

AUGUST 14-17, 2019

4 days, 5 courses

15 fleets, 120 boats, 1,200 sailors

MEDIA RELEASE

Day 1 brings strong competition, close fleets and steady winds

Halifax's 4 Baker siblings finish first in Distance 4 fleet aboard their J/30 Just Add Water

CHESTER, NOVA SCOTIA (August 14, 2019) – While a weather front sitting off Tancook Island yesterday threatened to becalm the fleet today, the skies cleared, the sailors were enthusiastic and the wind picked up to 10-15 knots just in time to kick off Helly Hansen Chester Race Week 2019 with ideal on-the-water conditions.

“Mahone Bay came through for us as she always does,” said Dan Conrod, principal race officer for Helly Hansen Chester Race Week. “The wind picked up just in time for the races to start and we couldn’t have asked for better conditions on day one.”

[See Official Day 1 Wilsons Drone Video footage here.](#)



PHOTO: The four Baker siblings - sister Jesleine and brothers Philip, Jim and David - and crew power their J/30 *Just Add Water* to first place in the Distance Fleet at the end of day 1 of sailing at 2019 Helly Hansen Chester Race Week in Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia, Canada. (Credit: © 2019 Tim Wilkes / www.timwilkes.com,

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high-res image available on request)

Skippers came from as far away as Germany, New Mexico, California, New England, Ontario and Quebec, a testament to the event's reputation among sailors across North America and beyond. Many one design fleets were larger and more competitive than ever, including the Sonars, Bluenoses and International One Designs, most of which sail out of Chester and Lunenburg.

Conrod added that Race Week's reputation attracts some of the best sailing talent in North America and they bring their "A Game", making the competition fierce and bringing together .

"In response to constructive skipper feedback in 2018 we made the courses even more competitive this year. We're seeing a lot of new boats joining the regatta again, a sign that Helly Hansen Chester Race Week is reaching even more sailing fans across the continent."

Jesleine Baker co-owns the J/30 *Just Add Water* along with her three brothers Philip, Jim and David Baker. The siblings have been sailing together out of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron in Halifax since they were kids. Baker says her fleet is increasingly competitive and close, so it makes all the difference to get a good start and find the favoured tack. *Just Add Water* finished first in the Distance 4 fleet, skippered by her brother Philip.

"We started with light winds but it picked up quickly and we had steady air throughout the race. When you're all pretty close in speed and the wind is steady, then it's all about luck and skill," Jesleine explained. "Luckily today we had a great start and we crossed the finish line first. We have a very close fleet and we're always battling on the course to get ahead. It's a lot of fun."

On the land side, sailors with thread-bare gear and those who packed poorly took advantage of the pop-up store set up on the grounds of Chester Yacht Club by title sponsor Helly Hansen where there were brisk, early-morning sales of foul weather gear, sailing shoes and more.

DAY 1 RESULTS

Place, Yacht Name, Type, Owner/Skipper, Hometown, Results, Total Points

Bluenose (One Design - 23 Boats)

1. Wahoo, Bluenose 23, Henry Demone , Chester, NS, CAN - 4 -4 -1 -1 ; **10**
2. Privateer, Bluenose 22.5, Connor Mraz , Brooklyn, NY, USA - 12 -3 -3 -2 ; **20**
3. Dart, Bluenose 23, John Grantmyre , Halifax, NS, CAN - 8 -2 -7 -6 ; **23**

Classics (Pursuit - 8 Boats)

1. Seneca, Classic 48, David Creighton , Chester, NS, CAN - 1 ; **1**
2. Virginia, Wm Gardner Q 46, John Wurts , Chester, NS, USA - 2 ; **2**
3. Hayseed IV, Wm Gardner P 54, Christopher Wurts , Chester, NS, CAN - 3 ; **3**

Distance 1 (PHRF_ToT - 7 Boats)

1. Ramillies, Beneteau First 44.7 44.7, David Wilson , Halifax, NS, CAN - 1 ; **1**
2. Chaos, Farr 395 39.5, Mark Gosine , Halifax, NS, CAN - 2 ; **2**
3. Climax, 1D35 35, Nathan Reece , Dartmouth, NS, CAN - 3 ; **3**

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Distance 2 (PHRF_ToT - 11 Boats)

1. Young Blood, J 100 33, Larry Creaser , Chester, NS, CAN - 1 ; **1**
2. HELOC, J 35 35, Andrew Childs , Halifax, NS, CAN - 2 ; **2**
3. J'ai Tu, J 35 35, Rodney Johnstone / Gary Bennett , Storrs, CT, USA - 3 ; **3**

Distance 3 (PHRF_ToT - 9 Boats)

1. Poohsticks, J 92 30, Colin Mann , Lunenburg, NS, CAN - 1 ; **1**
2. PARADIGM SHIFT, J29 29, Don Williams , Halifax, NS, CAN - 2 ; **2**
3. Scotch Mist IV, J 29 29, Chris MacDonald , Halifax, NS, CAN - 3 ; **3**

Distance 4 (PHRF_ToT - 9 Boats)

