

J  
70

# MOMENTUM

**Julian Fernandez Neckelmann's  
Flojito y Cooperando of Mexico  
Wins J/70 World  
Championship in France**



**VOLUME 3, ISSUE 3, SUMMER 2015**

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*As I write this letter, it is August 17, and it feels like the summer has flown by. I have had several conversations with business associates from various parts of the country, and all made the same comment and noted how it seems as if mid-August has replaced Labor Day as the traditional end to the summer. I guess I am part of that generation for which Labor Day marked the end of the summer and my racing program. Enough nostalgia...there is still plenty of J/70 sailing for all of us left to enjoy!*

*For me, one of the highlights of the summer was racing with my family while we were in Maine. Unfortunately, we were not racing a J/70 but did enjoy our time on the family J/100. I have enjoyed hearing several reports of J/70 family teams having success at various regattas. The success in sailing with family can be measured on a couple of levels: spending time together and enjoying our sport with family, and secondly how well you performed in the race. We had several podium finishes in the J/100, but the time on the boat with my daughters, niece and brother-in-law was the best part for me.*

*It has been a busy summer on the local and international circuit with many regional events taking place, and of course the World Championship in France. Enjoy the stories in this issue as well as a new feature: reports from the Fleets. We think it is important to share the information the Fleet Captains provide on a quarterly basis so that everyone can learn from best practices and have a complete understanding of how fleets in various locations work to support the growth of the J/70.*

*It has also been a busy summer for the National and International Executive Committees. The planning and execution of the Worlds was a major focus. The reports seem to indicate that the racing was very good, but the*

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*social activities could have been better. We are taking the lessons learned and working to make sure that the 2016 World Championship in San Francisco will be a great success. We continue to be focused on the 2015 and 2016 North American Championships, as well as trying to improve and support the winter circuit in Florida. For 2016, we have opted for a standalone Midwinter Championship that will be hosted by St. Petersburg Yacht Club.*

*I hope you all took the time to respond to the latest Class survey concerning potential changes and updates to our Class Rules. We appreciate your feedback. Please be patient as we collect the data from all of you in the US and our International owners. Once the International Executive Committee has a chance to review the data, it does take time to draft the proposed language, have it reviewed by ISAF, come back to the Class members for approval and then to ISAF for final approval. I know this sounds tedious, but it is the process with which we have to work.*

*Have a great rest of the summer,  
Henry Brauer, USJ70CA President  
[henry@hgbrauer.com](mailto:henry@hgbrauer.com)*



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**Julian Fernandez Neckelmann's  
*Flojito y Cooperando* of Mexico  
Wins J/70 World  
Championship in France**



Sun and wind dominated the 2015 J/70 World Championship, and the J/70 ensured a show in La Rochelle, France from July 8-11. Superb sailing conditions and fierce competition marked the week, which ended with the victory of the Mexican team *Flojito y Cooperando* (MEX 384) and its skipper Julian Fernandez Neckelmann. The crew included: Erik Brockmann, Bill Hardesty and Willem Van Waay. In the Corinthian fleet, it was the Englishman Simon Ling on *Team RAF Benevolent Fund Spitfire* (GBR 123) who won the amateur trophy with crew Craig Burlton, Ian Southworth and Tony Hanlon.

On July 11, the 78 J/70s from 16 nations (Australia, Brazil, Chile, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA) ran the last two rounds of the championship. With a slightly cooler temperature and a 5-10 knot wind at 300 for race 9 and 260-270 for the last race, the conditions allowed a final intense game day. It was the Australian Steve McConaghy (AUS 007) on *Vamos* who won race 9, followed by the English *Little Louise* (GBR 769) and Elisabeth Vaillant on *Triskell* (FRA 39412). Peter Duncan's *Relative Obscurity* (USA 49), victorious in the tenth and final race, was closely followed by *Flojito y Cooperando* that ended up a very nice round.

