



J-Class High fives

Palma, Mallorca, witnessed a duel of giants in June as five majestic J-Class yachts battled in the sun

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Five J-Class yachts provided a spectacle of sailing at the Superyacht Cup Palma in June, while owners promised even more fireworks, confirming that the class fleet will come to Cowes next year to attend the Royal Yacht Squadron Bicentenary International Regatta 26-31 July 2015. Along with at least four of the current fleet, this event will also see the worldwide debut of J8, previously nicknamed *Atlantis*.

The J-Class owners held an exclusive conclave at the Palma regatta to make new plans for their expanding fleet and a 2015 programme that will remain based in Europe.

J8 will become the biggest J-Class yacht ever built at an astonishing 139ft (42.4m), besting the mighty JK6



Hanuman in length by half a metre. J8 is the first build of an original 1935 Frank C Paine design. Using the original lines, Hoek Design Naval Architects in Holland drew up plans for J8, which include an aluminium hull and a 1930s-inspired Art Deco interior. She will be undergoing sea trials in the spring of 2015 and the first chance to see her compete will be at the RYS Bicentenary International Regatta in Cowes.

CB can also report that Tore Holm's "lost" 1937 Swedish J-Class design is at last being built (as J11 and once called *Svea*) in Holland at Claassen Shipyards, with design direction by Hoek Design Naval Architects. At 136ft (41.5m), she will be one of the so-called aluminium-hulled "Super J's" such as *Hanuman*, *Ranger*

Clockwise from main: tacking away on Ranger; MOB rescue on Lionheart; the owner helming Lionheart; (L-R) Velsheda, Hanuman, Lionheart, Rainbow and Ranger

and the new J8. Both J8 and J11 will have new names when they are launched.

But at the Superyacht Cup Palma regatta, owners weren't the only ones making the news. *Lionheart* continued her reign supreme after a clean sweep in Menorca just weeks earlier. Along with *Rainbow*, *Velsheda*, *Hanuman* and *Ranger*, the J-Class field enjoyed tactical and tight racing with only seconds separating each yacht at the finish line. In fact, *Hanuman* and *Lionheart* shared the prestigious King's 100 Guinea Cup after finishing tied on corrected time after the first race.

Lionheart, *Rainbow*, *Ranger* and *Velsheda* will compete next at the Maxi Yacht Rolex Cup in Porto Cervo, Sardinia, from 31 August to 6 September.