



the insideline

INTERNATIONAL J/22 CLASS ASSOCIATION



Who will be the next J/22 World Champion?



October 5-10, 2026

Southern Yacht Club, New Orleans, Louisiana USA



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Allstate Sugar Bowl 2026 J/22 World Championship



October 5-10, 2026

Southern Yacht Club, New Orleans, Louisiana USA

Southern Yacht Club, along with title sponsor for the 2026 J/22 World Championship Allstate Sugar Bowl, have teamed up to have an exciting and fun-filled event down in New Orleans, Louisiana. Your host committee has put together an excellent schedule of events for both on and off the water during your stay.

On the water, October on Lake Pontchartrain generally offers excellent sailing conditions, with warm temperatures and breezes that can range from 5-25 knots. Because Lake Pontchartrain is very shallow, averaging 14 feet deep, north winds with a 25-mile fetch can kick up a short, steep chop that challenges the best sailors. With boats hailing from the Cayman Islands, Canada,



Netherlands, South Africa, Sweden and the USA, the fleet looks to be as competitive as it's been in years with a strong international flair.

Off the water, New Orleans is world-renowned for food and hospitality. Sailors and their guests will be treated to the finest Cajun and creole dishes that you can imagine. Host Southern Yacht Club has an excellent menu prepared. Guests are also welcome to visit the finest restaurants in the city. Stay tuned for a final social schedule that will be posted shortly.

For those traveling, New Orleans has a wide range of hotels, along with Airbnb available in many of the unique and historic neighborhoods. There is a limited amount of members providing housing, and this is generally reserved for international guests; but some may be available, so feel free to reach out.

In the coming weeks, keep an eye out for boat inspection guidelines and what to expect upon arrival. All boats will be required to undergo inspection so please check the Class Rules to make sure you are in compliance.

This year's Championship will be held October 5-10 at Southern Yacht Club on the shores of Lake Pontchartrain. The Notice of Race and registration can be found at [2026 J/22 World Championship](#).



Technical Committee Report

By Thomas Lösch, International Technical Committee Chair

I want to address two topics:



1. We have finalized the updating of our Standards for Major Championship Regattas

We have now split the old Standards for Major Championship Regatta into two documents:

Document 1: Standards for major Championship regattas and

Document 2: J/22 Regatta Regulations

You can find both documents under <https://j22.org/international-class-office/>, and we wish that the J/22 Regatta Regulations are becoming a standard for future NoRs.

2. New J/22 profile for Vakaros Atlas 2 device

Together with Vakaros, we are currently defining the new J/22 profile, reflecting the recent changes made to our Class Rules.

We will not include all of the available features of the Vakaros Atlas into the J/22 profile.

In general, the profile will not allow “external sensors.” Currently we are discussing one or two, but definitely we will not allow load sensors and electronic wind indicators. Both are not allowed in our Class Rules.

I encourage you to continue giving us feedback or comments. Only by that we can develop the Class in the spirit of its sailors. I am honored to work with all members of the various Committees of our Class to make our Class even better.

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



Sailing at the Limit:

Wind, Waves and Pure Adrenaline at the German Open

By: Team JOLA

The J/22 community headed to the north of Germany for Travemünde Week (Travemünder Woche). Days before the event, it wasn't the sea getting everyone's pulse racing, but the weather app. The wind forecast was glowing in every shade of green—and as it turned out, even that was optimistic.

The teams stayed in hotels, apartments, and we from Hamburg set up our little camp at the Grünstrand campsite - offering a prime view of the Trave estuary. It could hardly get any better.

On Saturday, it was finally time to head out onto the water. For the J/22 fleet, this meant a long transit to Course Alpha in the Bay of Timmendorf. Even on the way out, it became clear that the wind forecast had been an



understatement. Shrouds were retuned multiple times. A short, choppy wave awaited us on the upwind leg, and the strategy was clear: hike hard, call out the gusts, constantly trim the mainsheet and steer cleanly through the headers. Relaxation? Not a chance.

Downwind, everyone's heart rate truly went through the roof. Many crews chose to keep the spinnaker packed away as a safety precaution - a very sensible decision. However, those who did hoist it provided top-tier entertainment:



On Sunday, the wind started out more moderate, allowing all teams to sail under spinnaker at least initially. As the day progressed, however, Aeolus took control once again. A front of rain and heavy squalls with whitecaps swept across the racecourse. The Race Committee reacted prudently and reduced the day's schedule from four races to three. The battle at the top remained highly competitive, with all four leading teams winning at least one race up to that point. It could not have been any closer.

