

DECEMBER 7, 2018

Hamble Winter Series Finale

The forecast for Week 8 of the HYS Hamble Winter Series 2018 was for 12-30 knots WSW, with low water in the Solent at 12.30 pm. The J/88s saw a duel to the finish for class honors. Winning by one point was Gavin Howe's TIGRIS over David & Kirsty Apthorp's J-DREAM. Taking the bronze was Dirk van Beek's SABRIEL JR. For more Hamble Winter Series information, visit <http://www.hamblewinterseries.com/>.

DECEMBER 2, 2018

Hamble Winter Series Week 6 Report

Week six of the HYS Hamble Winter Series dawned with blue skies, beautiful sunshine, and a forecast for some breeze, though nowhere near as much as the two previous weeks. The forecast was for the wind to go to the East, but it was 060 when they arrived on station and it never went past 070. With that direction and the forecast in mind, PRO Kathy Smalley decided on courses containing triangles, sausages and beats. The number of triangles and sausages depended on the size of the boats. Class 1 and 2 would go to Royal Thames twice, whereas Class 3 & 4 would not. All fleets finished with a spinnaker reach to the hamblewinterseries.com buoy. There was significant, though neap, tide crossing the start line, and this made the decision on where to go interesting. The J/88s have been dueling it out for the balance of the podium in IRC 2 Class, as well as fighting for the lead in the J/88 One-Design class honors. At this stage, it's a "dead heat: developing between Gavin Howe's TIGRIS and David & Kirsty Apthorp's J-DREAM. Both boats sailed their current discards: TIGRIS with a 7-12 and J-DREAM with a 7-11. Currently, TIGRIS leads by one point over J-DREAM in the IRC 2 scoring. Those two are also leading the J/88 One-design scoring, followed by Dirk van Beek's SABRIEL JR in third. For more Hamble Winter Series information, visit <http://www.hamblewinterseries.com/>.

NOVEMBER 15, 2018

Hamble Winter Series Mid-series Report

Thanks for contribution from Trevor Pountain: The second four weeks of the series have only one race per day. Even so, these four races can be crucial as discards start to play their part. So, with eight races gone and four to go, it is time to look at the story so far. For Class 2, Gavin Howe's J/88 TIGRIS has 20 points in third place, just ahead of J-DREAM (Kirsty & David Apthorp) on 22 points. As a result, the J/88 one-design calculations show that Howe's TIGRIS is winning the class, followed by the Apthorps' J-DREAM in second and Dirk van Beek's SABRIEL JR in third. For more Hamble Winter Series information, visit <http://www.hamblewinterseries.com/>.

OCTOBER 22, 2018

J/88 Hornet Buzzes at Annapolis Fall Series

Thanks to J/88 owner Bill Walczak on HORNET for this update on the Annapolis Fall Series: In the last four races, we got three firsts and a second. We had up to 24 boats racing in PHRF A2

Class. HORNET stung them all! The J/88 is a really fun PHRF platform. Here is what happened in each race.

Annapolis to Oxford: we had 18-23 knots downwind for 16 miles then reach with 3 mile upwind, 30 miles. That race was a scream, nearly a full-on plane for most of the race.

AYC race to Oxford: It was light; we had 3-6 knots abeam and downwind. We were 4 miles ahead of 14 boats in class when the RC abandoned the race, such a bummer. We were 1/4 mile from the shortened finish. That was our first ultralight air race and were all surprised how well our J/88 HORNET performed.

AYC race to Solomons: It was another windy race. We had 20 knots plus for 40 miles downwind, then we reached across the bay to the Pax river and finished. We won by 5 seconds corrected for the Overall win and crushed our A2 Class. We have been lucky with downwind planing conditions, but other planing boats have not kept pace with us. Last year's race to Oxford, we had 17 miles upwind and struggled against the Navy 44s. However, once we turned the mark to reach off with a code zero, we simply took off and finished first by 6 seconds overall and won class.

OCTOBER 22, 2018

J/88 Wins IHYC Gearbuster

One of the more popular end-of-season offshore races on Long Island Sound is the Indian Harbor Yacht Club's Gearbuster Race. The race is a 46.0nm course eastward down the Sound from Greenwich, CT to Stratford Shoal and return. This year, it was pretty quick for some boats. Drew Hall on the J/88 NEVERMORE said, "We had a scream in the IHYC Gearbuster on our J/88. We were first in PHRF 3 Class, beating 49-foot boats and were 11th overall. We sailed very fast to Stratford Shoal and back. The wind was 8-14 knots with flat water."

