seven Circuit Regattas held throughout the District. The USJ22CA Southwest District and the Fleets therein with their local affiliated racing clubs are the organizers and hosts, respectively.

1 Rules

- 1.1 This series of Regattas will be governed by the 2013 - 2016 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), International J22 Class Association Rules (IJ22CA), individual Circuit Regatta Notice of Race, individual Circuit Regatta Sailing Instructions and this Notice of Circuit.
- 1.2 RRS Rule 87 will be changed to read as follows: *The sailing instructions may change a class rule.*
- 1.3 RRS 903(a) as modified herein, will apply after substituting “*Regatta*” for “race”, “*Notice of Circuit*” for “sailing instructions”, and “*competitor*” for “boat”.
- 1.4 RRS Appendix A2 will be changed to read as follows: *Each competitor’s series scores shall be the total of their best (lowest) four (4) Regatta scores. A Regatta is completed if scored; see rule 90.3(a). The Competitor with the lowest series score wins and others shall be ranked accordingly.*
- 1.5 Class Rules 2.8 (eligibility), 2.9 (measurement certificate) and 8.9 (weight limit) of the IJ22CA Class Rules will not apply for eligibility to participate in the J/22 Southwest Circuit. However, Class Rules 2.8 and 2.9 will affect scoring in the J/22 Southwest Circuit, see *Scoring* below. *Basically, this means that the class membership requirement, boat measurement requirement and the crew weight limitation **do not apply** for eligibility to participate and will not affect scoring in that individual Circuit Regatta. However, Yachts lacking a measurement certificate or whose competitor does not meet the class membership requirement will be scored according to this Notice of Circuit.*
- 1.6 The respective Circuit Regatta protest committees shall have authority on all matters within their jurisdiction. A committee consisting of USJ22CA Southwest District Fleet Captains of record and chaired by the USJ22CA Southwest District Governor of record will resolve all matters not within the jurisdiction of individual protest committees (e.g. circuit scoring).
- 1.7 The Southwest District Governor, with the advice of the Southwest District Fleet Captains, may establish additional guidelines for the management of races, to be made available to the Regatta Chairmen and Principal Race Officers.

2 Advertising

These Circuit Regattas are classified as Category C events per ISAF Regulation 20 as modified by the International J/22 Class Association (IJ22CA) Class Rule 2.9.8(a).

3 Eligibility and Entry

The 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit is open to all J/22 yachts as defined by the IJ22CA. Competitors must meet individual Circuit Regatta registration requirements in order to become participants in the J/22 Southwest Circuit.

4 Fees

There are no separate entry fees for the Circuit. Successful entry and registration in an individual Circuit Regatta automatically enters a competitor/boat in the J/22 Southwest Circuit.

5 Schedule

5.1 Seven scheduled Regattas comprise the 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit:

Circuit #1	March 22 & 23	Austin Yacht Club
Circuit #2	April 12 & 13	Shreveport Yacht Club
Circuit #3	April 26 & 27	Ft. Worth Boat Club
Circuit #4	June 21 & 22	Oklahoma City Boat Club
Circuit #5	September 20 & 21	Houston Yacht Club – HOOD Regatta
Circuit #6	October 18 & 19	Houston Yacht Club – Heritage Cup
Circuit #7	November 15 & 16	Lake Canyon Yacht Club

5.2 Five races will be scheduled for each Circuit Regatta of the 2014 J/22 Texas Circuit. Based on the time of day and weather conditions, the Regatta PRO and the local fleet captain may agree to a fourth race on Saturday, thus allowing six races to take place.

6 Measurement

It is expected that all Yachts meet the IJ22CA Class Rules. A measurement certificate is not required to enter/participate in any individual Circuit Regatta or the J/22 Southwest District Circuit. **Not having a current measurement certificate will affect a boat's scoring in the Circuit. A boat shall have until November 14th, 2014 to secure a measurement certificate for scoring purposes. Contact your Fleet Measurer to have your J/22 measured.**

7 Sailing Instructions

Sailing Instructions will be provided at the Skipper's meeting of each individual Circuit Regatta.

8 Venue

Each Circuit Regatta venue will be described in its' respective Notice of Race.

