

J24 Autumn Cup Plym Yacht Club

30 September – 1 October 2023

Tim Octon, NJO2

The fleet, a total of 12 boats, was made up of several local boats and various travelers. A special mention to the crew of *Motley Crew*, as this is the first time we have seen their 1978 TPI on the circuit.

Launching and mooring was at the Yacht Haven Quay dry stack, which proved to be very efficient. They ran two of the three forklifts which made short work of the launch and recovery.

Plymouth, the venue for the worlds in 2025, has two sailing areas; with the first day's forecast being a solid F4/F5 from the south - it was going to be tough sailing outside the breakwater. Two boats retired after race 1: *Motley Crew* with seasickness (a real issue in a J24 in big waves which can be a feature at Plymouth worlds - travelers be aware) and *Juggernaut* with a kicking strap failure.

Conditions saw boats fast footing upwind under jibs to enjoy a sleigh ride down wind with speeds up to 11+ knots(!) on the waves. The race committee handled the persistently veering wind during the day with superb race management, constantly adjusting the windward mark on each round. The day was won by *Mr Mann* with a near flawless performance, only missing out in race 2 to *NJO2* when the bow was spotted up the mast during the starting sequence.

The day finished with the podium set as:

1 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Mr Mann</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<i>NJO2</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Majic</i>

An excellent social event in the Plym Yacht Club gave the fleet a chance to bond over an organised Thai box meal and drinks in the club.

Day 2 and the forecast is F1/2 with gusts to 8 knots from the southwest. The Race Officer made the wise choice to pull the sailing area into the flatter water in the Sound, as the sea state outside was liable to be lumpy and with the light wind forecast un-sailable. Race 5 and the usual order is resumed with *Mr Mann* taking the win, *Majic* taking a 2<sup>nd</sup> and we see *Jawbreaker* making an appearance on the podium at 3<sup>rd</sup>. In the light wind a good start is paramount and race 6 with a nice start and a failure to cover by *Majic* saw *NJO2* take their second win from *Majic* with *Mr Mann* in 3<sup>rd</sup>. The final race was a contest for 2<sup>nd</sup> overall between *NJO2* and *Majic* with the win going to *Majic*.

## Results Overall

Rank	Name	Helm	Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Race 4	Race 5	Race 6	Race 7	Net Pts
1	Mr Mann	Shane Hewlett	1	2	1	1	1	3	(7)	9
2	MaJic	James Torr	2	3	(4)	4	2	2	1	14
3	NJ02	Tim Octon	3	1	3	3	(5)	1	5	16
4	Jawbreaker	David Cooper	4	5	2	2	3	4	(6)	20
5	Hi Jinks	Mark Lewers	5	(6)	5	5	6	5	2	28
6	Wijit	Sam Marshall	(6)	4	6	6	4	6	3	29
7	Italian Job	John Gorman	7	9	7	7	(10)	7	4	41
8	Hitchhiker	Chris Randall	9	8	8	8	7	8	(10)	48
9	Violent J	J Culmer, C Barton	8	7	9	9	11	(13/RET)	9	53
10	Nitro	Anthony Goodwin	11	10	11/RET	11/RET	(12)	10	11	64
11	Juggernaut	Neil Trathen	(13/DNF)	13/DNC	13/DNC	13/DNC	9	9	8	65
12	Motley Crew	Andy Willett	10	12/RET	(13/DNC)	13/DNC	8	11	12	66

Thanks especially to Sam Marshall sailing *Wijit* who pulled the event together.

If you want to race the worlds in 2025 you will need to qualify during 2024 as it is not an open event or find a spot on a boat. The J24 association has access to a few boats that can be made available to newcomers.



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