OCTOBER 1, 2018

Yonder Wins Tiebreaker at American Yacht Club Fall Series Regatta

The 2018 Fall Series Regatta ended at American Yacht Club in splendid fashion. Saturday and Sunday, September 29-30 concluded the latter half of the Fall Series Regatta which occurred over the course of two weekends. Saturday racing was met with an anticipated Fall feel as temperatures hovered below 60 degrees. Eight classes of boats embraced the chilly weather to compete on Long Island Sound. Saturday racing started off slow with little wind, but beautiful weather otherwise. In total, the South Course was able to get two races in. In the J/88 Division, Escape skippered by Elizabeth and Matthew Barry had a perfect day winning both races to move up to first place, tying with Douglas Newhouse's Yonder. On Sunday, the light wind continued along with beautiful blue skies. The South Course held one race on Sunday to conclude the regatta. The J/88 Division came down to a tiebreaker with Yonder finishing first and Escape locking down second. For complete event details, visit <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4664>.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2018

WINGS Takes J/88s at Light Long Island Sound PHRF Championship

The Storm Trysail Club and the Riverside Yacht Club were the hosts of the PHRF/J/88 Long Island Sound Championship. While Saturday was an overall non-starter for all fleets, Sunday at least produced two races to save the day for everyone. In the seven-boat J/88 one-design fleet, it was Mike Bruno's WINGS that took the title with a 2-1 tally for 3 points total. Second was Bill Purdy's WHIRLWIND with a 1-3 score for 4 points. Third was Cass leader Iris Vogel and her New York crew on DEVIATION, posting a 3-2 for 5 points. Rounding out the top five were Justin Scagnelli's ALBONDINGAS in fourth and Ken & Drew Hall's NEVERMORE in fifth position. For more Long Island Sound PHRF Championship information, visit <https://www.stormtrysail.org/regattas/li-sound-championship>.

SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

Courageous Wins Richard Rheem Perpetual Trophy at Rolex Big Boat Series

Bright sunshine, steady breeze and flat seas greeted the 76 teams for the final day of racing at the 54th edition of the Rolex Big Boat Series (September 12-16), hosted by the St. Francis Yacht Club. The race committee announced a 15-minute postponement on both the Alcatraz and Treasure Island race courses to allow the breeze to consolidate and—given the flood-tide cycle that the racers have been enjoying all week—the water to flatten-out prior to the day's single long-form Bay Tour race. This traditional final-day course selection allowed all seven competing classes to finish this no-drop series directly in front of StFYC's Race Deck, giving onshore spectators a fantastic view. J/88 sailors raced as a Rolex Big Boat Series' one-design class for the first time this year and, in addition to dockside bragging rights, were competing for the Richard Rheem Perpetual Trophy, which honors former StFYC member Richard Rheem and his crew aboard Morning Star, Transpac record-breakers in 1949 and again in 1953. This year's trophy and accompanying Rolex were presented to Gary Panariello and his Courageous (USA 77) teammates, who beat out Marc McMorris and his M Squared (USA 75) squad and Aya Yamanouchi and her Benny (USA 79169) team. For more information, please visit the Rolex Big Boat Series' website at <https://rolexbigboatseries.com/>.

AUGUST 12, 2018

Laura Weyler's Hijinks Secures Second Consecutive J/88 North American Championship

Laura Weyler's Hijinks collected two bullets Sunday to repeat as J/88 North American Champion. With Adam Burns, John Goller, Philip Hasl, Kevin Morgan and Kris Werner, the New York-based team kept all their scores in the top four in all 10 races. No scores were discarded for the series, part of the Verve Cup Offshore Regatta at Chicago Yacht Club. Hijinks bested the 13 other J/88s in six races, and although Ben Marden's Banter grabbed the overall lead after day two, Weyler's crew finished strong with three successive victories in the remaining contests Saturday and Sunday. Banter ended in runner-up position with 33 points, and Douglas Newhouse's Yonder placed third with 46. Lake Michigan provided a gorgeous ending to the four-day event with sunny skies and winds around 8 knots. Following Weyler's Hijinks in Sunday's opening match were Mike Bruno's Wings and Marden. In the final challenge, the top trio were Hijinks, Tim Finkle's Seaweed and John & Jordan Leahey's Dutch.

