





2026 Charleston Yacht Club J/24 Thaw Regatta

Organizing Authority: J/24 Fleet 7 in conjunction with Charleston Yacht Club and the US J/24 Class Association

February 19-21, 2027

Charleston, SC – USA

ClubSpot event site: https://charlestonyachtclub.com/regatta/UaF4qKEpVG

Notice of Race

(version 10/27/2026)

Preamble: The notation [NP] in a rule means that a boat may not protest another boat for a breach of this rule.This changes RRS 60.1.

1. RULES

1.1 The event will be governed by the *rules* as defined in the *Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS)*.

1.2 The Regatta Regulations of the IJCA (IJCA RR), available at http://www.j24class.org/rules-regulations/regatta-regulations, shall apply.

1.3 Only the following US Sailing prescriptions will apply: Appendix V, RRS 88.2, Appendix R, the prescription to the preamble to Part 5, and the prescriptions to RRS 65.1, 70.3(b) and 76.1, 81 which can be found here:

https://www.ussailing.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/US-Sailing-Prescriptions-for-2025-2028-10.29.2024.pdf

1.4 Bow numbers will not be assigned as RaceSense will be used to identify boats.

1.5 RRS 60.4(a)(2) is changed as follows: "(2) if it alleges a breach of a rule of Part 2 or rule 31 and is from a boat that was not involved in, **and** did not see, the incident, or"

1.6 The Protest Committee may impose penalties less than disqualification (DPI), for violations of the class rules and racing rules other than those of Part 1 and Part 2. A DPI penalty shall be a minimum of 5% as calculated in RRS 44.3.

1.7 Class rule C.2.1(b) is changed to Class rule H.4.3 regarding crew. A crew nominated or listed for this event may be different for different days only if scheduled in advance at registration. Emergency changes may be made only with written permission of the race committee or technical committee.

1.8 The Race Committee will use the Vakaros RaceSense system which will be further detailed in the Sailing Instructions. The OA includes the Vakaros Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge as required equipment for this event . Each boat shall either provide a working Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge at check-in for configuration with the RaceSense system or an Atlas 2 or Atlas Edge may be rented for a fee. Rental units shall be reserved no later than **January 15, 2027** as on-site rental units will not be available. The rental link will be posted on the Official Notice Board.

1.9 Official crew weigh-ins will not be performed. Boats will be required to complete and sign a Crew Weight Self-Declaration form at registration to confirm that they are in compliance with Class Rules.

2. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

The sailing instructions will be available online by 1000 on February 12, 2027.

3. COMMUNICATION

3.1 The official notice board is online and located at the event website listed.

3.2 Unofficial and informative announcements may be made using the event WhatsApp group where you can opt-in here using the link or QR code:

https://chat.whatsapp.com/EKEqskpl49o4Wush5wswei?s=qt&p=i&mlu=4&ilr=4

3.3 [DP] [NP] All boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of communicating on international VHF channels.

3.4 [NP] On the water, the race committee may choose to make courtesy VHF radio communications to competitors on VHF radio. The channel will be announced in the sailing instructions.

3.5 [DP] From the time a boat leaves her berth for the first race of the day until the end of the last race of the day, except in an emergency, a boat shall not make voice or data transmissions and shall not receive voice or data communications that are not available to all boats.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 The regatta is open to J/24 Class boats as defined by the IJCA class rules, and whose entries are accepted by the organizing authority.

4.2 Eligible boats may enter the event by registering online at the event website and submitting the requested information at the event website and paying the required fee by 2000 hours on February 01, 2027.

4.3 **Entry is not complete until all requirements of Eligibility, Fees, Registration and Inspection have been satisfactorily completed.**

4.4 Late entries will be accepted under the following conditions: Entries received after February 01, 2027 will be accepted with a USD $50 additional late fee, making the total entry fee USD $450.

5. FEES

5.1 The required entry fee is USD $400 which must be paid online by February 01, 2027 and boats entering after this date will be required to pay the late fee.

5.2 The entry fee includes launching, hauling, trailer storage/dockage while at the event, racing, scheduled social functions for all crew, sponsored beverages and prizes.

5.3 Extra social event tickets will be available for purchase at registration.

5.4 All fees shall be paid online using the official event wbsite.

5.5 Withdrawal requests must be made to the OA via email. The email address for withdrawal requests is tjbenjamin51@gmail.com. All Refunds will be returned less a $150 service fee. All requests for withdrawal must be made by 1800 hours on February 01, 2027.

6. ADVERTISING

6.1 Boats may be required to display advertising chosen if supplied by the organizing authority.

6.2 Boat advertising shall comply with WS Regulation 20.

7. SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Time	Event
Friday	February 19	0900 – 1700 1430 1700 1800	Registration Practices starts and practice race All boats afloat Welcome Party
Saturday	February 20	0900 1100 1800	Competitors' Meeting Warning for the First Race of the day Regatta Dinner hosted by ChYC
Sunday	February 21	0900 1100 1430 After Racing	Competitor briefing Warning for the First Race of the day No warning signal will be made after this time Awards presentation and refreshments at ChYC

7.1 Seven (7) race are planned with no more than four (4) races to be sailed in a single day.

8. REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION

8.1 Each boat shall submit the following documents via online registration:

(a) A valid, IJCA issued Measurement Certificate, Including Part C: Inventory of Required and Optional Equipment.