1. Just Add Water, J 30 30, Jesleine Baker , Halifax, NS, CAN - 1 ; **1**
2. Highlander, Dealer DB-1 33, Dan Pride , Halifax, NS, Can - 2 ; **2**
3. Flux, J 30 30, Jordan MacNeil , Halifax, NS, CAN - 3 ; **3**

Distance 5 (PHRF_ToT - 7 Boats)

1. Foxy Lady, Chaser 29 29, Bob Cragg , Chester, NS, CAN - 1 ; **1**
2. Afterhours, custom 23'8, Charles Walker , Chester, Nova Scotia, CAN - 2 ; **2**
3. ON THE VERGE, C&C 32.87, steven robertson , fall river, NS, CAN - 3 ; **3**

Distance 6 (PHRF_ToT - 4 Boats)

1. sea breaker, C&C 25 25, bruce nunn , dartmouth, nova scotia, can - 1 ; **1**
2. To'Mater 3, C&C 25, Warren Webber , Rhodes Corner, NS, Canada - 2 ; **2**
3. Nesbitt, Thunderbird 25' 6, Anthony Rosborough , Halifax, NS, CAN - 3 ; **3**

Inshore 1 - J/105 (PHRF_ToT - 5 Boats)

1. McMac, J/105 34.5', Sean / Rory McDermott / MacDonald , Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, CAN - 1 -1 ; **2**
2. MOJO, J/105 34, James Mosher , Lunenburg, Select State, CAN - 2 -3 ; **5**
3. Axis, J/105 34.5, Richard Gerstenberger , Dartmouth, NS, CAN - 4 -2 ; **6**

Inshore 2 - C&C 99 (PHRF_ToT - 5 Boats)

1. Agent 99, C&C 99 33, Rob Crutcher , Bedford, NS, CAN - 1 -1 ; **2**
2. Equinox 99, C&C 99 33, Rod Straight , Halifax, NS, CAN - 2 -2 ; **4**
3. Showgirl2, C&C 99 32.5, Drew Bethune , Halifax, NS, CAN - 3 -3 ; **6**

Inshore 3 (PHRF_ToT - 7 Boats)

1. Head Games, J/29 29.5, Terry Schnare , Chester Basin, NS, CAN - 2 -1 ; **3**
2. Painkiller, J/29 29, Jane Filbee , Halifax, NS, CAN - 1 -2 ; **3**
3. Unlimited Data, Etchells 30.5 feet, Alan Chandler , Chester, NS, CAN - 3 -3 ; **6**

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Inshore 4 (PHRF_ToT - 6 Boats)

1. Hoonigan, Soling 27, Ivan Fitch , Chester, NS, CAN - 1 -1 ; **2**
2. Cheap Thrill, J/22 22, Karen Fowler , dartmouth, NS, CAN - 2 -2 ; **4**
3. Waverunner, J/24 24, Steven Countway , Halifax, NS, CAN - 3 -3 ; **6**

Sonar (One Design - 6 Boats)

1. Barbarian, Sonar 23, Rob Barbara , Halifax, NS, CAN - 1 -3 -1 ; **5**
2. Ping, Sonar 23, Andreas Josenhans , Lunenburg, Ns, Can - 2 -1 -6 ; **9**
3. Echo, Sonar 23, John Franklin , Chico, CA, USA - 3 -2 -4 ; **9**

Farr 30 (One Design - 6 Boats)

1. One More Time, Farr 30 30, Rob Gale , Halifax, Nova scotia, Can - 1 -1 -1 ; **3**
2. Totally Irresponsible, Farr 30 30, Adam Affleck , Stratford, Pei, Can - 2 -2 -6 ; **10**
3. Goose, Farr 30 30, Ben Maloney , Bedford, NS, CAN - 3 -3 -4 ; **10**

International One Design (One Design - 9 Boats)

1. Bella, IOD 36, Evan Petley-Jones , Halifax, NS, CAN - 4 -2 -1 ; **7**
2. Restless, IOD 33', Ted Murphy , Halifax, NS, CAN - 1 -6 -3 ; **10**
3. Enigma, IOD 33, Steve Bush , Los Ranchos, NM, USA - 5 -4 -2 ; **11**

About Helly Hansen Chester Race Week

Hosted by the Chester Yacht Club in the picturesque South-Shore Nova Scotia village of Chester in mid-August each year, Helly Hansen Chester Race Week is Canada's largest keelboat regatta (four days of sailing) and plays host to more than 120 boats from near and far.

Named one of Sailing World magazine's 14 greatest sailing events in North America, each August, 1,200-plus sailors arrive on Nova Scotia's scenic Mahone Bay to compete in one of 15 fleets racing simultaneously on five different race courses. Our fleets accommodate everyone from offshore big boats and one-designs, to classic wooden boats, club racers and no-spinnaker cruising boats.

Chester's sailing regattas were first documented in 1856 and, since then, tourists and locals alike have taken in the natural beauty of the area by both land and sea. A community-based, volunteer-driven event, Helly Hansen Chester Race Week boasts a full schedule of public-friendly events with live music, great food, yacht races, plus racing seminars from internationally renowned sailors, tacticians, boat builders and sailmakers. Visit www.ChesterRaceWeek.com

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