

Proposal to Host 2019 J/24 World Championship

Submitted by:

USA Fleet 21 and USA District 14



Houston Yacht Club



"Adventure Within Reach"

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YACHT CLUB

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Proposal to Host 2019 J/24 World Championship

1. General Information

USA Fleet 21 and USA District 14 submit this proposal to host the 2019 J/24 World Championships. The specific dates proposed are May 17 through May 25, 2019. The event is to be held at the Houston Yacht Club located in Shoreacres, Texas on Galveston Bay. The Club's address is 3620 Miramar Drive, Shoreacres, Texas 77571.

USA District 14 has hosted the J/24 Texas Circuit for 37 years. Historically, this racing circuit has been comprised of up to 7 regattas per year with 6 to 7 races per regatta. District 14 has also been instrumental in conducting four North American Championships and two National Championships. Past winners of the Texas Circuit have won the J/24 World Championship, the North American Championship, and the USA National Championship. Key members of District 14 who are on the proposed regatta organizing committee include Bob Harden, John Parker, Jorge Martin de Nicolas of Fleet 21, Kelly Holmes District Governor of District 14, and Mr. Jack Yoes who is to be the 2018 Commodore of the Houston Yacht Club.

The event will be hosted by the Houston Yacht Club (HYC). The Club is well known for its excellent race management capabilities. HYC hosted the 2006 National Championship for the USA J/24 Class and annually hosts the Beasley Cup Regatta which is the oldest and longest running perpetual trophy in the J/24 Class. HYC's reputation as a host for well run championship regattas was recognized by US Sailing in 1984 and 1990 when HYC was awarded the St. Petersburg Trophy. This prestigious trophy, awarded annually, is emblematic of excellence in race management. HYC has had several members meet the qualifications for certification in the US Sailing Judges Program as umpire, senior judge, and judge. Members have also qualified at various levels in the US Sailing Race Officers Program, including **one International Race Officer, one National race Officer and multiple Regional and Club Race Officers.**

Principal contact names and phone numbers are:

Bob Harden, Fleet 21, 512-791-1153

Kelly Holmes, District 14 Governor, 940-399-9805

Jack Yoes, Houston Yacht Club, 409-692-0606

2. Sailing Environment

The race course will be located on Galveston Bay a short sailing distance from the Houston Yacht Club harbor. Total sailing distance to the course approximately 2 miles. There are no obstructions from the HYC harbor to the race course. The racing area is approximately 2 miles in diameter to easily accommodate different wind directions. As shown on Figure 1, the closest land mass is approximately 1 mile from the edge of the race course, but land elevations are very flat and near sea level which minimize land disturbance on wind velocity or direction. Only small amounts of current are present and are not known to favor one side of the course or the other. During late May, the typical wind is a sea breeze conditions from the South or Southeast at a speed ranging from 8 to 20+ knots. Average temperatures range from a nighttime low of 70F to a daytime high of 87F. There can be an occasional weather system pass through that can cause more variability in the wind and temperature but are infrequent this time of year. There is no threat of hurricanes this time of year.

Figure 1.

Chart of Race Course and Location of Houston Yacht Club



3. Entry Fee

- a. The proposed Entry Fee is \$750. This fee will cover all race committee costs, mast setup/take down, launching, mooring, and trailer storage. It is anticipated that sponsorships will be obtained to cover post race refreshments but this is still to be determined.
- b. No other fees are anticipated.

4. Race Management

- a. The Houston Yacht Club has a long heritage of running World Championships, North American Championships, National Championships, Olympic qualifying events, US Sailing Championships, and countless one design regattas. Notable regattas include the 1957 Adams Cup, the 2006 J/24 National Championship, **2011 Lightning North American Championship** and the 2015 J/22 North American Championship. HYC has a rich history in hosting regattas for boats of all sizes from Prams to Ocean racing events. For more information see <http://www.houstonyachtclub.com/OurClub/OurHeritage/YachtingCredits.aspx>
- b. The Race Committee will be composed of numerous Houston Yacht Club members and associates. HYC is well versed and takes great pride as a club in race management. Recently, at the Club's annual Houston Open One Design Regatta (HOOD) the Club conducted racing on three separate race courses simultaneously. One of these courses was the J/24 class. The Club has an ongoing program for training and certification of race officers.
- c. Races will be run using the two club owned race committee boats especially equipped for race committees. Chase boats are larger Boston Whaler type motorboats.
- d. In addition to perpetual awards, it is anticipated we will give individual race awards to the 1st place finishers of each race, an award for the farthest traveled team, and top placing women's helmsman. The daily awards will be conducted each day in HYC's ballroom and provides a nice location for competitors to meet, enjoy refreshments, and honor each other.
- e. District 14 will provide website for event including online registration, boat charter, and crew exchange. For further information see www.j24texas.com
- f. HYC has a dedicated ballroom suitable for conducting indoor sail measurement. On-site, outdoor facilities include large parking areas for both boat/trailer storage and for setting up a typical boat measurement assembly lines.

5. Boats

- a. Launching facilities include two, two-ton, permanent hoists suitable for launching J/24s.
- b. Mooring facilities include approximately 500 linear feet of dedicated mooring dock and numerous other spaces for mooring J/24s.
- c. Two permanent mast cranes are located onsite a short distance from the two hoists.



View of one permanent hoist, outdoor Beachcomber cabana, and the main dedicated rigging dock.

