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June 2025 e-Starlights

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Honoring the Past, Leading the Future



President's Message

It's summer in the northern hemisphere and there is a lot of Star sailing happening all over the world. We had three Silver Star championships this spring: the North American Championship in Pass Christian, Mississippi in April, the European Championship in Viareggio, Italy in June and the Western Hemisphere Championship in Gibson Island, Maryland also in June. All three events had great hosts who put forth excellent race management and memorable social events ashore. Each had its own unique style, indicative of their culture and history with the Class. This variety is the spice of Star life! We are grateful to these clubs who host our events with such high standards. They, as much as the sailors, are what make the Star Class great!

At the European Championship we had an open meeting one afternoon to exchange relevant ideas and suggestions for the future. Your class leadership values your comments and suggestions.

At the same time, there have been many more local events and several National Championships. In June, I joined the Austrian Championship in Lake Worthersee with a fantastic young sailor, Julia Graber. Normally Julia races with her sister Claudia but she was willing to crew for me for this championship and that was my privilege! It's important to know that the vast majority of our members race on lakes all over the world, so it was an opportunity for me to meet many Star sailors who form the "heart and soul" of our Class. The racing itself was excellent with 5 races completed, all in steady conditions, two in 15 knots of wind. In the end, two young women stood on the podium, Julia Graber and Julia Mueller. More female sailors joining the Star is also a nice evolution. Worthersee is a beautiful lake, typical of Austria, with gentle breezes that are custom made for Star sailing. Europe is full of these lakes. But more than the conditions, it is the fraternity that they have, many sailors spanning generations, that make their Star fleets so strong.

I see growth in the Class, and I like it. I see elite sailors like Renato Conde (POR) and Tonci Stipanovich (CRO) coming to the Class. I see veterans like George Iverson(USA) and Ross Mac Donald (CAN) returning. Marcello Bellotti (BRA) and Mauricio Bueno (BRA) have bought four boats recently and are committed to bringing energy to the great Star nation of Brazil. There are countless similar stories, young and old. This is because we, all together, are a great product. The racing is challenging, the sailors exude respect for one another and compete hard, with sportsmanship, and the shoreside is fun for all...sailors and families alike.

I appreciate your passion! See you on the water!



[Paul Cayard](#)

ad Interim President, ISCYRA



2025 Star World Championship
September 8-14
Split, Croatia



2025 Star World Championship Promo video

2025 Star Worlds Website





STAR EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 2025 Viareggio - Italy, June 9 - 14

Chieffi and Colaninno Crowned 2025 Star European Champions Dominant performance in Viareggio secures title with a day to spare

After four days of demanding racing in the iconic waters of Tuscany, **Enrico Chieffi and Nando Colaninno (ITA)** have been crowned **2025 Star European Champions**, delivering a masterclass in consistency and control to wrap up the title with a race to spare. Hosted by the **Club Nautico Versilia**, the championship welcomed top teams from across Europe and beyond for a week of close-fought battles and ever-changing conditions.

Throughout the event, **conditions stayed steady and tactical**, with light-to-moderate breezes and flat seas dominating the racecourse. From the outset, Chieffi and Colaninno set the pace with crisp starts, confident decisions, and near-flawless execution. A bullet in Race 3 and a win again in Race 5 cemented their grip on the standings, and by Day 3, they had built an unassailable lead — allowing them to celebrate victory even before Saturday's final race.


The last day of racing still offered a dramatic finale, with light 5-knot winds challenging the fleet

and demanding patience and precision. **Paul Cayard and George Iverson (USA)** capitalized, taking the win in the seventh and final race after leading from the first mark. They were followed by **Renato Conde (POR) with Taavi Taveter (EST)** and **Giovanni Coppo (ITA) with Frithjof Kleen (GER)**, rounding out a diverse and international podium for the final heat.

Behind the champions, the race for the overall podium was tight. **Olympic medalist Tonci Stipanovic (CRO) with Tudor Bilic (CRO)** claimed second overall, thanks to consistent top-five finishes, while **Conde/Taveter** secured third. **Paul Cayard/George Iverson** finished just off the podium in fourth, with **Diego Negri/Sergio Lambertenghi (ITA)** climbing to fifth thanks to a strong final-day performance.