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*Flojito y Cooperando* therefore succeeded a near perfect World Championship. In the overall lead since the start of the competition and with only one race in which they did not finish in the top ten, the crew undoubtedly won the title. The Italian Carlo Alberini on *Calvi Network* (ITA 456), 2015 J/70 Midwinter Champion, ensured second place in the Championship. In third place and after a fierce struggle with the English Ian Atkins on *Boats.com* (GBR 557), Tim Healy on the American boat *Helly Hansen* (USA 2) went on the third step of the podium.



Of the French teams, *Lulu La Nantaise* (FRA 257) with the crew Ludovic Senechal took 20th place, ahead of *Hemon Camus* (FRA 722) and its skipper Laurent Sambron (22nd) and *Entente Cordiale* (GBR 836) with Philippe Briand (25th).



**J/70**

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As amateurs, the English dominated the standings all week. Arriving in the top 10, Simon Ling's *Team RAF Benevolent Fund Spitfire* (GBR 123) won the Corinthian Trophy, followed closely by *Gill Race Team* (GBR 259) with Ian Wilson.

Photos: Christophe Breschi,  
<http://breschi-photo-video.com/>  
Videos: Overlap,  
[www.j70worlds2015.com/media/videos](http://www.j70worlds2015.com/media/videos)  
Daily reports and full results:  
[www.j70worlds2015.com](http://www.j70worlds2015.com)





## WINNER'S DEBRIEF with Julian Fernandez Neckelmann

**Momentum:** *Sixteen nations were represented at the World Championship, which was only the second Worlds for the young J/70 Class. What about the boat attracts so much interest worldwide?*

Julian Fernandez Neckelmann: It is a simple boat, easy to get crew for, race, day sail. You can just as well sail with your wife and kids as you can assemble a top notch team and have great competition. This is only the beginning. I would not be surprised to see north of 10,000 boats worldwide in a decade.

**Momentum:** *Tell us about your crew and the role that each played on the FLOJITO Y COOPERANDO team.*

**JFN:** Ed Adams has been coaching us and is probably the best coach around. He had the relevant information and feedback months in advance. His input was invaluable as to boat setup and tuning, wind, tides & currents, etc. Bill Hardesty was mainsail trimmer and tactician responsible for keeping us fast and well positioned. Willem Van Waay trimmed the jib and kite, was responsible for boat and sails, helped Bill with tactics and keeping us fast. Terrific trimmer and above all the most professional and pleasant guy. Erik Brockmann did the bow and logistics. Probably the most talented young sailor in Mexico. My responsibility on the boat was mainly to keep out of their way.



## WINNER'S DEBRIEF with Julian Fernandez Neckelmann

**Momentum:** *Black flag penalties hampered quite a few teams, including some top contenders. How did you approach the starts with 77 other boats?*

**JFN:** We knew that we had to be conservative and not have any catastrophic races. Sometimes our starts were poor because of this, but we quickly came back fighting. Cannot come back from a BFD.

**Momentum:** *You led from day one and never relinquished that advantage. Did your strategy change over the four days, and if so, how?*

**JFN:** Our strategy was fairly uniform from day 1 to 3—mainly place top 10 and avoid BFD, fouls and big leverage with the fleet. On day 4, we basically made sure that *Calvi Network* finished deep and behind us in the first race; last race we had to do better than 14th with them worse than third. Nonetheless, the most important STRATEGIC decision as a team was to have FUN!

**Momentum:** *La Rochelle is a unique venue with huge tides and breeze. What preparations did you make prior to the event?*

**JFN:** We studied tide/current patterns and wind trends months in advance. We arrived one week ahead of the event to validate our research.

**Momentum:** *Some members have expressed a desire to limit professional sailors in the J/70 Class to one Group 1 competitor per boat. What is your opinion on that?*

**JFN:** The rule should not be changed as it is significant in the Class foundation; and many other people bought the boat because of it or they were strongly influenced by it. Lots of sailors need professional help because of age or skill set. Professionals are an integral part of our sport. For purists, the Corinthian Class will solve the issue.

**Momentum:** *How do you see the J/70 Class evolving in Mexico?*

**JFN:** The Class in Mexico is going to keep evolving strongly in Valle de Bravo, Cancun, Puerto Vallarta, Acapulco and Progreso.

