



MEDIA RELEASE

Helly Hansen Chester Race Week, Day 1

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CHESTER, NOVA SCOTIA (AUGUST 10, 2022) — Despite forecasts early in the week that called for four days of clouds and rain in Chester, the weather cleared, the sun came out, and the winds picked up.

A total of 117 boat registered for this year’s race week and the racing was still spectacular

Bluenose II sailed into Mahone Bay early in the afternoon and she’ll anchor in the bay until Friday morning.

Hayseed IV was back at Chester Race Week after a two-year hiatus because of COVID border restrictions and she took the top spot in the Classic fleet on Day 1. Skipper Derek Prest said Hayseed is in a “very happy spot” now that she’s back at Chester Race Week.

“She’s three years of being out of the water and she has a big smile on her face,” Prest said. “We did a shakedown on Saturday and everything is absolutely wonderful with the boat.”

Hayseed IV, which was designed by William Gardner and is owned by the Wurts family, celebrates her 110th birthday this year.

This year, Hayseed has 13 crew onboard with a combo of new and veteran crew. Prest has raced Hayseed at Chester for about 10 years

Prest said the conditions at Chester today were “perfect.”

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“Conditions today were perfect for the classic boats,” Prest. “We probably saw 10, 12 knots of wind out there, sometimes a little but lighter. And the sun was shining.”



*Hayseed IV won the Classics Fleet on Day 1 at Helly Hansen Chester Race Week.
Photo: Pat Nelder*

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Prest said he and the crew are looking for more of the same for the rest of the week.

“It’s looking like we may get a little bit of rain but consistency in the winds is a big thing,” Prest said. “As a classic fleet, the boats are 100 years old, so we don’t want to go out on big, windy days. If it’s blowing 20, 25 knots, we’ll probably not go off the mooring, just for the safety of the boats.

The Wurts family has been involved with the Chester classics for as long as the boats have been around.

“They’re very supportive of us,” Prest said. “They want to see the boats on the course. And, of course, Chester Yacht Club has always supported the classics fleet. We’d love to see that continue. And the Wurts family are big in Chester. They have three of these classic boats on the go and it’s just fabulous they’re supporting this.”

Here are the results for Day 1 of Chester Race Week:

Place, Yacht Name, Type, Owner/Skipper, Hometown

Bluenose (One-Design — 32 boats)

- 1. Privateer, Bluenose, Connor Mraz, Brooklyn, NY**
2. Geronimo, Bluenose, Aaron Stonehouse, Vancouver, BC
3. Rebel, Bluenose, Thomas Murphy, Chester, NS

Classics (Pursuit – 7 boats)

- 1. Hayseed IV, Wm Gardener, Christopher Wurts, Chester, NS**
2. Intrigue, Dragon, Brian Palfreyman, Mahone Bay, NS
3. Rondo, Folkboat (Nordic), Dayna Nelder, Mahone Bay, NS

Distance 1 (PHRF-ToT — 9 boats)

- 1. Ramillies, Beneteau First 44.7, David Wilson, Halifax, NS**
2. Hard Eight, Tripp 41, Savannah Taylor, Shelburne, NS
3. Blue Jay III, J/133, Matt Stoke, Canmore, Alberta

Distance 2 (PHRF-ToT — 11 boats)

- 1. Young Blood, J/100, Larry Creaser, Chester, NS**
2. Even Flow, Thomas 35, Graham Roy, Timberlea, NS
3. DogParty, J/100, Terry McKenna, Charlottetown, NS

Distance 3 (PHRF-ToT — 12 boats)

- 1. Equinox 99, C&C 99, Rod Stright, Halifax, NS**
2. Paradigm Shift, J/29, Don Williams, Halifax, NS
3. Poohsticks, J/92, Colin Mann, Second Peninsula, NS

Distance 4 (PHRF-ToT — 10 boats)

- 1. King of Normandy, C&C mK3, Francois Guitton, Halifax, NS**
2. Bare Leg, J/24, Sarah Flanagan, Halifax, NS
3. Gryphon, C&C mK2, Harry Fitzgerald, Halifax, NS

Inshore- J105 (PHRF-ToT — 5 boats)

- 1. Shipyard J/105, J105, Cpt. Bradison Boutilier, East River, NS**
2. McMac, J/105, Sean McDermott/Rory MacDonald, Dartmouth, NS
3. Jahmon, J/105, Carl Davis, Halifax, NS

Inshore — Roue 20 (5 boats)

- 1. Auster, Roue 20, Robert Merchant, Halifax, NS**
2. Preston, Roue, Gilles Comeau, Halifax, NS
3. Blue Jay, Roue 20, Edward Mussett, Halifax, NS

Inshore 1 (PHRF-ToT — 7 boats)

- 1. Apres Ski, Laser 28, Tony Thompson, Bedford, NS**
2. Colmonell, C&C 33 mK2, Scott Christie, Halifax, NS
3. Just Add Water, J30, Jesleine Baker, Halifax, NS

Sonar (One-Design — 7 boats)

1. **Barbarian, Sonar, Rob Barbara, Halifax, NS**
2. Echo, Sonar, John Franklin, Chico, California
3. Ping, Sonar, Andreas Josenhans, Lunenburg, NS

Farr 30 (One-Design — 6 boats)

1. **Headfirst3, Farr 30, Peter Toombs, Charlottetown, PEI,**
2. Second Thoughts, Farr 30, Thomas Myrden, Halifax, NS,
3. Goose, Farr, Ben Maloney, Bedford, NS

International One-Design (One-design — 6 boats)

1. **Storm, IOD, Peter Wickwire, Halifax, NS**
2. Hustler, IOD, Ivan Fitch/Casey LeBlanc, Chester, NS
3. Coachman, IOD, Dave Mosher, Chester, NS

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 racecourses. 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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