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INTERNATIONAL J/22 CLASS ASSOCIATION

Travis Odenbach's *Honeybadger* Takes J/22 Midwinter Championship



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Photo courtesy of Christopher Howell

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Travis Odenbach's *Honeybadger* Takes J/22 Midwinter Championship

Photos courtesy of Christopher Howell



Brisk conditions brought the J/22 Midwinter Championship to a close Sunday, March 19 in Fort Walton Beach, Florida USA, but Travis Odenbach's *Honeybadger* got hot to secure the 2023 title. With crew Geoff Becker and Justin Damore, the Rochester, New York-based skipper leapt from third place to first among the 20-boat fleet with 13 net points. Jeff Todd's *Hot Toddy* finished only one point behind for second place after a solid series, keeping only finishes in the top five. James Freedman's *Miss Conduct* notched similar scores, placing third with 16 points. Only four points separated the leading five teams, as the fourth and fifth place boats tied at 17 points: Chris Doyle's *The Jug 4 1* and Kurt Taken-Holtze's *Turn Down for What*.

Odenbach commented in regard to the big breeze, "We are a light team, so it is a little scary. And this is a very shifty venue with frontal systems. There were 30-degree shifts. You can go from winning a race to 10th in about 30 seconds. Having 20 boats was great, and the North Americans will be at another windy venue in Kingston this summer."



Photos courtesy of Christopher Howell

**DAY ONE
RECAP:**

The luck of the Irish was with all 20 boats as the Championship kicked off. Breeze in the mid-teens equated to three races, and Doyle's *The Jug 4 1* proved most dominating on the day at 5 points. Also very consistent were Freedman's *Miss Conduct* (7 points, second place) and Odenbach's *Honeybadger* (8 points, third place).

Odenbach earned the opening victory, trailed by

Doyle and Freedman. It was Doyle's turn in the middle race, as Todd's *Hot Toddy* got in on the action, plus Freedman again in third. *Miss Conduct* took Friday's final bullet, with Doyle and Odenbach close behind to bring the smiling crews back to shore.

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Photos courtesy of Christopher Howell



Racing was abandoned Saturday due to strong breeze but resumed Sunday with winds at 15-20 knots and chilly temperatures. Six races were completed overall, including one discard. Sunday's race winners were Doyle, Taken-Holtze and Todd.

1	1542	Travis Odenbach	<i>Honeybadger</i>	Rochester Yacht Club	1.0	4.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	(8.0)	13.0
2	1464	Jeffrey Todd	<i>Hot Toddy</i>	Annapolis YC	4.0	2.0	5.0	(7.0)	2.0	1.0	14.0
3	752	James Freedman	<i>Miss Conduct</i>	DCYC	3.0	3.0	1.0	(8.0)	4.0	5.0	16.0
4	1649	Christopher Doyle	<i>The Jug 4 1</i>	Youngstown Yacht Club	2.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	(11.0)	11.0	17.0
5	1318	Kurt Taken-Holtze	<i>Turn Down For What</i>	Wayzata Yacht Club	(6.0)	5.0	4.0	4.0	1.0	3.0	17.0




Photo courtesy of Christopher Howell



Photos are available on the J/22 Class Facebook page,
and complete results may be found at www.j22mw.com.

2023 J/22 World Championship



A successful European Championship 2023!



The first semi-final lost Ian Garreta against the only foreigner in the last four: Ben Tylecote.

From April 27th to May 1st 2023, SNO Nantes hosted the European Match Race Championship for under-23s. The event brought together 10 of Europe's top U23 crews for 4 days of competition.

After a very tight semi-final, it was the Englishman who came out on top with a score of 3-2.

On the other side, Noé Ackermann, who had chosen to face Ange Delerce, soon found himself 2-0 down in his semi-final, before levelling at 2-2 and finally losing 3-2.

The result was a Franco-English final: Ange Delerce versus Ben Tylecote!

At the end of a well-balanced final, which took place right in front of the clubhouse terrace, it was the Englishman Ben Tylecote who came out on top, ahead of Ange Delerce. Ian Garreta rounded off the podium with victory over Noé Ackermann.

The SNO Nantes is proud to have been able to organize this second edition of the SNO Nantes Youth Cup with the title of European Championship for this year, and looks forward to seeing you next year for a 3rd edition.

See you soon on the Erdre!



Ben Tylecote is now European U23 match race champion.

Technical Committee Report

By Thomas Lösch, International Technical Committee Chair

LOOKING AHEAD

Members of the International Board and the Technical Committee are constantly looking to new developments in our sailing community. There are topics which pop up from time to time, and there are others which come up as something new or because technology or environment has changed.

One topic which is popping up is the crew weight. Our current Rule has served the Class for many years and kept the variety of participants very well. Due to the age of our Class and other competing Classes, the variety is shrinking due to the fact that sailors are becoming older and the average crew weight is increasing. Currently we are looking into that topic, and we will come up with an answer to this near term.

Another topic is the development of electronic devices. Here the prices for such instruments have come down significantly.