I would like to thank Patricia, my wife, and all the kids for their love and patience. This win and season is dedicated to Diego Fernandez and Bernard Minkow from the *Flojito y Cooperando* crew who passed away in 2014; we are grateful for all the lessons you taught us.

# Who will be the next J/70 North American Champion?

Follow the action September 23-27  
from San Diego, California [www.j70nac.com](http://www.j70nac.com)



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**SEPTEMBER 24-27** *San Diego Yacht Club*



# J/70 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

By Ned Jones, J/70CA Technical Chair



## 2015 J/70 World Championship Measurement Report

*Seventy-nine boats went through a rigorous measurement procedure over the course of two and a half days at the 2015 J/70 World Championship in La Rochelle, France. The measurers were Ned Jones (J/70 ICA TC) and Chris Howell (J/70 ICA ED).*

*Boats were presented for primary inspection with mast up/rigged on trailer and keel raised. The inspection team of two measurers conducted primary inspections, with an average completion time of 10-15 minutes. Measurement points included:*

## Primary

Sails

(dropped off at separate measurement location)

- Deck layout and hardware spec
- Transom rudder hardware fasteners
- Lifeline tension
- Mast/boom
- Standing rigging
- Running rigging
- Sprit pole length
- Transom/hull radius
- Centerline seam
- Keel and rudder trailing edge
- Keel and rudder chord length
- Keel foil shape
- Keel nose profile
- Keel wedge - location/shape
- Keel trunk/hull transition radius/fit
- Keel kelp cutter blade/slot size
- Carbon content check
- Weight/corrector weight
- Safety gear

## Secondary

If required after primary inspection

- Drop keel
- Further/follow-up inspection of any primary inspection discrepancy

# IJ70 TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

By Ned Jones, IJ70CA Technical Chair

## Measurement Issues

The Class Rules and Builder Specifications as written were enforced literally. Some interpretation was used where required, and applied consistently across the fleet. The "Random Sample" comparison test (CR B.3) was used where required.

Some issues:

- Lifelines too loose. CR C.7.2 was not used to test due to complexity. Competitors were instructed to make lifeline "taught." This is a correction that needs to be checked daily.
- Added/lengthened stops on boom for vang purchase. Not permitted.
- Sharpened/reduced radius on transom/hull corner. Not permitted.
- Modified winches: top of winch machined to remove top edge. Not permitted.
- Running rigging tapered/below minimum diameter. Not permitted.
- Removal of bow drain cover/clamshell. Not permitted.
- Sprit pole exceeding maximum deployed length. Not permitted.
- Use of added sprit pole retracted/maximum in line. Not permitted.
- Use of block/tension device under keel safety strap. Not permitted.



*Modified wedges. Not permitted.*



*Internal gusset added at hull/transom. Not permitted.*



*Under keel safety strap block to hold keel tight in trunk. Not permitted.*



**2016 J/70 Midwinter Championship**  
**February 26-28, 2016**

**St. Petersburg Yacht Club**  
**St. Petersburg, Florida**

[www.spyc.org](http://www.spyc.org)



# St. Petersburg Yacht Club Welcomes the Quantum J/70 Midwinter Championship 2016

By George Pennington



It's time to mark your calendars for the 2016 Midwinter Championship scheduled for February 25-28. The St. Petersburg Yacht Club, located at 11 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, Florida, has planned an outstanding weekend for you. This year's stand-alone event has many advantages over one that included other Classes. Some of the advantages are the closeness to the downtown area of St. Petersburg, hotel accommodations within walking distance, storage areas being arranged closeby, fast access to the sailing area and flexibility of the sailing area to obtain the best wind possible. This type of venue also allows the Race Officers to make decisions based only on one Class, giving the Race Committee more latitude.

This reasonably priced event begins with registration on Thursday, February 25, followed by three days of sailing on Tampa Bay-either directly in front of the old pier site or anywhere on the bay from the pier to the Skyway Bridge (about five miles away) to take advantage of southwesterly or westerly sea breezes. The St. Petersburg Yacht Club has planned three after-race and/or evening events, leaving one night to explore the many restaurants and entertainment facilities in the downtown area that are within walking distance or a short taxi

ride (depending on your choice). We are sure that you will be using the club facilities as well, so to accommodate everyone quickly, you will be able to obtain a guest card online and pick it up at the front desk upon arrival.