The 2025 Star European Championship not only celebrated world-class competition but also the spirit of the Star Class — where experience, tradition, and passion converge. A festive prize-giving ceremony at Club Nautico Versilia brought the event to a close, recognizing the achievements of all competitors and the tireless effort of the organizers and volunteers.

Final Top 5 (7 races, 1 discard):

-  **1 Enrico Chieffi / Nando Colaninno (ITA)**
-  **2 Tonci Stipanovic / Tudor Bilic (CRO)**
-  **3 Renato Conde / Taavi Taveter (POR/EST)**
-  **4 Paul Cayard / George Iverson (USA)**
-  **5 Diego Negri / Sergio Lambertenghi (ITA)**

Full results:

[Here](#)

Event website:

<https://euro.starchampionships.org/>



JACK JENNINGS & PEDRO TROUCHE WIN NORTH AMERICANS



Jennings and Trouche Claim Title After Four Days of Tactical Battles in Mississippi

Pass Christian, Mississippi – April 13, 2025

The 2025 **Star North American Championship** has come to a close after four intense days of racing hosted by **Pass Christian Yacht Club**, where sailors faced a complete range of conditions — from light air and strong currents to heavy gusts and wind shifts that tested even the most seasoned teams. After seven fiercely contested races, it was **Jack Jennings (USA)** and **Pedro Trouche (BRA)** who emerged victorious, crowned **2025 North American Champions** by a narrow margin.

The event gathered top Star sailors on the **Mississippi Sound**, offering both scenic waters and high-stakes tactical sailing. Jennings and Trouche impressed from the start, posting solid scores across the board and showing remarkable consistency in a fleet stacked with experience. Their win was anything but easy: **George Szabo and Guy Avellon (USA)**, as well as **Paul Cayard and Luke Lawrence (USA)**, stayed within striking distance all week. Ultimately, just three points separated the


top three teams, highlighting the high level of competition throughout.

The opening days saw moderate conditions with tight tactical racing and fast downwinds, while Friday's racing was marked by stronger breeze and rapid-fire decisions. Saturday — the final day — brought the most unpredictable weather yet.

The breeze fluctuated wildly in direction and intensity, with Race 7 starting in a northerly but quickly becoming a tactical minefield as the wind spun across nearly 180 degrees. Despite the challenges, the Race Committee managed to get one final race off, won by **Will Stout and Danny Cayard**, with **Cayard/Lawrence** close behind in second.



Attempts to complete Race 8 were ultimately thwarted by relentless wind shifts and the threat of nearby reefs, forcing the Race Committee to abandon the final race as the clock ran out.

Final Standings (7 races, 1 discard):

-  **Jack Jennings (USA) / Pedro Trouche (BRA)**
-  **George Szabo / Guy Avellon (USA)**
-  **Paul Cayard / Luke Lawrence (USA)**

The **Pass Christian Yacht Club** received praise across the fleet for its warm hospitality and commitment to running a world-class regatta, despite the meteorological challenges.

With the North Americans now complete, attention turns to the **Star European Championship** and the **Western Hemisphere Championship**, both taking place in June and promising another round of elite Star Class competition.

 **Full Results:** [NextSailor Results Page](#)
 **Event Website:** na.starchampionships.org





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Executive Director's Report

Friends....

Last week I had the opportunity to sail in both the Italian national championships in Marina di Carrara, and also the Star European championships in Viareggio, Italy. After the regattas, I had the opportunity to visit Mandello del Lario. On my way back to Milan. I stopped in a restaurant along the way and was enjoying a few slices of the local pizza. As I was finishing up an a gentleman approached me and we struck up a conversation. He noticed I was wearing a regatta shirt from the European championship. He introduced himself as Luca Zanotta and we proceeded to talk about Star boat Sailing. Luca, no longer sails but we reminisced about his various helms over the years, specifically mentioning his father as well as Vincenzo Locatelli and others. I later confirmed that Luca was also one of Cicio Canali's first sailing instructors,. As we were completing our discussion, I noticed that Luca was becoming emotional... actually having tears. Luca shared how much he missed Star Sailing, but more importantly, his friends and competitors.

Of course, we can all relate to this sentiment. I thought to myself this is natural as we reminisced about this incredible Star family and fraternity. Yes it is alive and well. I asked that you please take the time to get out there and experience this again for yourself. Whether sailing in your local fleet or traveling across an ocean for new and different experiences.

