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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2020 J/24 European Championship Notice of Cancellation

March 9, 2020—The International J/24 Class Association (IJCA) and the Italian Federation of Sailing (F.I.V.) who delegates Yacht Club Adriaco, Triestina della Vela and Yacht Club Porto San Rocco today announced the cancellation of the 2020 J/24 European Championship scheduled for April 29-May 5, 2020 at Porto San Rocco, Muggia (Trieste), Italy.

“After consulting the members of the Organizing Committee and the J/24 Class, cancelling the European Championship is the responsible and wise decision to make at this time,” said Roberto Sponza, the 2020 J/24 European Championship Event Chairperson.

The spread of the Covid-19 virus has caused concern worldwide. The Italian government’s latest restrictions impede travel within Italy and place prohibitions on sporting events and gatherings. These new restrictions are in place until April 3. “At this time, we must confront the possibility that these restrictions within Italy could be extended or ended,” said Sponza, “Other European governments may impose similar restrictions on travel in the near future. All these restrictions have impact on the competitors who have registered for this year’s European Championship.”

Health and safety are of primary importance. The Organizing Committee considered the competitors’ commitments to time, planning, logistics and costs. They have committed to refund the entry fees and will make direct contact with the registered competitors. It is hoped that this advanced notice will allow competitors to cancel their travel plans without impact.

The International J/24 Class Association sets the highest standards for its Championship events. “The European Championship attracts the highest caliber competitors from multiple countries,” said Nancy Zangerle, Chairperson of the IJCA. “It is difficult but prudent to make the decision to cancel this high-level regatta at this time. The venue is very attractive and

popular. I know the Organizing Committee and Roberto Sponza had put forth great effort in planning this European Championship.”

The Organizing Committee and the Italian J/24 Class Association have determined the cancellation will also apply to the 2020 Italian Open National Championship scheduled for May 28-June 2 at Porto San Rocco. There are no anticipated impacts on other IJCA scheduled Championships at this time.

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