



FLEET NEWSLETTER

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The 2024 NSSC racing season has come to a close. We had spectacular spring, summer and fall events with fast, fun, friendly competition, the kind that sharpens our skills and leaves us better equipped than when we started last spring. Thank you for your commitment of time and talent to make 2024 a stellar year of One Design racing for our J35 fleet! Now is the time to plan for a year of racing in 2025!

You'll recall that in June **Mike Welch and crew on J35, Falcon**, won the Helly Hansen Regatta in Detroit. As a result, they were offered the opportunity to race in the **Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta Series – Caribbean Championship** October 19-26, 2024 in Tortola, British Virgin Islands. They competed against the 'BOB' (Best Of the Best). Mike and the crew finished in second place, just 1 point behind first place. In fact, the first, second, and third place boats were each separated by only 1 point! That's stiff competition. A hearty congratulations to Mike and his crew!

There's more to share...keep reading!



Support our J35 Class Association by renewing your dues today!

Reminder - the **2025 J35 Sailing Classes start Sunday February 2nd at 1PM**. The location is the Fitzpatrick Irish Pub at 1125 Naughton Rd, Troy, MI 48083. 2025 will be the 7th year of our "J35 learn to sail" classes. Students attend live lectures with Ian Pouliot and other subject matter experts assisting with Q&A. Students receive a textbook, additional reading materials, and videos to review as homework. The time commitment is minimal, ~90 minutes in Troy each week for 5 weeks. Food is provided each week after class, and students are welcome to stay for a friendly game of euchre or two. We follow the classroom training with 2 trips to the J35 boatyard in March to see J35's in person. All students who sail 5 times on any boat between June and September 2025 receive their tuition back. **Yes, that means if students meet that obligation, the class is free!** Help us put more people on the NSSC waters by spreading the word. To sign up, invite new students and interested parties who want to know more to call Dean Fitzpatrick at (248)790-0666 for details. We look forward to seeing a full 2025 class of students! Prior students are welcome to repeat the class, too

Until next month, if you haven't already, **renew your J35 Class Association membership dues**. Our J35 Class Association is a key entity in upholding J35 class rules and the class constitution, maintaining consistency among the J35 racing class vessels. Monies collected support regattas such as our 2024 NAC. The association also governs our J35 Class Association social media content to ensure posts are appropriate and relevant. Our class association also provides a website with information about events, J35 repairs, rig and deck plans and more. It's the glue that helps keep our One Design a one design. If you have any questions about the renewal process, email Robert Gordenker (rgordenker@tmsailing.com). Or call Dean Fitzpatrick and he can direct you to assistance. Remember, we are the largest ONE DESIGN FLEET on the Great Lakes, and that didn't happen by accident. That happened because of our NSSC and J35 Class Association commitment and support. Renew at <https://www.j35.org/index.php/join-renew>.

Keep spreading the good word about our J35s! As always, thanks for reading!

Dean Fitzpatrick

Honor Roll

T: 248.528.8440

E: deanfitzpatrick35@gmail.com

1122 Naughton, Troy, MI