Top five:

Hijinks, Laura Weyler, Williamsville, NY, 1 -4 -1 -4 -1 -2 -4 -1 -1 -1 ; 20

Banter, Ben Marden, Chicago, IL, 2 -1 -5 -2 -3 -1 -2 -8 -3 -6 ; 33

Yonder, Douglas Newhouse, Newport, RI, 3 -5 -2 -6 -2 -10 -1 -3 -7 -7 ; 46

Wings, Mike Bruno, Armonk, NY, 4 -2 -3 -7 -4 -12 -5 -2 -2 -8 ; 49

Deviation, Iris Vogel, New Rochelle, NY, 8 -6 -6 -1 -5 -6 -8 -4 -4 -4 ; 52

Complete results may be found at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4700>, and photos are available on the J/88 Class Facebook page.

AUGUST 11, 2018

Laura Weyler's Hijinks Regains Edge at J/88 North American Championship

Some teams did more swimming than sailing at the J/88 North American Championship on Saturday, part of the Verve Cup Offshore Regatta at Chicago Yacht Club. After a long postponement, 14 J/88s finally embarked on one race, which was enough for Laura Weyler's Hijinks to return to the top of the leaderboard. Hijinks' bullet, paired with an 8 by day two leader Ben Marden's Banter, leaves Weyler's crew with a six-point advantage heading into the final day of the Championship on Sunday. Douglas Newhouse's Yonder maintained third place with 32 points. Following Hijinks in Saturday's lone contest in about 6 knots of breeze were Mike Bruno's Wings and Newhouse's Yonder. Complete results may be found at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4700>, and photos are available on the J/88 Class Facebook page.

AUGUST 10, 2018

New Leader Emerges at J/88 North American Championship

A steady day of scores Friday made Ben Marden's Banter the current frontrunner at the J/88 North American Championship in Chicago, IL. Four more races were recorded in a lumpy chop and winds between 6-10 knots for the 14 J/88s as part of the Verve Cup Offshore Regatta at Chicago Yacht Club. Banter advanced from a two-point deficit Thursday to hold a thin one-point advantage over Laura Weyler's Hijinks after seven total races. No score will be discarded for the series. Marden racked up a 2,3,1,2 to bring his points to 16, compared to Weyler's 17, after she counted a 4,1,2,4. Douglas Newhouse's Yonder improved his overall position to third with 29 points. Class President Iris Vogel's Deviation began the day by defeating Marden's Banter and John & Jordan Leahey's Dutch. Weyler's Hijinks added her third win of the Championship in the next match, besting Newhouse and Marden. The familiar Marden and Weyler were first and second in Friday's third race, trailed by Tim Finkle's Seaweed. Newhouse's Yonder snagged the final bullet before heading to the dock, as Marden's second gave him the overall regatta lead and Finkle again placed third. Racing continues through Sunday. Complete results may be found at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4700>, and photos are available on the J/88 Class Facebook page.

AUGUST 9, 2018

Competitive Start to J/88 North American Championship

Fourteen J/88s vying for the title of 2018 North American Champion reveled in beautiful breeze and sunshine on the opening day in Chicago, IL. Laura Weyler's Hijinks started her quest to repeat as Champion with two bullets and a fourth for 6 points. Ben Marden's Banter also won a race and holds second place with 8 points, one notch ahead of Mike Bruno's Wings. Douglas Newhouse's Yonder is just one more point back with 10. Winds started around 8 knots and increased to 12-15 for the fleet racing as part of the Verve Cup Offshore Regatta at Chicago Yacht Club. Weyler's Hijinks opened the Championship with her first victory, as Marden's Banter and Newhouse's Yonder followed. Marden's Banter moved up to the top spot in the day's middle race, ahead of Bruno's Wings and John & Jordan Leahey's Dutch. Looking at Weyler's Hijinks in Thursday's final contest were Newhouse's Yonder and Bruno's Wings. Racing continues through Sunday. Complete results may be found at <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4700>, and photos are available on the J/88 Class Facebook page.

