

# J/35 Fleet Newsletter

February 6, 2025

Edition 2, Volume 2



## Did You Know?

The J/35, introduced in 1983, was created in response to a downturn in the U.S. economy. The Johnstone brothers, Bob (marketing) and Rod (design), modified the J/36 design with a shorter hull, a keel with lower center of gravity, a masthead rig and cost reducing alterations including eliminating wheel-steering and offering some amenities as optional. The J/35 base price in 1983 was \$49,500. It was an instant hit with more than 170 boats sold in the first 3 years.\*



You say to yourself, that's great but J/35s are now 30-40+ years old, and most require extensive (expensive) repairs. Let's consider the following case. A boat repair facility picks up a well-worn J35 anywhere between \$0 and \$10,000. Wet core, bulkhead trim, flooring, decking, windows, instruments, winches, lines, sails, rudder bearings, etc. are replaced or repaired. When all repairs are completed from stem to stern, the repair facility offers the boat for sale for \$50,000-\$60,000. Is it worth it, you ask? YES!! You're paying a 1983 price in 2025 for a better than new j/35! Yes, literally better than new having been repaired with materials far superior to those available in 1983. The \$49,500 that the J/35 cost in 1983 is equivalent to approximately \$156,500 today!! That means our beloved J/35s with full repairs and restoration are still the deal of the day!

How do you get a fully restored J/35 into your hands? Consider GW Boat Repair. Gary Snider at GW Boat repair has repaired and restored boats for over 50 years. Gary is a true craftsman, and he knows how to repair every inch of a J/35. He doesn't just repair them, he improves them with impenetrable materials, a clean deck layout, and efficiencies galore inside and out.

\* <https://www.jboats.com/j35-performance>

# Save the Date!

---



## 2025 Sailing Class Feb 2 - Mar 2, 2025

We had 23 people at our J35 sailing class Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>. Half were students; half were supporters. What a fantastic community! Missed the first class? Call Dean Fitzpatrick today to catch up, and get started Feb 9<sup>th</sup>!!



## J/35 Open House Mar 9, 2025

Visit J/35 repair and storage facilities to see J/35's under restoration and resting in storage. Climb aboard to see a J/35 inside and out. Bring friends and family, and enjoy an afternoon of food, friends, and fun!!

## DRYA Winter Seminar Series

DRYA's "**Legends in Sailing**" **Winter Seminar Series** is hosted at Bayview Yacht Club every Wednesday Jan 8<sup>th</sup> - Apr 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7PM. Keynote speakers share insights on OD racing, racing strategies and more.



## North Star 2025 Racing May 6 - Oct 18

Spring Series – May 6 (Tune Up), 13, 20, 27; June 3, 10, 17, 24

Summer Series – Aug 5, 12, 19, 26; Sep 2, 9, 16

Fall Series – Sept 28; Oct 5, 12, 18

Friday Fun Sail – Spring – May 23, 30; June 6, 13, 20, 27

Numerous regattas – check out [www.northstarsail.org/racing.php](http://www.northstarsail.org/racing.php)

## Pig Roast Weekend Aug 8 -10, 2025 – Main Event is Saturday Aug 9!

Set up camp on the property in Oscoda or grab a hotel room. Enjoy mountain biking, volleyball, corn hole, Guinness, dancing, euchre, and tall tales Aug 8-10. The pig roast dinner is Aug 9 at 3PM, and the band starts at 7PM. Bring friends, family, and a dish to pass. Kids and dogs are welcome!

# J35 Annual Fleet 11 Meeting Recap

---

Our annual Fleet 11 meeting Feb 1<sup>st</sup> at NSSC was well attended, including Clarke Perry and Paul Cavanaugh from Canada. Thank you, Bill Wildner, for driving our meeting. A few takeaways:

- Only one staysail is allowed on the Mac race; A-sails are not permitted.
- Lead will be placed on boats as specified by the technical committee to make float lines.
- Nine boats are needed to have OD for the Mac; J35s must sail the Cove Island course.

Our J35 family's strong leadership maintains the integrity of OD, and our meetings ensure all that's best for the fleet. Keep spreading the good news about our J35s, and thanks for reading!

## Dean Fitzpatrick / Honor Roll

T: 248.528.8440

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

1122 Naughton Rd, Troy, MI