For your convenience, the Sailing Center will be open early each morning and remain open until late evening. Our sponsor, Quantum Sails Design, will be providing the competitors with clinics and after-race debriefings. Joule Yacht Transport has signed on as sponsor and will be available for transporting vessels to and from our event and others around the country. Storage needs are being addressed, and a full list of these will be posted with the Notice of Race.

To assist you with your stay here, the St. Petersburg Yacht Club has compiled a list of accommodations that are close to the club, and that list can be found on our website at [www.spyc.org](http://www.spyc.org). Click on "Sailing," then "Regattas," and scroll down to the bottom of the page. The blue titles are live links directly to the hotel/motel.

We hope that everyone will have a wonderful and pleasant experience at this event.

### Fleet 4 Southern California

#### Dave Vieregg

We have had a busy summer in SoCal, racing in Long Beach and Santa Barbara as well as planning for the upcoming North American Championship with some pre-regattas in between. A full fleet of 19 boats for Long Beach and a stacked bunch of sailors competed. Almost the entire three days were met with epic Long Beach conditions (one race hiccup and a very small amount of rain drops didn't hinder the racing) with some great competition from all the boats involved. A fleet that is getting better means more boats at each mark rounding. The Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs did a fantastic job of hosting us with some great parties and good facilities. Congratulations to all the podium finishers-Bruce Golison and team *Midlife Crisis* for showing us how it's done, the *Minor Threats* who proved their threat is major, and *Catapult* who was always at the top!

*Sugoi* with Chris Snow in their debut proved to get better each day. *Jennifer* was hot the latter half of the regatta, and *Sloop*



*John B* showed flashes of brilliance. Congrats to all the competitors for getting out there and lining up with everyone. Not much is better than surfing a J/70 right by the J/120s!

The Fiesta Cup was known more for the party, rain, thunder and lightning (was this really Santa Barbara in summer?) than the racing, but a good time was had by all. Ten boats showed up, and the locals schooled the travelers in light and shifty conditions. Congrats to *Smoke and Mirrors*, the *3 Big Dogs* and *Cake*...all locals who had it and ate it too!

In September, San Diego Yacht Club hosts the J/70 North American Championship, and it will play host to a national canned beer launch of Jibe



Session IPA from San Diego's own Green Flash Brewing Co. Green Flash is proud to come on board as the title sponsor of the J/70 races from September 24-27. The brewery has been planning the US debut of Jibe as their first canned release for over a year, and the J/70 NAC offers the perfect platform for Green Flash to execute their exciting new offering. Green Flash is owned and operated by SDYC members, Mike and Lisa Hinkley, who are avid sailors. Green Flash is known among craft beer fans as the go-to for brewing up high-gravity India Pale Ales (IPAs) like West Coast Double IPA and Palate Wrecker. These big and flavorful beer styles are what have solidified Green Flash as a nationally recognized, award-winning craft brewery. Last fall, the brewery decided to produce its first-ever "session IPA"—a beer style that is growing in popularity and can be defined as a flavorful and hoppy beer with an ABV of no greater than 5.0%. This decidedly more mellow beer style is a distinct departure from the bigger, bolder, double and triple IPAs for which the brand has become so well-known. When seeking a name for the beer, the Hinkley's drew inspiration from sailing and decided on "Jibe" as a way to communicate that Green Flash was "changing course" with this beer release. Jibe has been well-received on draft from coast-to-coast and is now further changing course for the brand as it makes its canned beer debut as a first among SDYC members. Members can sample Jibe Session IPA and other Green Flash beer on tap at the San Diego Yacht Club during the month of September leading up to the can release at the races.

## J/70 FLEET REPORTS

Sailors from Newport, Annapolis, Florida, Texas, Mexico and more are all headed our way. We have a great event planned with an Opening Ceremony on Wednesday, September 24, YOLO Paddle board races on Thursday after racing, a Surfin Safari party with Green Flash beer tasting on Friday and a Mexican Fiesta on Saturday. There are some recognizable names on the registration list including the recent World Champion. Three to four races per day are planned with the potential of racing in the bay and the roads. You will see the temp/floating dock in the main basin off the guest dock and dozens of J/70s rafted up before and after racing—should be quite a sight! Check out the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/j70nac2015> and website [www.j70nac.com](http://www.j70nac.com) for up-to-date information.

