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INTERNATIONAL J/22 CLASS ASSOCIATION

GLENN DARDEN'S BABY DOLL WINS

J/22 Midwinter Championship
in St. Petersburg

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J/22 Midwinter Championship
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The 2026 J/22 Midwinter Championship delivered a full spectrum of conditions as part of the Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta Series St. Petersburg, February 13-15. Twelve J/22s took to Tampa Bay for a weekend that began with light, tactical racing and concluded with a breezy Sunday showdown under brilliant Florida sunshine.

Racers were greeted with warm temperatures and blue skies throughout the three-day event hosted by St. Petersburg Yacht Club. The first two days tested patience and finesse in light air. Sunday brought a dramatic shift as a frontal system swept through the area, delivering strong winds and classic Tampa Bay chop.

Emerging victorious was *Baby Doll*, helmed by Glenn Darden of Fort Worth, TX, whose consistent performance (7-1-2-1) secured the Championship title with 11 points. Darden and crew Min Min Kelly, Jackson Benvenutti and Willem van Waay rebounded from a seventh-

place finish in the opening race to post two race wins and a second-place finish. Finishing second overall was *The Jug 4 1*, skippered by Chris Doyle, with scores of 6-2-3-3 for 14 points. Just one point back in third was *Defiance*, led by Mike Gemperline, who notched an impressive Sunday as the breeze built (8-4-1-2; 15 points). Rounding out the top five were *Miss Conduct*, helmed by James Freedman (2-5-6-4; 17 points), and *Tilt*, skippered by Alex Schwinn (3-3-5-13/DNF; 24 points).

Beyond the racing, competitors enjoyed a full social schedule at SPYC's downtown clubhouse, providing opportunities for J/22 sailors to connect with fellow Class members and mingle with racers



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from other fleets competing in the regatta series. The combination of competitive racing, ideal winter weather and vibrant shoreside camaraderie made St. Petersburg a highlight of the J/22 calendar.

Results, photos and event details are available [HERE](#)



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J/22 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Scheveningen (NL) | North Sea Regatta
22-25 May 2026

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- Practice race to warm up
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- Class dinner to connect with fellow sailors
- Shore program packed with fun and networking

Register now via [Manage2Sail](#) [HERE](#)

- Early Bird Price: Until 1st of April €325 (incl. Class dinner for your whole crew)
- Join the WhatsApp group for all updates [HERE](#)
- Looking for a boat or crew? Check the sailor pool [HERE](#)

Questions? Ask it in the whatsappgroup or send an email to EKo@j22klasse.nl

Don't miss the chance to race, meet the community
and enjoy the J/22 at its best!





North Sea Regatta

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22-25
MAY 2026

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2026 J/22 World Championship

October 5-10, 2026 • Southern Yacht Club, New Orleans, Louisiana USA

Looking for something to do and somewhere to go before putting your boat away for those long, cold winter months? Then come on down to New Orleans, Louisiana and Southern Yacht Club where the action will be October 5-10 for the 2026 J/22 World Championship. October provides some of the best sailing conditions of the year on Lake Pontchartrain. Temperatures are still warm, and the winter blasts haven't started arriving yet. Lake Pontchartrain in the fall offers great light to medium breeze that will definitely challenge competitors. The Lake is actually a brackish estuary open to the Gulf of Mexico.

There is little tidal effect and no current to speak of in the racing area. At about 24 miles in diameter and averaging 14' deep, the lake's saucer-like shape can make for a short, steep chop.

If you've been there before for any of the Championships SYC has hosted, you will have experienced legendary Southern hospitality. Social events are being planned that promise to provide ample opportunities for fun and good food, including a unique experience first introduced at the J/80 NAC at SYC in October:

The Regatta Pinata. As with any visit to New Orleans, you can guarantee you will be well fed by their numerous restaurants. While at the event, club staff will take care of all your dining needs with the best southern charm.

An extensive waterfront renovation just wrapped up to provide top-notch launching and docking facilities. There's plenty of room for both J/22s as well as support and spectator boats.

Charter boats will be available for international teams...please reach out early to work through the arrangements.

The Notice of Race is posted and registration open [HERE](#)

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Anodized Aluminum Sprit

Now back in stock, our Anodized Aluminum Sprit - 1.5 oz of 6061 T6 Aircraft Aluminum that is designed to endure hardships, and keep shining and holding line! Something more robust & permanent than our plastic Sprit!



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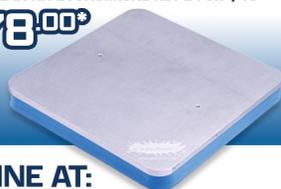
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2026

2026 J/22 European Championship at North Sea Regatta

**Jachtclub Scheveningen The Hague, Netherlands
May 22 - May 25**

2026 J/22 World Championship

**Southern Yacht Club
New Orleans, LA, United States
October 5 - October 10**

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