(b) Proof of current marine liability insurance coverage.

(c) Proof of J/24 Class Association membership.

8.2 Changes to documents or forms required may be accepted at check-in.

8.3 Equipment Inspections may be done at the event. Measurement for certification must be successfully completed prior to the event. RRS 78.2 shall not apply.

8.4 Equipment Inspection may be carried out on boats in accordance with the class rules.

8.5 Boats will be subject to inspection at any time for any class rules during the event.

9. CREW

9.1 All competitors will be required to sign an electronic Competitor Liability Waiver which can be found on the event site.

10. VENUE

The intended racing area will be Charleston Harbor…see also Attachment A. At the sole discretion of the RC, an alternate racing area may be selected.

11. COURSES

11.1 The courses to be sailed will be windward/leeward with 4 or 5 legs and further described in the SIs.

11.2 [NP] The target time for each race is approximately 40-50 minutes.

12. PENALTY SYSTEM

12.1 RRS Appendix V (Alternative Penalities) shall apply.

12.2 Except if the course is shortened to finish at the windward mark, penalties while in the zone of the windward mark or on the offset leg may be delayed and taken as soon as possible on the downwind leg. This changes RRS 44.2

13. SCORING:

13.1 One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a championship.

13.2 When fewer than five (5) races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores.

13.3 When five (5) or more races have been completed, a boat's series score will be the total of her race scores, excluding her worst score.

14. SUPPORT VESSELS

Support vessels shall register during scheduled registration, declaring to which boat or boats they are attached. They may be required to display an identification flag if supplied by the organizing authority, provide proof of third party marine liability insurance in the amount equal to that stated in NoR 21, and follow the instructions of the OA. Accredited support vessels and operators will be subject to the technical and disciplinary directives of the RC and of the Protest Committee that, in case of infringement, may act according to RRS 62.3 and 62.4. Additionally, all support vessels shall be equipped with a functioning engine safety cut-out switch (kill switch) which shall remain attached to the support person at the helm at all times while the engine is running. Failure to comply may be misconduct and/or result in expulsion from the event.

15. CHARTERED OR LOANED BOATS

In accordance with RRS G3, a boat chartered or loaned for this event may carry national letters or a sail number in contravention of the class rules.

16. BERTHING

[DP][NP] Boats shall be kept in their assigned slips, as directed by the organizing authority.

17. HAUL-OUT RESTRICTIONS

[DP][NP]Boats shall be afloat in accordance with NoR 7 and shall not be hauled out during the event except in accordance with the prior written permission and terms of the PRO, Chief Judge or Regatta Chair. This restriction also applies to rudders.

18. DIVING EQUIPMENT, PLASTIC POOLS AND OTHER PROHIBITED ACTIONS

18.1 [DP] Underwater breathing apparatus and plastic pools or their equivalent shall not be used between the time the boat is afloat and the end of the event. The hull may be cleaned at any time by swimming or keelhauling using ropes, cloth or other equipment designed for that use.

18.2 [DP] Careening by any means for the purpose of cleaning or inspecting the hull is prohibited during the event.

18.3 [DP] The use of dehumidifiers or electric fans are prohibited at all times while boats are afloat.

19. PRIZES

19.1 Prizes will be awarded to the overall top three (3) finishing boats.

19.3 Additional prizes may be awarded at the disretion of the OA.

20. RISK STATEMENT

20.1 RRS 3 states: 'The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue *racing* is hers alone.' By participating in this event each competitor agrees and acknowledges that sailing is a potentially dangerous activity with inherent risks. These risks include strong winds and rough seas, sudden changes in weather, failure of equipment, boat handling errors, poor seamanship by other boats, loss of balance on an unstable platform, and fatigue resulting in increased risk of injury**. Inherent in the sport of sailing is the risk of permanent, catastrophic injury or death by drowning, trauma, hypothermia or other causes.**

20.2 Competitors participate in the event entirely at their own risk. The organizing authority will not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during or after the event. Additionally, all competitors and support persons will be required to follow all local, county, state and federal regulations regarding health and safety. The OA may choose to impose additional regulations at their discretion which will be posted on the official notice board.

21. INSURANCE

Proof of valid, third-party marine liability insurance with a minimum coverage of USD $300,000 per incident or the equivalent (property and injury).

22. MEDIA RIGHTS

Competitors give absolute right and permission to the IJCA, the US J/24 Class Association, the Charleston Yacht Club and the event sponsors to use, publish, broadcast or otherwise distribute for promotional, advertising or any other purpose, any images and sound recorded during the event of persons and boats free of any charge.

23. Further Information, contact the following:

Regatta Chair	Tyler Benjamin – tjbenjamin51@gmail.com 207-322-3838
US J/24 Class	Christopher Howell (CAE, IM – USA) – director@j24class.org 440-796-3100
Technical Chair	James Howard - jhoward2013@bellsouth.net 770-789-7164
Principal Race Officer	Chip Till (NRO – USA) **–** chiptill5351@gmail.com 843-556-6554
Chief Judge	Sarah Ashton (NJ - USA) – ashtonsh1@me.com 843-722-3596

ATTACHMENT A – VENUE

