

# Notice of Circuit

## 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit

You are cordially invited to participate in the United States J/22 Class Association (USJ22CA) District 5, 2017 Championship Series (aka the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit) to be held from March, 2017 through November, 2017. The Championship consists of seven Circuit Regattas held throughout the District. The USJ22CA District 5 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 2017 - 2020 Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), International J22 Class Association Rules (IJ22CA), an individual Circuit Regatta's *Notice of Regatta*, an individual Circuit Regatta's *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 Class Rules 2.8 (eligibility, aka class membership), 2.9 (measurement certificate) and 8.9 (weight limit) of the IJ22CA Class Rules will not apply for eligibility to participate in an individual Circuit Regatta. However, Class Rules 2.8 and 2.9 will affect scoring in the 2017 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 in an individual Circuit Regatta and will not affect scoring nor prizes/awards in that individual Circuit Regatta. However, Boats lacking a measurement certificate or whose helmsperson does not meet the class membership requirement will be scored in the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit in accordance with this Notice of Circuit.*

1.4 The respective individual 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 District 5 Governor of record will resolve all matters not within the jurisdiction of individual Regatta protest committees or the RRS (e.g. circuit scoring).

1.5 The District 5 (Southwest) Governor, with the advice of the District 5 Fleet Captains, may establish additional guidelines for the management of races, to be made available to the Regatta Chairperson and Principal Race Officers.

### 2 Eligibility and Entry

The 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit is open to all J/22 yachts as defined by the IJ22CA. Competitors must meet individual Circuit Regatta registration requirements as stated in that event's *Notice of Race* in order to become participants in the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit. 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).

### 3 Fees

There are no separate entry fees for the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit. Successful entry, registration and participation in an individual Circuit Regatta automatically enters a helmsperson or boat (one or the other) in the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit.

#### 4 Schedule

Seven scheduled Regattas comprise the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit:

Circuit #1	April 1 & 2	Shreveport Yacht Club
Circuit #2	April 22 & 23	Ft. Worth Boat Club – Annual Regatta
Circuit #3	May 13 & 14	Austin Yacht Club
Circuit #4	August 26 & 27	Corpus Christi Yacht Club
Circuit #5	September 23 & 24	Houston Yacht Club – HOOD Regatta
Circuit #6	October 14 & 15	Houston Yacht Club – Heritage Cup
Circuit #7	November 18 & 19	Lake Canyon Yacht Club

Five or more races will be scheduled for each Circuit Regatta of the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit.

#### 5 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 (see 9 Scoring, below) . A boat shall have until October 1, 2017 to secure a measurement certificate for scoring purposes. Contact your Fleet Measurer or the District 5 Governor to have your J/22 measured.***

#### 6 Sailing Instructions

There are no Sailing Instructions for the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit, Sailing Instructions will be provided at the Skipper's meeting of each individual Circuit Regatta or as designated in that individual Circuit Regatta's *Notice of Race*.

#### 7 Venue

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

#### 8 Courses

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

#### 9 Scoring

9.1 Only those scheduled 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit Regattas for which at least five (5) competitors compete and where two (2) races are scored will be considered completed Circuit Regattas and scored in the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit.

9.2 Each competitor shall be awarded Circuit points based upon their finishes in completed individual Circuit Regattas as follows:

<i>Finishing place</i>	<i>Points</i>
First	1
Second	2
Third	3
Fourth	4
Fifth	5
Sixth	6
Seventh	7
Each place thereafter	Add 1 point

In the Circuit scoring, a competitor that did not enter or did not come to the starting area for any of the races in an individual Circuit Regatta shall be scored DNC for that event. DNC equals the number of participants in the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit plus one (1) point.

9.3 When a yacht lacks a measurement certificate or when the helmsperson does not meet the class membership requirement of IJ22CA Class rule 2.8, the Circuit points awarded to that competitor shall be one more than the number of entrants in that individual Circuit Regatta. The scoring of the other yacht/competitors for that Circuit Regatta with a worse finishing position shall be moved up one place. A yacht/competitor's score will be reinstated if the membership requirement and measurement certificate requirement are met prior to October 1, 2017. Subsequently, scores of other yachts/competitors will be adjusted to reflect the previously non-qualifying yacht/competitor's new scores.

9.4 Each competitor's 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit score shall be the total of the Circuit points awarded in their best (lowest) four (4) completed Circuit Regattas. The competitor with the lowest Circuit score wins, and others shall be ranked accordingly.

9.5 At registration for 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, a helmsman may compete on multiple boats throughout the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit series with individual Circuit Regatta scores being contributed to the helmsperson regardless of the boat being sailed. Alternately, the individual Circuit Regatta scores may be attributed to the boat and not to the helmsperson; allowing a boat to compete utilizing multiple helmspersons. An individual Circuit Regatta score must be attributed to one or the other.

### **10 Haul-out Restrictions**

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

### **11 Diving Equipment and Plastic Pools**

Underwater breathing apparatus, plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used during an individual Circuit Regatta.

### **12 Radio Communications**

12.1 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.

12.2 VHF radio hails may be attempted by the Race Committee for yachts failing to comply with RRS rules 29.1, 29.2, 30.1 30.2, 30.3 or 30.4.

### **13 Prizes**

Awards will be presented to the final overall top three 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 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit or not (i.e. Road Warriors). Optional prizes may be awarded by the District 5 Governor. 2017 J/22 Southwest District prizes will be awarded at the final Circuit Regatta held at Lake Canyon Yacht Club on November 19, 2017. The number of awards presented at each individual Circuit Regatta will be determined by the local hosting fleet and/or Regatta organizing authority.

### **14 Disclaimer of Liability**

Competitors participate in an individual Circuit Regatta and the 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit entirely at their own risk. See RRS rule 4, *Decision to Race*. The Organizing Authority, Hosts, IJ22CA, District 5 and its officers will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with, prior to, during, or after a Regatta.

### **15 Bow Numbers**

To facilitate scoring and the identification of boats for the purpose of RRS 29.1, 29.2, 30.1, 30.2, 30.3 and 30.4, unique two digit bow numbers are required to be fixed to both external port and starboard sides of the forward bow area of each competing 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 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit. Bow numbers 01 through 10 are pre-assigned respectively to the top ten competitors of the 2016 J/22 Southwest Circuit.

#### Reserved Bow Numbers

01 Fred Lindsey	06 Terry Flynn
02 Keith Zars	07 Stuart Lindow
03 Vincent Ruder	08 Dov Kivlovitz
04 Doug Weakly	09 Gary Thies
05 Tom Meeh	10 Jim Jay/Britt Feik

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 2017 J/22 Southwest Circuit, contact USJ22CA District 5 (Southwest) Governor, Brant Koepke, by e-mail at [brantkoepke@hotmail.com](mailto:brantkoepke@hotmail.com). For information relating to the individual Circuit Regattas, 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>.