Our current Class Rules say:

C.5.2 OPTIONAL

(a) FOR USE WHILE RACING

- (i) Electronic or mechanical timing devices, but not capable of providing any other tactical or navigation information, except as provided in (iv), below.
- (ii) At least one compass, either magnetic card or digital type capable of instantaneous readout and heading trend information, but not capable of providing any other tactical or navigation information, except as

provided in (iv), below. The compass may be GPS-enabled, but shall not give location information.

- (iii) At least one instrument capable of giving speed through the water, or over the bottom, but not capable of providing any other tactical or navigation information, except as provided in (iv), below. The speed instrument may be GPS-enabled, but shall not give location information.
- (iv) Instruments providing a combination of the functions of (i), (ii) and/or (iii) above but not capable of providing any other tactical or navigation information.

From my perspective, the question is not anymore about the price and how to keep low budget teams competitive. The question seems to me now about do we want to maintain pure sailing competition (in principle, compass only) or technical assisted sailing competition (including distance to line, VMG, heeling and other data)? The International Board and the Technical Committee are currently looking into this topic as well, but here we have also not made up our final answer to this.

I am proud to serve as your Technical Chair and am honored to work with all members of the various Committees of our Class to make our Class better.

Anyone with questions or comments should feel free to contact me (thomas.loesch@t-online.de) and/or the Class Executive, Chris Howell (howell@j22.com).

J/22 South African National Championship



Geoff Jordaan
PHOTOGRAPHY

By Sharin Richmond

The J/22 Class is undoubtedly back on the sailing scene after their **Ziptrak J/22 South African National Championship**. The aftermath of COVID is behind us. The most competitive one-design Class in South Africa has shown it is still a Class to be reckoned with.

28 entries on the start line including Js we have not seen for a while, all due to amazing sponsorship: **Ziptrak** with so much more than only the naming rights of the regatta, our sincere thanks for your support.

- **AMTEC** whose sponsorship of entry fees and jockey fees in certain categories enabled more junior entries not previously possible, lady skippers supported in their commitment to the Class and the over 60s who have been there through the test of time. Thank you AMTEC.



- **Marriott Investment Managers** for the t-shirts. No National regatta is complete without a t-shirt to be worn for years to come.
- **Advanced Valves** for sponsoring the entertainment.
- **Ullman Sails** for prizes from their new range of memorabilia.
- **North Sails** for numerous prizes that will be enjoyed by competitors.

98 competitors! Youth usually seen on Lasers, Darts and the like. Lady skippers, crew, two all-female crewed Js, and ladies ranging in age from 16 to? (rather not say).

Transformation sailors first seen “learning to sail” and now competent and successful in their own right. Participants from all regions, KZN, Cape Town, Mpumalanga and Free State. The perfect combination for a competitive National Championship that it certainly was.



The opening cocktail party set the scene—old friends caught up, skippers introduced their crew and received their Marriott Investment Managers t-shirts to remember the event in years ahead. New friendships were formed aided by ice-cold refreshments and delicious food, sponsored by Ziptrak.

The wind gods were not kind for the Friday start despite the fleet being ready and waiting for action in the muster area. The Race Officer, Jimmy Melville, and his team were not going to have “an easy day at the office.” The committee boat end of the start line was as much in demand as the pin end! Windward boats were forced out, resulting in several close encounters. So much so, that one nameless J/22 managed a “dent” in the

stern of the committee boat. The first race was eventually started in minimal wind, with a clear start line only to be abandoned as the last J had not reached the first mark after 28 minutes. The day

ended with just one race being sailed but interesting results setting the scene for the days ahead. Randolph Verheij on *Shamwari* showed his true skills (having not sailed a J/22 in several years) and secured first place. Markus Progli on *Nitro Juice* was second, *Freepost Shipping* skippered by Damian Muller third and John Bruckmann on *Laugh a Minute* fourth.

Saturday saw a 10.45 start in 7 knots wind with a general recall and yet another general recall for the second start. With a reputation as a no-nonsense race officer, many anticipated either of the two dreaded “flags.” It was not to be; the fleet set sail finishing the race in 9 knots wind. This is when results started to become interesting. The first four finishers in order: *Jaywalker* – Luke Wagner, *Merlion* – Tony Cockerill, *Shambles* – Shellee Nel and *After Dark* – Herbie Karolius. Race 2 on Saturday saw *Tiletoria*, the all-female Cape



Town crew skippered by Dom Provoyeur, take first, followed by *Nitro Monkey*, *Joint J* and *Merlion*. The challenge continued but the wind was dropping, resulting in a shortened course flag. *Jaywalker* secured another first, *Nitro Juice* second, *Nitro Monkey* third and our second all-female crew entry *Bumbo*, skippered by Bronwen Klaas fourth.

The sponsored Happy Hour by AMTEC and entertainment by Advanced Valves was the ideal background to compare racing stories, lay down the gauntlet on challenges and make “winner” predictions.