Share the Star spirit.

See you on the water -

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ann Hedley", is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Mike Hecky
Executive Director



2025 Dues

[RENEW HERE](#)

The Class Management Committee (CMC) set membership fees as shown below:

ACTIVE			ASSOCIATE		
	<i>Boat owner</i>			<i>Non owner, crew</i>	
Junior	>20 yrs < 30 yrs	\$75	Youth	< 20 yrs	\$25
Senior	>= 30 yrs < 50 yrs	\$150	Junior	>20 yrs < 30 yrs	\$25
Master	>= 50 yrs < 60 yrs	\$150	Senior	>= 30 yrs < 50 yrs	\$75
Grand Master	>= 60 yrs < 70 yrs	\$150	Master	>= 50 yrs < 60 yrs	\$75
Exalted Grand Master	>= 70 yrs	\$150	Grand Master	>= 60 yrs < 70 yrs	\$75
			Exalted Grand Master	>= 70 yrs	\$75





SEA Program News

Hello fellow Star sailors,

The SEA program has had a busy spring and beginning to the summer.

Starting off with the North American's at Pass Christian yacht club, we had two boats racing in the very tough fleet. This was another amazingly well hosted event by the locals and volunteers of the club providing such a welcoming atmosphere to go along with the tricky racing.

From the NA's we then brought three boats to the Western Hemisphere's which were just recently completed in Gibson Island. Another great event in a historic venue. The real story here is the mentality and proactiveness of some of our local fleet members in the Chesapeake area. We want to give a special shout out to those that asked and also made things happen for this event. Alan Campbell, Matt Rajacich, and Zach Hansman. You three really embodied the spirit of the SEA program and deserve a round of applause. These three helped in their own ways and are part of what makes the class is what it is and is great hands for the future.

Alan and Matt both reached out after Bacardi to see if we could bring boats up for the summer for the Westerns and then stay there for the summer and the other local

events hoping to get new people in the boat and fall in love with the Star. They also are stewards of the boats, providing storage and working on them between events.

Zach, the owner of muffin man transport, has a very sweet double boat flatbed and truck to move boats around. This is awesome! Zach has all the right stuff, is very meticulous about getting the boats setup on the trailer and a great communicator about his timing. If you need to move your boat on the east coast, please consider him. He has started his own company, is a young member of the class and wants to do more!

If you're in the Chesapeake area this summer and want to get a ride, please contact Alan, Matt or Committee member Bobby Lippincott.

With the summer happening and not so much racing, the SEA Program will do our annual maintenance of the fleet and get ready for the next winter series.

We are continuously thankful for all of the help and support that this initiative is given. We are confident that this is the right way forward. Helping people get into the class, asking for them to care for the boats as if it were theirs and in turn giving back to the program in the ways they can. It's not always about the money! Remember to give your young, new and old class peers a helping hand. Whether that be with the trailer, some tape, the crane or even a compass.

We're all in this together.

SEA Committee
Jack VanderMolen
Bobby Lippincott
Kilian Weise
Pedro Trouche
Elizabeth Escalera
Danny Cayard



ISCYRA and G&B Ropes

G&B Ropes is joining ranks of the Star Class to support the Class through the G&B Ropes Regatta Manager, which assists in the presence of the Star Class Regatta Manager at our major Gold & Silver events.

Recognizing the importance of reliability and consistency, much like their various brands of rope, this partnership will keep the Star Class racing strong. Tim Ray, the President of G&B Ropes, commented, "We believe a successful regatta is based on strength, durability, and the right partnership. As a proud sponsor of the Star Class, we're excited to support the spirit of competition and innovation that drives Star sailors to push the limits of performance. G&B Ropes is committed to support the excellence that the Star Class represents."

Thank you G&B Ropes for your support!





2025 Western Hemisphere Championship
GEORGE SZABO & GUY AVELLON WINNERS
June 12-15 - Gibson Island Yacht Club

Gibson Island delivers classic Star conditions for one of the most prestigious titles in the hemisphere

The 2025 Star Western Hemisphere Championship came to a close on Sunday after three days of tight and tactical racing hosted by the Gibson Island Yacht Squadron on the Chesapeake Bay. The regatta, part of the historic Star Class calendar, attracted many of North America's finest teams, culminating in a well-deserved victory for George Szabo and Guy Avellon.

