



International J/70 Class Association (IJ70CA)

Technical Bulletin

April 18, 2019

Due to a recent change in Southern Spars production capabilities—which has caused a long-term interruption in J/70 mast supply—J/Boats announced on March 29, 2019 that for the 2020 and foreseeable future US production runs of the J/70, Selden would be the J/70 mast and boom supplier. Accordingly, and in consultation with the IJ70CA Technical Committee, J/Boats has modified the official J/70 Building Specification to allow the use of either Southern or Selden mast and boom sets, irrespective of the originally-provided equipment.

In practical terms, this means that J/70 owners may replace their Southern mast and boom sets with Selden mast and boom sets (and vice-versa), effective immediately.

Accordingly, in consultation with J/Boats, the Technical Committee has amended FAQ 21 of the official J/70 FAQ Document to clarify the mast and boom replacement process. This amended FAQ is below.

21. Is it legal to replace one J/70 mast with another manufacturer: Selden to Southern Spar or Southern Spar to Selden?

Yes. As of April 18, 2019, the J/70 Building Specification (Line 47) allows the use of a mast and boom set from any licensed manufacturer. This allows the replacement of a Southern Spar set with a Selden Spar set and vice-versa. However, any mast and boom replacement is subject to the following limits:

- a) The mast and boom must be replaced as a set. You may not mix-and-match Southern and Selden spars. See Building Specification, Line 47.
- b) A mast and boom replacement will require a reissue of the boat's Manufacturer's Declaration, where the replacement (with the new serial number) will be specified. That is, boat owners must report a replacement mast and boom set to the J/70 Class Office immediately to update their Manufacturer's Declaration.
- c) A mast and boom replacement may occur no more often than once every twelve months, unless a spar is damaged beyond reasonable repair (in which case the boat owner can appeal to the IJ70CA Technical Committee for a waiver of this provision of Line 47 of the Building Specification).
- d) A replacement of a mast from Southern to Selden will require the replacement of the original mast base with the corresponding mast base from Selden. This is a bolt-for-bolt replacement, and the holes may not be moved or enlarged. See Line 49 of the Building Specification.

In the event that a mast or boom is damaged beyond repair during an event, the event technical committee can authorize deviations from the above procedures for purposes of that event only.

Boat owners wishing to explore a replacement for their spars should contact J/Boats (info@jboats.com, 401-846-8410) regarding availability (projected for early October 2019) and pricing.

J/Boats has also clarified that Southern Spars has a supply of stock J/70 spar parts including spreaders and spreader brackets. Their plan is to continue servicing the J/70 class with spare parts via their service headquarters (Rig Pro) and service affiliates such as Sail22:

Rig Pro, LLC
enquiries@rig-pro.com
+1 401 683 6966
14 Regatta Way Suite #3
Portsmouth, Rhode Island 02871

Sail22
info@sail22.com
(574) 889-0022
PO Box 322
Culver, IN 46511
<http://www.sail22.com/>

Class members with questions or comments about this Technical Bulletin should contact the IJ70CA Technical Chair, Polk Wagner (polk@polkwagner.com) and/or the Class Executive, Chris Howell (howell@j70office.com).

Related Documents

See Class website for current versions: <http://www.j70ica.org/class-office-rules>

International J/70 Class Rules

J/70 Building Specification

J/70 FAQ