- d. Marine service companies are located within 10 miles of HYC. These include sailmakers, marine supply stores, and boat repair facilities. Onsite boat rigging companies are available to provide services at HYC.
- e. HYC has adequate parking and trailer storage space available to store trailers at HYC. The logistics at HYC are spacious compared to venues on the East and West Coasts of the US.
- f. HYC also has dedicated 24x7 security on site and a dedicated harbor master.

6. Charter Boats

- a. District 14 has approximately 10 boats that have completed measurement certificates and are suitable for charter. If needed, additional boats are available within the US and from active sailors in Mexico.
- b. Charter boat costs will be similar to other J/24 events held in the US.
- c. Boats will be made available for charter that regularly participate in the Texas Circuit. This is a year round racing series. A dedicated charter boat team will be assembled to organize owners with teams wishing to charter boats. The team will inspect each boat early in the year to ensure the boat is in suitable racing condition.

7. Boat Transportation

- a. Houston has two major shipping ports located near HYC. One is within two miles of the club and the other is within 20 miles. Travel time is 30 minutes or less.
- b. Unbundling and truck/trailer charges are similar to, or less than other US ports.
- c. Typically ferry crossing are not required to trailer boats to HYC.

8. Crew Transportation

- a. Two major airports serve the Houston metropolitan area. Hobby Airport is located approximately 20 miles from HYC and George Bush Intercontinental Airport is approximately 40 miles from HYC. Driving times are approximately 30 minutes and 45 minutes respectively.
- b. Airfare is available as low as \$250 roundtrip from US East or West coasts to Houston. Typical costs are near \$1,000 from London to Houston.
- c. Shuttle service is available from both airports to HYC. Typical cost is \$75 to \$125 for up to 5 passengers.

9. Accommodation

- a. HYC has limited rooms at the club. These most likely would be made available to judges and race committee first. Numerous hotels are located within 10 miles of the Club. Competitors are welcome to stay on their boats or campers.
- b. HYC has three separate shower facilities for both men and women.
- c. Laundry facilities are available free of charge.
- d. Ice is available for nominal charge.

10. Miscellaneous

- a. Social events are to be determined. It is likely these will include dinners, post race beverages and a possible music event based on past experiences at the club.
- b. Numerous marine and restaurant companies are available for providing sponsorship. Sailing is very important to these area companies.
- c. The specific dates proposed are May 17 through May 25, 2019.

11. Facilities Ashore

- a. HYC has numerous meeting places for competitors. These include an outdoor covered deck very near the docks, other covered areas near the clubhouse, out door deck near the bar area, a dedicated ballroom, and a large seating area for the restaurant.
- b. Dedicated meeting rooms are available for the jury.
- c. HYC has dedicated and fully staffed bar and restaurant facilities. Casual attire is acceptable, but shirt and shoes must be worn at all times.
- d. HYC has dedicated car parking for up to 200 cars. Dedicated trailer parking is also available.
- e. Races are visible from HYC facilities. Several large cruising motor boats are anticipated to be available for spectator boats.

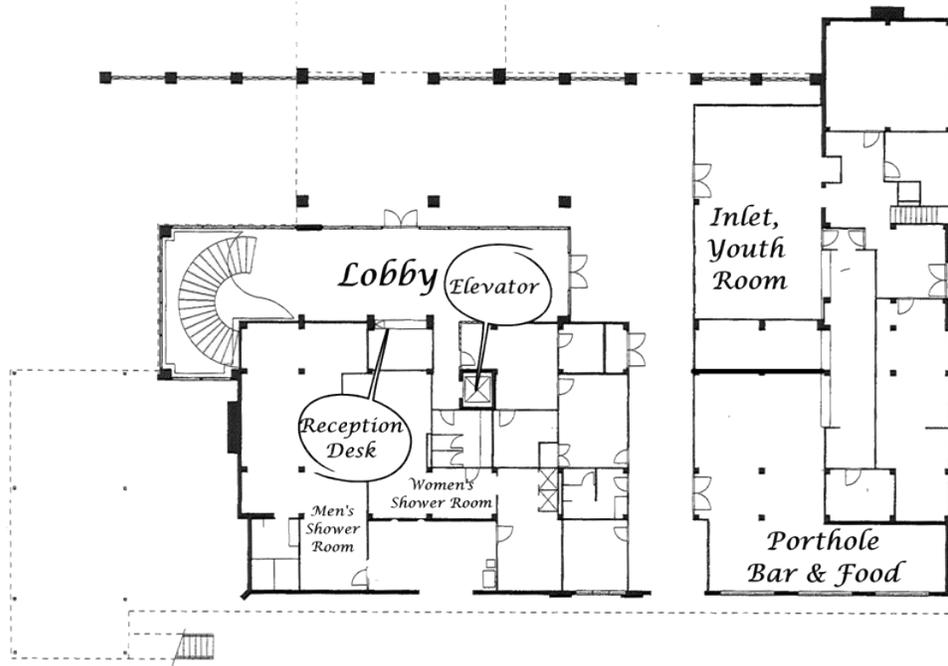


View of HYC Clubhouse and spacious lawn. Clubhouse contains bar, restaurant, ballroom and other dedicated rooms.



View from Clubhouse of HYC grounds, harbor, a portion of parking area, and Galveston Bay.

HYC Clubhouse First Floor



HYC Clubhouse Second Floor