At least equally successful, however, was the joint J/22 barbecue at the campsite. Veterans, newcomers and even the Race Committee sat together until late into the evening. It is wonderful to see young sailors finding their way into the Class. You could hardly wish for a better future for a Class.

broaches, crew members taking a swim, cut spinnaker sheets and other spectacular moments. When the robotic smart-buoys decided to hold their own downwind race and wind speeds of up to 38 knots were recorded, the Race Committee showed mercy and sent the fleet back to the harbor. To recover, some even booked massages in town that afternoon.

On the competitive side, a four-way battle for the podium was already shaping up after day one. *Stormy J* from Berlin, alongside the Hamburg teams *J Bender* and *JOLA*, engaged in a thrilling showdown with *Jazzy* from Duisburg.



Photos courtesy of Axel Heller, Andreas Dillmann, Race Committee

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The final day of racing fit right into the pattern. This time, we were on the media course just past the harbor entrance. The commute was pleasantly short, but the wind gods had apparently overslept and ignored our wish list. A strong northerly wind built up uncomfortable, crossing seas. To make matters worse, the starting vessel's anchoring gear broke. So, the initial call was: head back behind the breakwater and wait. Once the technical issues were resolved, we headed out again, but conditions had deteriorated in the meantime. Gusts up to 30 knots and violent waves made safe racing impossible. Calling it off was therefore the only right decision. A huge compliment goes to the Swiss Race Committee team led by Sascha Osterwalder, who managed the event with great judgment, professionalism and the necessary tact.

FINAL RESULTS:

1st Place:

Stormy J (Berlin) with Wolf Jeschonnek, Frank Sturm and Klaus Lund – Congratulations!

2nd Place:

J Bender (Hamburg) with Thorsten Spötter, Hannes Ranke and Florian Buchs

3rd Place:

JOLA (Hamburg) with Andreas Dillmann, Silke Basedow and Julia Harder

A turbulent German Open that pushed both gear and crews to their limits, but also highlighted what makes the J/22 Class so special: competitively challenging racing, tons of action on the water and a community second to none.



Photos courtesy of Axel Heller, Andreas Dillmann, Race Committee



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WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2027

WELCOME TO WARNEMÜNDE!

JULY 3-11 2027

*The countdown has begun!
In 2027, the world's best J/22
sailors will meet on Germany's
Baltic coast for the **J/22 World
Championship in Warnemünde**,
one of the country's most iconic
sailing destinations.*

Hosted by the **German J/22 Class Association** as part of the famous **Warnemünder Woche**, competitors can look forward to an unforgettable week of world class racing, outstanding hospitality and a unique festival atmosphere.

A Fantastic Sailing Venue

Warnemünde is widely regarded as one of the finest sailing venues in Northern Europe. Located directly on the Baltic Sea, it offers reliable sea breezes, open water and fair racing conditions that challenge both experienced professionals and ambitious amateur teams. Whether the wind is light or strong, the race area promises exciting and tactical competition worthy of a World Championship.

More Than Just a Regatta

What makes Warnemünde truly special is the combination of top-level sailing and one of Germany's largest sailing festivals. Every summer, **Warnemünder Woche** attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors and thousands of sailors from around the world.

In 2027, **Warnemünder Woche will take place from July 3 to July 11**. The exact dates of the **J/22 World Championship** within this period will be announced shortly.

After racing, crews can enjoy a vibrant waterfront filled with food stalls, international cuisine, live music, entertainment stages, beach bars and countless opportunities to relax and celebrate together. The charming seaside promenade, historic lighthouse and the famous "Teepott" building create an unforgettable backdrop for the event.



The Championship will not only be about competition on the water, but also about meeting old friends, making new ones and celebrating the international spirit of the J/22 Class.

Charter Boats and Travel Support

To make participation as easy as possible for international teams, **charter boats will be available** for the Championship.

The German J/22 Class Association will also be happy to assist teams with **travel planning, transportation logistics and accommodation recommendations**, making your trip to Warnemünde as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

Teams interested in charter opportunities or wishing to receive preliminary information are encouraged to contact the German J/22 Class Association at pr@j22kv.de.

A Warm Invitation

The **German J/22 Class Association** is already working hard to prepare an exceptional World Championship. Together with experienced organizers and dedicated volunteers, our goal is to deliver a professionally organized regatta with first class race management, excellent facilities and a welcoming atmosphere for sailors, families and supporters alike.

Whether you are competing for the world title or simply want to experience one of Europe's most beautiful sailing festivals, **we warmly invite every J/22 sailor from around the globe to join us in Warnemünde in 2027.**

Bring your boat, your crew and your passion for close racing. We look forward to welcoming the International J/22 family to Germany for an unforgettable World Championship.