Unfortunately, with the mist low and limited visibility on Sunday, the Race Office had no alternative but to delay the start. The wind was also not favourable—6 knots on the 11.30h start line. The next race showed no improvement in wind strength, and the course was shortened. By Class consent, the AP over A was hoisted by the Race Officer at 14.40h. The results Sunday would decide the J/22 National Champion, and there were several possibilities!

The prize-giving dinner, sponsored by Ziptrak, was an amazing event. Not a spare seat to be seen in the Club; in fact several seats added, but not a single person missed a delicious meal. The catering team went above and beyond expectations despite load shedding.

With the guesses and calculations over, the final results are:

- **Third Place: Nitro Juice.** Skipper Markus Progli, Crew Mike Hayton and Theo Yon
- **Second Place: Nitro Monkey.** Skipper Paul Allardice, Crew Stefano Marcia and Megan Eccleston
- **First Place: Shambles.** Skipper Shellee Nel, Crew Anton Nel, Khanyisa Mancoba

The results of the Ziptrak J/22 National Championship are a fantastic achievement for the *Shambles* crew, well deserved with consistent, focused racing. It is also an amazing milestone in South African sailing with a lady skipper and her transformation crew being awarded this accolade in a prestigious Class. The behind-the-scenes support and encouragement goes a long way to achieving the inclusive goals of all gender and races. A quote from our SAS Chairman in this month’s newsletter: “The establishment’s reaction to a new face often bears no malice at all but lacks forethought and insight. Whether in the clubhouse or onboard, the establishment needs to be cognisant of the impact that their words and actions are having.” I am sure I can speak for the resolute J/22 community...we wholeheartedly welcome any new potential sailors or skilled sailors to the Class so that we can continue to be one of the leaders in transformation of sailing in South Africa.

We now look forward to the KZN Regional Championship, 16-18 June on Midmar Dam. The first of many KZN Regionals ahead as the Class grows from strength to strength.





KINGSTON, ONTARIO, CANADA
JULY 2023

July 13-16, 2023

Kingston, Ontario, Canada

**The Canadian J/22 Class Association, in conjunction with CORK,
looks forward to welcoming your Team to the
2023 J/22 North America Championship.**

**Join us for great racing and fun on Lake Ontario,
in Kingston, in July 2023.**

HEADS UP ON YOUR HEADSTAY

By Quantum Sails' Travis Odenbach

Quantum J/22 Class expert [Travis Odenbach](#) provides some insightful nuggets regarding rig tune and headstay positioning. Get in touch with Travis or your local Quantum Sails representative if you have any questions or would like to discuss your sailing further. You can also check out the [tuning guide](#) and other [J/22 resources](#) on our website.

Because each J/22 is just a little different, the headstay length is one of the most important factors to dial in—but, it also can take some time to optimize. When using Quantum sails on a J/22, the headstay can range anywhere from 4' 11.75" all the way to 5'1". You can read more about rig tune and marking and measuring the headstay on page three of the [Quantum J/22 tuning guide](#).

The standard starting point is to use the former for any J/22 below the 1,500-series, and 5 feet or longer for boats over a 1,500-series hull. But, the true trick here is to go sailing and figure out the best setup for your rig and sails.

So, where to start? I always begin with the headstay at 4'11.75" and head out, ideally in a steady 8-10 knots. Turn upwind with the boat as flat as possible, let go of the tiller and see which way the boat turns on its own. If it tracks straight for a few seconds then turns up, the headstay is probably correct! If the boat tracks for a few seconds then turns down, I would lengthen the headstay.

In my opinion, the ideal setting is neutral to just a slight weather helm. The shorter your headstay, the more leeward helm you have. The longer the headstay, the more weather helm you have. Once I find the sweet spot, I measure the headstay with calipered measurements. This way, I never lose the number that seems to dial in my J/22. Make note of the settings that work best as a part of [your tuning guide](#) so that you can easily repeat these results quickly.



From weeknight racing to world championships, we're here to help. Contact a Quantum J/22 class expert for resources, support, & new sails.

Travis Odenbach | todenbach@quantumsails.com

Farley Fontenot | farley@quantumsails.com

QuantumSails.com





Save the Date

J/22 Canadian Championship - 2023

August 18-20



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**The Canadian J/22 Class Association
looks forward to welcoming your Team to the
2023 J/22 Canadian Championship.**

**Join us for great racing and fun in Gaspé, Quebec in
August 2023.**

The registration form, NOR, and other regatta information
can be found at:

https://www.regattanetwork.com/event/25892#_home

Calendar

2023

**2023 J/22 North American
Championship at CORK Kingston,
Ontario**

Jul 12 – Jul 16

**2023 J/22 World Championship
at Travemünder Week at
Travemünder, Germany**

Jul 24 – Jul 29

2024

**2024 J/22 Eurocup,
Union Yachtclub Wolfgangsee**

Oct 4 – Oct 6

**2024 J/22 World Championship
Eastport Yacht Club Annapolis, MD**

Oct 19 – Oct 26

Submit your regatta
dates/information
to howell@j22.com



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