### Fleet 7 Niagara

#### Tim Finkle

The CanAm Challenge was a great success in its second year, out of the Youngstown Yacht Club. The racing was very competitive with 17 J/70s in attendance. The Race Committee did a great job getting in eight races over two days. After those eight races, we saw six different race winners! Thom and Anne Bowen from Annapolis with Marty Kullman aboard won the regatta without winning a race, showing their consistency throughout. Local champion Adam Burns with his all Corinthian team was second. Third place was a family boat of Morgan Paxhia and his two sisters Emily and Jordan coming all the way from San Francisco. Full results here: [http://yachtscoring.com/event\\_results\\_cumulative.cfm?eID=1242](http://yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative.cfm?eID=1242).

### Fleet 15 Western Long Island Sound

#### Ed Austin

Fleet 15 continues to grow, and now has about 20 boats split between the two big local clubs, American Yacht Club and Larchmont Yacht Club, with a few other boats in the immediate area. There is a mix of boats including sailmaker

owned, serious traveling racers, local racers and family boats. This has led to some great local one-design racing in regattas spread throughout the season. As we have grown, we have added more regattas to our calendar, and many local race organizers are looking to get the J/70 fleet to include their regatta on our calendar. We kicked off our season with the American Yacht Club Spring Series on the first weekend of May with 12 boats completing eight races. Peter Duncan's *Relative Obscurity* dominated, finishing with 9 points (after 1 throw-out). Scott and Alex Funary took second on *Any Colour*, and Madelyn and Megan Ploch took third on *Sugar Daddy*. In July, the 4th of July Regatta was won by *Sugar Daddy* with six straight bullets. Also, 10 boats raced Larchmont Race Week with Scott Bursor's *Slinky* leading the pack, *Sugar Daddy* in second, and *Althea* with Ernie Bourassa taking third. In August, Kerry Klingler on *Menace* won the YRA of LIS Championship regatta followed by *Any Colour* and *Sugar Daddy*. Throughout the summer, the fleet raced on Friday nights as part of the AYU Sunset Series. We are the only spinnaker division in the casual weeknight series and have several J/70s racing as families and many with junior sailors on board. Coming up in September is our last scheduled regatta, the American Yacht Club Fall Series September 26-27 and October 3-4. Come on out and join us! Sign up at <http://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=1256>.

### Fleet 16 Fishers Island Sound

#### John Brim

Fleet 16 has had an enjoyable season of local and regional racing. We have a core group of seven boats racing out of four yacht clubs on Fishers Island Sound, with another fleet member who hasn't raced yet. Our "other" fleet, 12 boats at the US Coast Guard Academy in New London, hasn't joined us yet, due to summer cruise obligations of the cadets. We hope to see them in the Labor Day 15-mile race around Fishers Island. Most of our racing is conducted by Fishers Island Yacht Club, supplemented by participation in the large-

## J/70 FLEET REPORTS

er regattas run by the Mystic River Mudheads and Mason's Island YC. Brandon Flack and I have ventured to Class events in Newport, RI and Marblehead, MA. I placed fifth out of 24 at the New England Championship at Marblehead.

### **Fleet 20 Galveston Bay Al Poindexter**

Fleet 20 is working hard to support Lakewood Yacht Club in its hosting of the J/70 2016 North American Championship slated for May 17-22, 2016. Lakewood Yacht Club, considered by the Robb Report to be in the country's top 10 yacht clubs, is honored and proud to be the host for this event. Racers from across the country will be pleased with several things as they arrive in the Clear Lake area: May is a good month for the pre-

dominantly southeast breezes, Lakewood is located at the mouth of the channel from Clear Lake to Galveston Bay, Lakewood's Race Committee has a stellar reputation for organizing and running national regattas, and ISAF certified PRO Jim Tichenor has a wealth of experience. Visitors will also be surprised to learn that the Clear Lake area is the third largest boating mecca in the country. Racers and their families can look forward to on-shore activities in addition to the regatta. Being planned is a Texas Bar-B-Q, a Canjun Crawfish Boil and a Tex-Mex buffet to more than satisfy racers' appetites. Branching out, the Houston area will be a major draw for family vacationers as it is the fourth largest city in the country. Attractions include Johnson Space Center, Kemah Boardwalk, Armand Bayou Nature Center, and a myriad of museums, sports arenas and cultural venues.