AUGUST 3, 2018

HIJINKS J/88 Great Lakes Champion

The Youngstown Yacht Club hosted the CanAm Challenge Regatta on western Lake Ontario over the last weekend in July. After 11 races, it was apparent who was going to become the 2018 J/88 Great Lakes Champion. By winning the first three races and closing the last day with a 1-1-2, Laura Weyler's HIJINKS had control. Their record was six firsts and four seconds for just 14 points net. Second was Tim Finkle's SEAWEED, winning the fight for the silver in the final race over Iris Vogel's DEVIATION. Cindy Goodin's QUIXY took fourth, and Tim Sweet's Canadian crew on GIVE'R was fifth. For more CanAm Regatta information, visit <http://www.yyccanam.com/>.

JULY 13, 2018

J/88s Went Round the Island in the UK

It was another challenging 60nm offshore adventure for the Round the Island Race in the United Kingdom, hosted by the Island Sailing Club in Cowes, Isle of Wight. Over 1,000 boats began starting at 0630 hours. First off was the IRC Zero class, followed by over two-dozen more classes sailing across the Royal Yacht Squadron line. On Saturday, the high pressure system produced a light NE breeze to start, veering SE-SW during the afternoon depending where you were. In the J/88s, first across the line was TIGRIS, followed by David & Kirsty Apthorp's J-DREAM and JONGLEUR in third place. For more Round the Island Race information, visit http://www.roundtheisland.org.uk/web/code/php/main_c.php?section=home.

JUNE 11, 2018

Banter Finds Groove at Chicago NOOD

At the Chicago NOOD on June 8-10, skipper Ben Marden praised his crew aboard the J/88 Banter for finding a good groove as they train for the J/88 North Americans in Chicago this summer. After a tricky first day, they made a radical decision that ultimately propelled them to four consecutive first-place finishes during the next two race days. "I was the only person who had the same job on the second day," Marden said. "Five people changed jobs, and we stuck with the new positions. We loosened everything up and were more aggressive with rig tune and light-air boathandling. This was a great test for the team, so we could take notes and come out of it with some new information on things we can improve upon." This was Marden's first Helly Hansen NOOD Regatta as a boat owner, and only his second regatta since buying the boat last winter. For complete results, visit

https://yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative.cfm?eID=4474.

J/88 (top three - 8 Boats)

Banter, Ben Marden - 3 -4 -1 -1 -1 -1; 11

Exile, Andy Graff - 1 -2 -2 -3 -4 -2; 14

Windsong, Tim Wade - 4 -1 -3 -2 -2 -5; 17

JUNE 5, 2018

Wings Soars at Cedar Point Yacht Club One Design Regatta

Cedar Point Yacht Club hosted its largest-ever One Design Regatta June 1-3, as a record 106 boats and 560 sailors competed in eight Classes. Fickle breezes and constantly changing seas created challenges on Saturday, as sailors worked through periods of dead calm followed by a thunderstorm that roared across Long Island Sound from the north. On Sunday, brisk winds across the circle courses southeast of Compo Beach made for more favorable conditions, and more races were completed. Mike Bruno's Wings was first in three of five races to win the five-boat J/88 fleet, ahead of Ken & Drew Hall's Nevermore and Al Minella's Albóndigas. Thanks to the HamletHub for this report. For complete results, visit

https://yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative.cfm?eID=4538.

JUNE 5, 2018

Banter Earns J/88 Win at COLORS Regatta

A mix of one-design Classes and handicap fleets embracing cruising boats, shorthanded sailors, and random leg racing was the format for the 2018 COLORS Regatta on June 2-3 in Chicago, IL with 107 teams on Lake Michigan. Eight J/88s competed in the Offshore Buoy Race Course 2 Racing One Design Division, getting off five races. The top three boats kept it tight all weekend, but it was Ben Marden's Banter that came out on top with 11 points. Two points behind in second place was Andy Graff's Exile and another two ticks back was Tim Wade's Windsong. Complete results may be found at

https://yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative.cfm?eID=4699.