9 Courses

Racing will take place on Windward/Leeward courses or variations thereof. Offset weather marks and leeward gates may be used.

10 Scoring

10.1 Each competitor's series scores shall be the total of their best (lowest) four (4) Regatta scores); this modifies RRS Appendix A2. A Regatta is completed if scored; see rule 90.3(a). The Competitor with the lowest series score wins and others shall be ranked accordingly.

- 10.2 At each Circuit Regatta in which a competitor competes, an election shall be made whether to score the boat or helmsman as the competitor for purposes of Circuit scoring. Thus, an owner may compete on multiple boats or a helmsman may compete on multiple boats, but an individual Circuit Regatta score must be attributed to one or the other.
- 10.3 Only those scheduled Regattas for which at least two races are scored will be considered completed Circuit Regattas and scored in the 2014 series. Each competitor that is scored in a completed Regatta is entered in the 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit.
- 10.4 When a yacht lacks a measurement certificate or when the competitor does not meet the class membership requirement of IJ22CA Class rule 2.8, the competitor's score for the 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit shall be one more than the number of entrants in that individual Circuit Regatta. The scoring of the other yachts for the 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit in that individual Circuit Regatta with a worse finishing position shall be moved up one place.
- 10.5 If more than four Regattas are scored for a competitor, the best four scores will be retained and the other scores excluded.

11 Haul-out Restrictions

Boats shall be launched prior to 1200 (12 noon) on the first scheduled racing day of the individual Circuit Regatta. Boats (including rudders) may not be removed from the water during a Regatta without the approval of the Protest Committee or Chief Judge.

12 Diving Equipment and Plastic Pools

Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used.

13 Radio Communications

- 15.1 Except in an emergency, a boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.
- 15.2 VHF radio hails may be attempted by the Race Committee for yachts failing to comply with RRS rules 29.1, 29.2, 30.1 or 30.3.

14 Prizes

Awards will be presented to the final overall top five Circuit competitors (helmsman or boat) as well as to those competitors participating in all scheduled Regattas that are held, irrespective as to whether such held Regattas are scored as part of the 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit or not (i.e. Road Warriors). The number of awards presented at each individual Regatta will be determined by the local hosting fleet.

15 Disclaimer of Liability

Competitors participate in a Regatta entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority and hosts will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after a Regatta.

16 Bow Numbers

To facilitate scoring and the identification of boats for the purpose of RRS 29.1, 29.2, 30.1, 30.2 and 30.3, unique bow numbers are required to be fixed to both external port and starboard sides of the forward bow area of each competing crew's boat hull. These numbers must be affixed to both port and starboard as follows:

- a. The leading edge of the forward number shall be 250mm/10" aft of the stem.
- b. The leading edge of the aft numbers shall be 100mm/4" aft of the aft edge of the forward number.
- c. The top edge of both numbers shall be 100mm/4" from the rail.
- d. All numbers must contrast with the color of the hull and be at least 305mm/12" in height.

Bow numbers will be assigned to each participating crew for the duration of the 2014 J/22 Southwest Circuit. Bow numbers 01 through 10 are pre-assigned respectively to the top ten competitors of the 2013 J/22 Southwest Circuit. Bow numbers 11 through 99 will be assigned out of the then open pool of unassigned numbers by the applicable Regatta's organizing authority, who will accept on a first come basis via the registration process bow number declarations from new Circuit participants. Issues relating to bow numbers (e.g. assignment, placement, size, etc.) will be resolved solely by the USJ22CA Southwest District Governor of record.

It shall be the responsibility of each participating competitor to obtain and affix the assigned bow numbers to their yacht. The Fleets, host Yacht Clubs and the Southwest District are not responsible to provide numerals for bow numbers.

16 Additional Information

For more information on the 2014 J/22 Texas Circuit, contact USJ22CA Southwest District Governor Brant Koepke at 281-682-0300 or by e-mail at brantkoepke@hotmail.com. For information relating to individual events, please contact the local fleet or host club stated in that event's NOR. The most up to date J/22 Southwest Circuit information may be found at the USJ22CA Southwest District web site at <http://www.j22southwest.org>.