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\*partial inventory

PHOTO BY SANDER VAN DER BORCH

# J/70 2015 - 2016 CALENDAR

## **2015 NA "Tune Up" Regatta**

September 12, 2015 to September 13, 2015  
Where: SDYC

## **2015 Rolex Big Boat Series**

September 17, 2015 to September 20, 2015  
Where: St. Francis Yacht Club

## **2015 J-Jamboree/New Hampshire State Championship**

September 19, 2015 to September 20, 2015  
Where: Winnepesaukee Yacht Club, Gilford, NH

## **2015 J/70 North American Championship**

September 21, 2015 to September 27, 2015  
Where: San Diego Yacht Club, San Diego, CA

## **2015 Long Beach**

October 03, 2015 to October 04, 2015  
Where: TBD

## **2015 AYC Fall Series**

October 03, 2015 to October 04, 2015  
Where: Annapolis Yacht Club, Annapolis, MD

## **2015 J/70 Chesapeake Championship**

October 03, 2015 to October 04, 2015  
Where: Fishing Bay Yacht Club, Deltaville, VA

## **2015 J/Fest Southwest / Southwest Championship**

October 10, 2015 to October 11, 2015  
Where: Lakewood Yacht Club, Seabrook, TX

## **2015 Fall Brawl / East Coast Championship**

October 24, 2015 to October 25, 2015  
Where: Eastport Yacht Club, Annapolis, MD

## **Davis Island Yacht Club J/70 Winter Series 1 of 3**

December 12, 2015 to December 13, 2015  
Where: Davis Island Yacht Club, Tampa, FL

## **Davis Island Yacht Club J/70 Winter Series 2 of 3**

January 09, 2016 to January 10, 2016  
Where: Davis Island Yacht Club, Tampa, FL

## **2016 Quantum Key West Race Week**

January 18, 2016 to January 22, 2016  
Where: Storm Trysail Club, Key West, FL

## **Davis Island Yacht Club J/70 Winter Series 3 of 3**

February 06, 2016 to February 07, 2016  
Where: Davis Island Yacht Club, Tampa, FL

## **2016 J/70 Midwinter Championship**

February 26, 2016 to February 28, 2016  
Where: St. Petersburg Yacht Club, St. Petersburg, FL

## **2016 J/70 Midwinter Championship West**

April 02, 2016 to April 03, 2016  
Where: California Yacht Club, Marina Del Rey, CA

## **2016 J/70 North American Championship**

May 19, 2016 to May 22, 2016  
Where: Lakewood Yacht Club, Seabrook, Texas

## **2016 J/70 World Championship**

September 24, 2016 to October 01, 2016  
Where: St. Francis Yacht Club

## **2017 J/70 World Championship**

September 12, 2017 to September 16, 2017  
Where: Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, Porto Cervo, Italy





# ARE YOU READY FOR WHAT'S NEXT?

## GET YOUR SAILS EARLY AND SAVE!

- Quantum J/70 Winter Series: Tampa, FL—Dec. 12-13, Jan. 8-10, Feb. 5-7
- Quantum Key West Race Week: Key West, FL—Jan. 17-22
- Quantum J/70 Midwinter Championship: St. Petersburg, FL—Feb. 25-28

Contact your local loft or our J/70 guru, Allan Terhune at 732.644.1051 or [aterhune@quantumsails.com](mailto:aterhune@quantumsails.com)



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***The J/70 Class newsletter  
will be published quarterly.  
Send your fleet reports,  
regatta recaps, photos,  
lessons learned and tips to  
[howell@j70office.com](mailto:howell@j70office.com).***

