

J/35 Fleet Newsletter

June 1, 2025

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Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta and More



As I prepare the newsletter, the 2025 Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta at Bayview is coming to a close. The J/35 crews performed their utmost racing stick-against-stick. The J/35 fleet had the largest number of entrants compared with any other fleet in this year's regatta. Several J/35's earned first place in various heats throughout the weekend. In the end Bill's Wild Ride rose to the top. A hearty congratulations to **Bill Wildner (Bill's Wild Ride)** who earned the J/35 Great Lakes Championship title! Competition was tough. The atmosphere was fantastic. It was a stellar event.

As you entered the venue, I hope you noticed our J/35 One Design booth right up front. We had the best spot! Many old friends and newly made acquaintances stopped by to check out our booth and swag. Onlookers are recognizing our fleet and our presence in healthy numbers at events like the Helly Hansen Sailing World Regatta. But I ask you what is it that really makes us stand out among the other fleets? Our greatest differentiator is our community comprised of our network, support system, end-to-end ecosystem, and philanthropy. Our brand of philanthropy isn't about generous donations to charities or other worthy causes. Our philanthropy is about the desire to support the welfare of others. What do I mean by that? Let me give you a few examples from the Helly Hansen regatta weekend alone. One vessel owner needs a backstay; another owner has a spare to lend. One owner's traveler malfunctions; another member of our family offers repair. An owner needs a crew; a crew from outside the area is honored to show up and race the boat.

I have a true passion for the J/35 sailboat that Rod Johnstone designed, and his brother Bob marketed. But what really keeps me in the game as a J/35 owner, promoter, and sponsor? It is our community, the J/35 family, that we've all knitted together. And when I have passion about something, I believe in the power of commitment with camaraderie, diligence with desire,

promotion with persistence, and support without end. As always, if you are willing and wanting to join this community, I have vessels on deck to be refurbished by Gary Snider, the best boat repairman you could ever hope for with over 50 years' experience repairing boats. I've already written to you about the value of the J/35 and its strengths as well as the economies of acquiring a better than new refurbished J/35 for a price on par with their average selling price 40 years ago. When I think about it a little more, one of our completely refurbished J/35s will cost you less than most new vehicles purchased today. And I guarantee it'll be more fun to race than driving your SUV to the grocery store. If you're even a little interested, call Gary Snider at (586)365-8879 today! Now is the time to jump in with both feet. You will not be disappointed.!

- Dean

Save the Date!

The Top Gun Twilight Spring Series started in May and continues through June 24th. North Star Sail Club has many events planned throughout the summer months. See highlights below and full race schedule details on NSSC's website at www.northstarsail.org/racing.php. Get in the game!



2025 Racing May - October

Spring Series – **Tuesdays** through June 24

Summer Series – **Tuesdays** Aug 5 through Sep 2

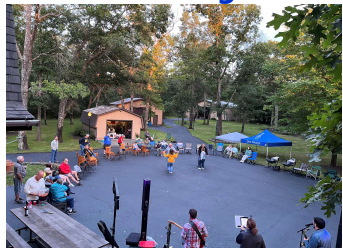
Fall Series – **Sundays** Sept through Oct 18

Spring **Friday** Fun Sail – May 23 through June 27

Throwdown in Motown Regatta – Aug 16-17

101st Bayview Mackinac Race (Port Huron to Mac) July 12, 2025

14th Annual Pig Roast Saturday Aug 9th in Oscoda!



Camp onsite or grab a local hotel. Enjoy mountain biking, walking, volleyball, dancing, euchre, food, fireside chats, and more. Activities are planned **August 8th-10th**. The main event is **August 9th** with dinner, dancing and a *fantastic* band. Bring friends, family, neighbors, kids, dogs, and a dish to pass for Saturday. Breakfast is provided each morning. See more details in the accompanying flyer. **You** are the critical ingredient that makes this event fun. The more the merrier! ***I hope to see you there!***

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