MAY 29, 2018

J/88 UK National Champion at J-Cup: Kirsty & David Apthorp's J-Dream
66 teams from Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain and the Netherlands raced in the 19th edition of the J/Boats festival of racing, held every year in United Kingdom. The 2018 Landsail Tyres J-Cup also incorporated the UK National championship for the J/88 Class. They produced a photo finish with Kirsty & David Apthorp's J-Dream winning on countback from Gavin Howe's Tigris. Tim Tolcher's Raging Bull was third, and Richard Cooper's Jongleur made the podium in two races to finish fourth. "We have been second a couple of times, and we really should have won last year, so it feels good to finally win it after knocking on the door," commented David Apthorp. "This regatta has been really good with close racing and pretty much the whole fleet at the same boat speed. Winning races comes down to tactics and boat handling. It would be nice to have more teams racing in the Class, but of all the Classes we have raced in, the J/88 is probably the most competitive, and consistency has been the key." Full Results: <http://www.islandsc.org.uk/racingdocuments.aspx#jcup>

MAY 23, 2018

2018 J/88 North American Championship Logistic Information

2018 J/88 North American Championship Logistics Information Chicago Yacht Club, August 9-12

J/88 Sailors: We are very excited to host the 2018 North American Championship. We hope you will consider traveling to Lake Michigan and Chicago for what should be the largest fleet of J/88s to date. Below is some information that may help you plan for the regatta. Please contact either of us if you have any questions about the event or location.

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Location: Chicago Yacht Club has two locations - CYC-Belmont Harbor and CYC-Monroe Harbor. North Americans will occur during a larger regatta: the Offshore Verve. The J/88s will be based out of Belmont Harbor as it offers launch facilities, trailer parking and will be racing on a "Championship Circle" near the harbor.

CYC Monroe is located along the lake adjacent to downtown in Monroe Harbor. Belmont Harbor is located 4 miles north of Monroe in the Lakeview neighborhood. Both locations are located in close proximity to tourist attractions and hotels. There will be a shuttle running

continuously between CYC Monroe & CYC Belmont. Uber/lift is also convenient as it's a quick trip between the clubs.

Hotels:

There are some hotels located near Belmont in Lakeview, but it is unlikely that you would be close enough to walk to the club and the selection is more limited. There are numerous hotels (with rooms available online) located within walking distance of CYC-Monroe downtown. River North would be another desirable location. It is in between the two clubs (although not walkable) and near Michigan Ave. and many restaurants.

Launching:

Option 1: Belmont Harbor at Regatta Site. This is free and recommended. There is a 5-ton crane for use with a single-point lift. There will be a few single-point harnesses on site to use if you do not have your own. The 5-ton crane should not be used for mast stepping. For mast step, you may either use the mast crane after launching at the yacht club dock or a gin-pole in the parking lot before launch. On Tuesday & Wednesday, we will have volunteers to help with both the launch crane and the mast crane.

Option 2: There are professional boatyards available 15 miles south, near the Indiana border that offer full service rigging, launching, storage and delivery. (We are working on a package with the boat yard if anyone is interested, please let us know)

Trailer Parking During Regatta: available at Belmont Harbor, included in the regatta entry fee.

Storage before and after regatta: You may have your boat and/or trailer stored in the Belmont Harbor parking lot after the CanAm regatta (July 30th) and leave it for up to one week after NAs.

Docking during regatta: There will be docking included with the regatta on U-Dock, the dock closest to CYC-Belmont. See map on next page.

Vehicle parking: at Belmont during race days will be available directly on site at a pay lot. We will investigate if this can be made free to the regatta, but no promises.

Fleet Party: There will be a J/88 Class party on Thursday after racing at CYC-Belmont. This is included with the regatta entry fee for your crew. 2018 J/88 North American Championship Logistics Information Chicago Yacht Club, August 9-12

Other Social Events: There will be a regatta-wide party at CYC-Monroe, Friday and Saturday after racing. Awards will be at CYC-Monroe on Sunday after racing.

On towing a J/88 into Chicago Belmont Harbor:

1. You need to plan your route ahead of time and be careful not to take wrong turns towards low bridges in traffic. Many of the older viaducts within the city streets are too low.

2. It is against the law to drive with a trailer on Lake Shore Drive.

3. This route is one that we have used. It may not be the only way, but it works well:

1. From points South and East, take I-90/94 towards downtown Chicago. You may take either the I-90 Tollway (Skyway) for a fee or the I-94 free route from Indiana.