For charter inquiries, travel assistance, accommodation information and preliminary details, please contact: pr@j22kv.de

SEE YOU ON THE STARTING LINE IN WARNEMÜNDE 2027!

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2027 MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

22

Lakewood Yacht Club

Seabrook, Texas

March 18-21, 2027



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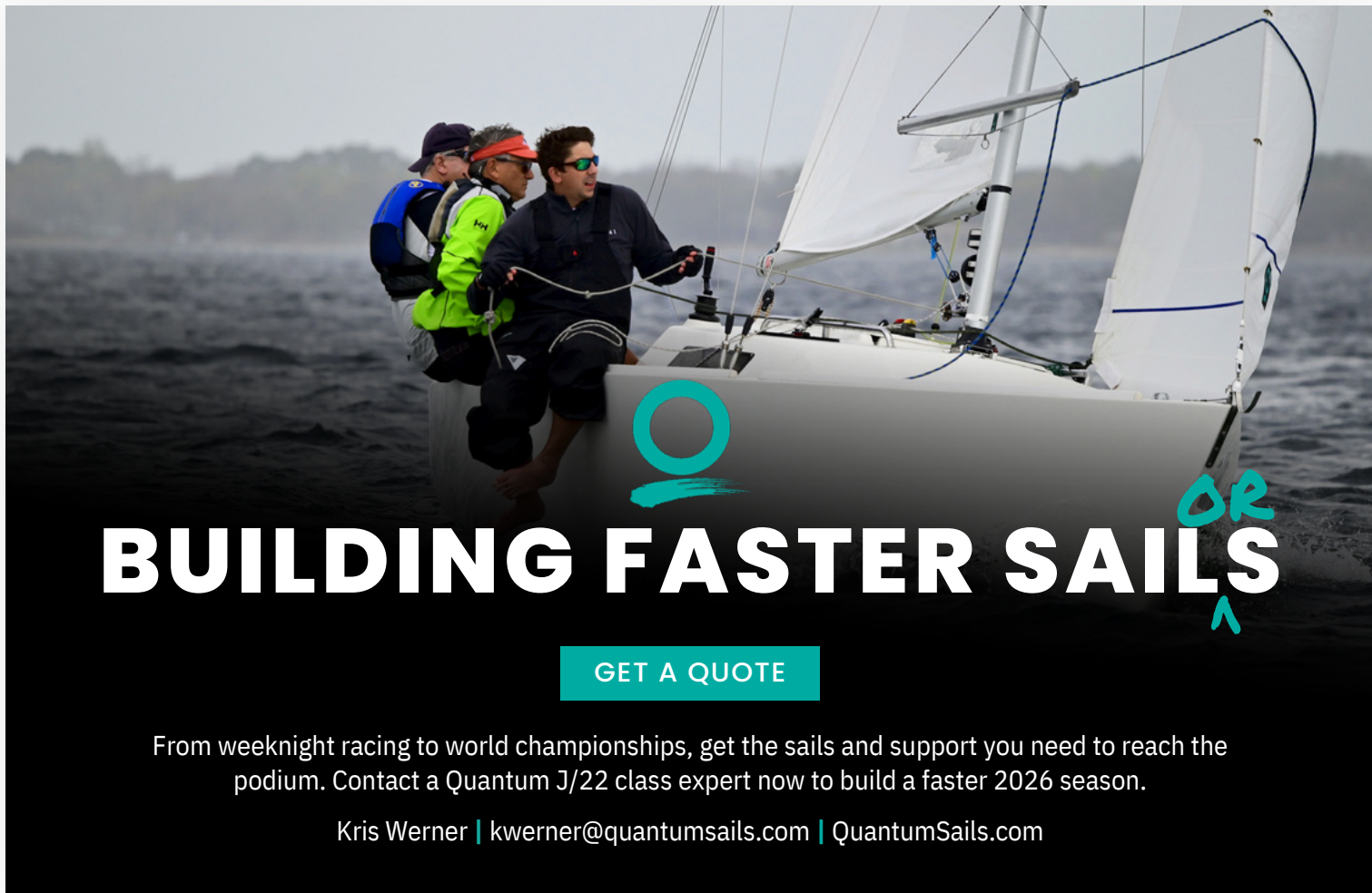
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2026

2026 J/22 World Championship

Southern Yacht Club

New Orleans, LA, United States

October 5 - October 10

2027

2027 J/22 Midwinter Championship

Lakewood Yacht Club

Seabrook, TX, United States

March 18 - March 21

**2027 J/22 World Championship
at Warnemünde Woche**

Harbour Hohe Düne Warnemünde

Germany

July 3 - July 11

**2027 J/22 North American
Championship**

Bristol Yacht Club

Bristol, RI, United States

September 30 - October 3

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