At the start of the 90s, asymmetric sails for controlled, high speed, downwind (well, crosswind) sailing started to take off across all boat types, from medium-performance dinghies to keelboats and offshore racers and cruisers.

J-boats responded to the trend in 1992 with the launch of the J-80, in many ways a direct competitor to the boat that started it all for them back in 1977, the J-24. Since then, some 1600 J-80s have hit the water (timeline April 2017), which mind you is still a long way behind the more than 5000 J-24s built to date.

SOL’s J-80 saw its first outing in 2011 when it was selected for a rock-hopping race through the Bohusracet archipelago of the Swedish Atlantic coast. We’ve raced her regularly on inshore tracks ever since.

Racelist