2. As you approach downtown, follow signs towards Wisconsin. Avoid express lanes.

3. North of downtown, you will take exit 48A for Armitage Ave.

4. At the bottom of the exit ramp, you will need to make a right hand turn of about 110-degrees under a bridge. Leave yourself room to make a wide turn, probably from a half lane to the left of the right turn lane.

5. After crossing under this bridge, you will turn left onto Ashland Ave within 400 ft.

6. Take Ashland Ave. North to Belmont Ave. Turn Right on Belmont.

7. Take Belmont East all the way to the lake. You will pass underneath Lake Shore Drive just before the harbor. This bridge is arch-shaped. Stay near the left side of the right-hand lane and make a right turn into the harbor drive. There is a "No Right Turn" sign telling you not to turn the wrong way into the off-ramp of Lake Shore Dr. You will turn right just past the off-ramp from Lake Shore Dr. and follow south to the harbor parking lot entrance.

J_88_NAs_Logistics.jpg

MAY 7, 2018

Barrys' Escape Tops J/88s at American Yacht Club Spring Series

The American Yacht Club Spring Series continued for the final weekend of racing on May 5-6.

Spring sailing resumed as eight separate fleets competed on the Long Island Sound. On Saturday, sailors aimed to pick up where they had left off the prior weekend; however, the weather had other plans. With very little wind on both courses, sailors were forced to wait for breeze throughout the day. In total, the East Course was only able to get one race in. The South Course managed to get two races in by shortening the last race. After racing, sailors were treated to a special presentation in the American Yacht Club ballroom by Tucker Thompson, who was the official host of the 35th America's Cup. Tucker gave a unique behind the scenes look at the competition for the 35th America's Cup held in Bermuda. He also gave the attendees a sneak peek at the 36th America's Cup in New Zealand. On a day that also

celebrated Cinco de Mayo and the Kentucky Derby, it's safe to say Saturday had plenty of fun for sailors both on and off the water. Sunday morning brought overcast skies as competitors returned to AYC for the final day of racing. In the J/88 division, Escape owned by Elizabeth and Matt Barry finished first, with Wings skippered by Past Commodore Mike Bruno finishing second. Sailors enjoyed cocktails and food on the flag pole lawn after racing, followed by an awards ceremony in the AYC ballroom. For complete results, visit <https://yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eid=4663>.

MAY 4, 2018

Warsash Spring Series Finale

The Warsash Sailing Club's annual Helly Hansen Spring Series produced no surprises at the end of six weekends of racing. The Black Group had two races on Sunday starting near Goodall Roofing on the tail of the Bramble bank. The breeze was 8-15 knots NNE, and two triangle sausage type races were set, using fixed and laid marks, starting with beats toward laid marks near the mainland shore off Lee-on-Solent, and forays across the main tide to the Ryde middle bank. A longer course set for the second race as the breeze increased. It was close racing for the J/88s with TIGRIS (Gavin Howe) and J-DREAM (David & Kirsty Apthorp) each getting a first and second on Sunday. This also meant that over the series they were equal on points and final positions. They were separated on countback with J-DREAM winning from TIGRIS, with JONGLEUR (Richard Cooper) third. For more HELLY HANSEN Warsash Spring Series information, visit <http://warsashspringseries.org.uk/2018/index.htm>.

APRIL 19, 2018

More Light Winds at Helly Hansen Warsash Spring Series

Success in the second day of racing in the Helly Hansen Warsash Spring Series on April 15 went to those skippers who played the strong tides in the Solent and managed to stay in breeze. Having lost two Sundays of racing due to the weather, the race committee was keen to get racing going. Despite the breeze not reaching the numbers forecast, it managed to run two races for the Black Group and the usual three races for White Group. Black Group's two starts were near Robin Culpan buoy in the Solent, with courses running toward East Bramble and Goodall Roofing; upwind against the building tide, and downwind with it. Most boats chose to stay offshore in the steadier breeze rather than seeking less tide inshore. Winning both races in the J/88 fleet was Richard Cooper's JONGLEUR to take the class lead with 4 points. Posting two seconds to hold on to second place was Gavin Howe's TIGRIS with 5 points. Sitting in third position is Tim Tolcher's RAGING BULL with 11 points. For more Helly Hansen Warsash Spring Series information, visit <http://warsashspringseries.org.uk/2018/index.htm>.