Szabo and Avellon delivered an outstanding performance across the seven-race series, counting five top-2 finishes, including four bullets, and discarding only one mid-fleet result. Their consistent dominance secured them the championship with a total of 8 points after discard — a commanding lead over the rest of the fleet.

In second place, John Loe and Olympic veteran Phil Trinter sailed a solid series with a string of

top-5 finishes, closing out the regatta with 17 points. Rounding out the podium were Arthur Anosov and David Caesar, who took third overall with 23 points, including a win in Race 3 and strong early performances.

The event featured classic Chesapeake Bay conditions — light to moderate breeze, tidal strategy, and close mark roundings — offering a true test of skill and experience in the one-design fleet.

Final Top 5 Standings:

1. George Szabo / Guy Avellon – 8 pts
2. John Loe / Phil Trinter – 17 pts
3. Arthur Anosov / David Caesar – 23 pts
4. Thomas Londrigan / Mike Farmer – 24 pts
5. William Swigart / Brian Fatih – 33 pts

The championship began with a practice day and welcome ceremony, followed by three days of racing under the guidance of a professional race committee. Post-race socials and the final prizegiving ceremony capped off a spirited and competitive event.

The Star Class now turns its attention to the upcoming World Championship in September with more than 100 entries, as the global fleet continues to build momentum.

Full results:

<https://theclubspot.com/regatta/86Ewp5fBt9/results>

Event page:

<https://whc.starchampionships.org/>





Want the winning combination? [Click here](#) to discover the secrets behind John Kostecki and Austin Sperry's 2024 World Championship victory. Learn how dynamic sails, expert training, and raw talent carried them to the top of the podium. Contact Quantum Sails for the same support—plus the latest tuning insights and tweaks that helped sailors go faster at the challenging San Diego World Championship. We're proud to support you and honored to be your sailmaker.

George Szabo | gszabo@quantumsails.com | 619-226-2422

Vittorio d'Albertas | vdalbertas@quantumsails.com

Alexandre Paradedda | alexandre@quantumsails.com





Star Legacy Foundation

The Legacy Foundation is a not for profit exempt Supporting Organization under the auspices of the Star Class. It was originally launched in 2015 through the inspired work of Larry Whipple who led the organization until March 1, 2025. With Larry's transition and Alberto Zanetti's decision to rotate off the board, the Legacy Foundation is now led by Don Parfet and Class Executive Director, Mike Hecky. The entire board is currently comprised by the following trustees and advisors.

Don Parfet & Mike Hecky, co-Board Chairman
Fritjhof Kleen, Board Secretary
Don Parfet, Board Treasurer
Austin Sperry, Trustee
Tonko Barac, Trustee
Juan Pablo Percossi, Advisory Board Member
Fabio Prada, Advisory Board Member

Mission Statement ISCYRA Legacy Foundation:

The Star Legacy Foundation's mission is to ensure the enduring legacy of Star Class sailboat racing by providing a dedicated channel for contributions that will fuel the class's long-term growth, global influence, and continued promotion and development for generations to come.

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2025 Major Regatta Calendar

watch the Star Class website for updates.

2025	World Championship	Gold	Sept 8-14	Split, CRO
2025	Western Hemisphere	Silver	June 8-13	Gibson Island, MD
2025	Eastern Hemisphere	Silver		<i>not to be held</i>
2025	European Championship	Silver	June 11-15	Viareggio, ITA
2025	North American	Silver	April 8-12	Pass Christian, Mississippi
2025	South American	Silver	Dec 4-12	Ilhabela, Brazil



2026 Major Regatta Calendar

watch the Star Class website for updates.

2026	World Championship	Gold	Nov 12-21	Miami, FL, USA
2026	Western Hemisphere	Silver	May 20-24	Gull Lake, MI, USA
2026	Eastern Hemisphere	Silver		
2026	European Championship	Silver	Aug 24-29	Medemblik, NED
2026	North American	Silver	Oct 24-29	Davis Island, Tampa, FL
2026	South American	Silver		Buenos Aires, ARG





**Back-to-back two-time Star World Champion
Diego Negri, trusts Fritz Sails!**

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