

**J/105 CLASS ASSOCIATION
FLEET 15 REORGANIZES
By Richard C. Payne, Fleet 15
Secretary**

Fleet 15 (Southern Chesapeake Bay) was organized some years ago by members of Fishing Bay Yacht Club (Deltaville, VA), and has operated informally, within the framework of PHRF of the Chesapeake and Fishing Bay Yacht Club's racing program. The recent addition of a new J/105 to the racing program of Hampton Yacht Club (40 miles to the south), and the noted success of a one-design start in Fishing Bay's annual Stingray Point Regatta (Labor Day weekend 2006) caused the membership to re-think this orientation.

On 16 September 2006, the Fleet conducted a special meeting at Fishing Bay Yacht Club for the purpose of reorganizing. This reorganization had three goals. First, to clarify the scope of Fleet 15 as a regional organization, encompassing all of Region IV of the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association. Second, to bring the Fleet into compliance with requirements of the national J/105 Class Association by adopting Articles of Association which specify how the Fleet is organized. And third, to elect the full slate of officers required by the Class Association's constitution, in accordance with the Fleet's newly adopted Articles of Association.

At its September special meeting, Fleet 15 provisionally adopted Articles of Association which are closely based on the Articles for Fleet 3 (Northern Chesapeake Bay). These Articles will receive final ratification at Fleet 15's Annual Meeting (to be conducted in

January 2007). Fleet 15 also elected new officers, as follows: Fleet Captain, David Clark (FBYC); Fleet Secretary, Richard Payne (HYC); Fleet Treasurer, R. Strother Scott (FBYC); Fleet Measurer, Brad Davis (FBYC). It was agreed that annual dues for Fleet 15 would be \$35 (out of which the Treasurer would centrally pay national Class Association dues for all Fleet members). Dues for 2007 are payable at the Annual Meeting in January.

It was also agreed that for the time being, the primary focus of Fleet 15 will be sponsoring Class Association governed J/105 fleets at Region IV's major regional regattas. These regattas will feature a time adjustment for shoal-draft boats and restrict crew eligibility to Level A (as defined in paragraph 3.6 of the Class Association Rules). They will be governed by the Class Association (not PHRF), and the scores for the regattas so reported to the CBYRA scorer for Region IV. Finally, it was agreed that the Fleet Secretary will coordinate with the national J/105 Class Association to establish a web site for Fleet 15. It is hoped that by gaining greater visibility within the Class Association, more boats from other Fleets will be attracted to our regional regattas.