APRIL 15, 2018

Finkle Takes J/88 Fleet at Charleston Race Week

Skipper Tim Finkle led Seaweed to the win in the J/88 fleet at Charleston Race Week, getting the gun in four of eight races in posting a low score of 16 points. It was tightly bunched behind

Seaweed with four boats finishing with either 24 or 25 points (Iris Vogel, Rob Ruhlman and Mike Bruno). "We had a really good team that put a lot of effort into preparation and that paid off," said Finkle, a J/Boat dealer in Buffalo who credited tactician Kris Werner for repeatedly putting the boat in good spots. "We got a bunch of good starts, which was huge because you had to get to one side of the course quickly because the current was such a huge factor." For complete event details, visit <https://www.charlestonraceweek.com/>.

APRIL 14, 2018

M-Squared Bests J/88s at J/Fest San Francisco

The St. Francis Yacht Club held its annual J/Fest April 7-9 with rain, low clouds, wind and sun. The J/88 fleet saw Marc McMorris' crew on M-SQUARED from San Diego YC overcome all the "local knowledge" teams to win counting just firsts and seconds in the scoreline, finishing with 7 points total. Counting just seconds and thirds and taking second overall with a dozen points was Paul Recktenwald's LAZY DAWG from Stamford YC. Third was top St. Francis YC team COURAGEOUS, skippered by Donald Payan. Rounding out the top five was Aya Yamanouchi's BENNY in fourth and Steve Gordon's INCONCEIVABLE fifth. For more J/Fest San Francisco information click [here](#).

MARCH 28, 2018

J/88 Forestay Specification Posted

The J/88 Forestay Specification has been posted at <http://j88class.org/index.php/forum-and-classifieds/documents-1>.

MARCH 27, 2018

Helly Hansen Warsash Spring Series

What a difference a week makes - the first weekend of the series, all racing was cancelled as strong winds and a blanket of snow covered the south of England, but Sunday light winds and relatively balmy temperatures were the order of the day. Challenge number one for the race committee came when the primary Black Group committee boat broke down and couldn't be enticed into starting. So the team had to squeeze onto the club's small committee boat Lobster. Challenge number two for both race committees was setting start lines and courses in the light Northerly air, with wind speeds between 5 to 8 knots. The winner of the J/88 fleet was Tigris (Gavin Howe). Full results are available at www.warsashspringseries.org.uk.

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

Albóndigas Tops J/88 Fleet at St. Pete NOOD

After two days of racing on Tampa Bay from February 16-17, light weather persisted Sunday to close the 2018 Helly Hansen National Offshore One Design Regatta in St. Petersburg, FL with a day ashore. In the six-boat J/88 one-design fleet, Al Minella on Albóndigas secured five bullets in seven races to take the win with 11 points. Mike Bruno's Wings followed with 18 points for

second place, and Andy Graff's Exile placed third with 24 points. For complete results, visit https://yachtscoring.com/event_results_cumulative.cfm?eID=4471.

JANUARY 25, 2018

J/88 WINGS Crowned Midwinter Champion

The inaugural J/Fest St. Pete Regatta took place January 19-21 on Tampa Bay. Host St. Petersburg Yacht Club and its Race Committee, PRO and volunteers made a valiant effort to get in as many races as they could considering the cards they had been dealt—essentially no, or very little, wind for all three days. It warmed up quickly all three days of sailing, so the sunshine and warm 70 degree days were a welcome reprieve for many teams who had come south to Florida. The J/88s had a real battle going by the end of the second day for the title of Midwinter Champion. The top two boats were tied on points with a 1-2 for each team. Mike Bruno's WINGS from New York and Long Island Sound were even with Andy Graff's EXILE from Chicago and Lake Michigan. Both were experienced in light air sailing on those two bodies of water. With just one race to go, the last race was won by Iris Vogel's DEVIATION to secure third place on the podium. However, Graff's EXILE crew misjudged the adverse current and got hung up on the anchorline of the RC boat at the start; as a result they scored a fourth so held on to second place for the regatta. Winning the regatta and crowned as J/88 Midwinter Champion with a 1-2-2 scoreline for 5 points was Bruno's crew on WINGS. For more event information, visit <https://www.yachtscoring.com/emenu.cfm?eID=4451>.