



# FLEET NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 3, 2024  
EDITION 5, VOLUME 1



**The J35 North American Championship is in the history books!** The 2024 J35 North American Championship was a huge success thanks to our host, NSSC. I offer a sincere and heartfelt Thank You to all who made this event successful despite a few last-minute snafus and stragglers. Many moving parts came together in the end, and it worked out well. The next J35 NAC is in 2026. The J35 leadership will let us know the location and dates.

We all know ONE DESIGN racing is the “whip”. The J35s at NSSC have raised the level of on-the-water activities and racing to a new height in our continuing journey, but we have more yet to achieve. In spring of 2025 we are adding another J35 on the water that’s nearly complete. And we are adding yet another J35 that was acquired from Florida in September 2024. The 1989 J35 from Florida will be up for sale once Gary Snider exercises his craft to make it literally better than new.

The yacht club has experienced a positive uplift because of strong racing led by the J35s. The whole of the yacht club is stronger when our leadership on the bridge makes racing the priority. Every organization survives and thrives by bringing in new people. NSSC’s promotion of ONE DESIGN racing with the J35s is the keystone in getting the youngbloods to join us.

**Our North Star Sail Club and our J35 fleet are reaching new heights!**

And there's more good news I want to share with you. **2025 J35 Sailing Classes are on the calendar!** Ian Pouliot will be teaching the 7th year of our "J35 learn to sail" classes at the Fitzpatrick Irish Pub in Troy, MI starting February 2nd, 2025. Ian has really honed his class syllabus and teaching techniques. Thank you, Ian! When the next group of students complete the course, we will have placed over 100 people on the NSSC waters. Sign up early! Call Dean at (248)790-0666 for details.

A parting note until next month...everyone knows there is no substitute for strong leadership. Every yacht club, not just NSSC, will be stronger by having a bridge that promotes sailboat racing. Cocktail parties and other activities are nice, but the main thing should remain the main thing, that is racing. All other activities will fall in place when you have a strong sailboat racing program. The momentum for sailboat racing, being led by the J35s, remains the keystone for future growth. NSSC with its fleet of J35s racing ONE DESIGN will continue to make the yacht club healthy and strong for years to come. Our J35s are the largest ONE DESIGN FLEET on the Great Lakes, and NSSC owns that honor. Please spread the good word about our J35s, and more people will continue to lean in with a wanting to join the action and NSSC.

Thanks for reading.

**Dean Fitzpatrick**

Honor Roll

T: 248.528.8440

E: [deanfitzpatrick35@gmail.com](mailto:deanfitzpatrick35@gmail.com)

1122 Naughton, Troy, MI