

SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2024



Presented by:



Never Surrender is excited to return to Northern Minnesota for the 2nd Annual Tomassoni Tour - Cycle for ALS in the fall of 2024. This fundraising event will further help in the fight against Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS).

Join us September 19-21 for a weekend on the beautiful Mesabi Trail. Cyclists will lodge at Fortune Bay Resort Casino in Tower, MN Thursday-Saturday and ride either the full tour (60 miles/day) or half tour (30 miles/day) on Friday and Saturday. All meals, transportation, trail support, programming, and entertainment is included with a \$1,000 fundraising minimum. E-Bikes are welcome!

www.TomassoniTour.com

Questions? Contact: Julie@NeverSurrenderInc.org

ABOUT THE **TOMASSONI TOUR**

AND NEVER SURRENDER INC



Honoring MN State Senator David Tomassoni

No one has done more to raise awareness of ALS than MN State Senator, David Tomassoni. He left a lasting legacy of helping those with ALS and their families. His ability to secure \$25 million for research and care for Minnesotans living with ALS has been a benefit to so many. We were blessed that he joined our fight against ALS and proud that we could call him our friend. We want to continue his legacy and one day, we hope to end ALS.



Scan to watch a video about Tomassoni

Never Surrender Inc.
Funding the Fight Against ALS

Never Surrender Inc. is a non-profit organization based in Hermantown, Minnesota that hosts 3 annual outdoor fundraising events to raise money for ALS: The Black Woods Blizzard Tour, The Kolar Toyota Fishing Tournament, & The Tomassoni Tour.

To date, Never Surrender has raised \$23.8 million.

Never Surrender Inc.'s Mission: We will focus on charitable activities for the purposes of raising money to fight ALS and help people with ALS and their families.

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TOMASSONI TOUR

CYCLE FOR ALS



FULL RIDE

**Trail or E- Bike
Limited to 35 Cyclists**

For cyclists interested in a longer 2-day ride.
120 miles over 2 days.
(60 miles per day)

HALF RIDE

**Trail or E- Bike
Limited to 40 Cyclists**

For cyclists looking for a more relaxed ride.
60 miles over 2 days.
(30 miles per day)

VIRTUAL

Not able to make it?

Join us virtually and qualify for incentive prizes.

INCENTIVES

We award prizes to our top 5 fundraisers, as well as the following incentives for all riders who reach these fundraising goals:

Raise \$1500: Rider Gift

Raise \$2000: \$200 Gift Card to Amazon, Super One or Ski Hut

Raise \$4,000: \$400 Gift Card to Amazon, Super One or Ski Hut

FUNDRAISING

\$1,000 MINIMUM



Raise a minimum of \$1,000--We are here to help!

Did you know the average Tomassoni Tour Rider raises over \$2,300 a year?

A non-refundable \$200 deposit is due upon registration.

RAFFLES

Raffles are available throughout the year. Tickets can be picked up at Duluth Lawn & Sport during regular business hours: 4715 Grand Ave Duluth, MN. You can also email julie@neversurrenderinc.org to make other arrangements. Every ticket you sell counts towards **your** fundraising total! (Hack: give them as gifts or sell them at an event) Participants selling raffle tickets must turn in all sold and unsold tickets in a sealed raffle ticket envelope at event check-in or before the drawing takes place, *whichever comes first*.

- **Calendar Raffle | \$50 a ticket**
 - Winners can win more than once. 50 - \$500 cash prizes & 50 Ruger guns.
- **SeaDoo with Trailer, Polaris RZR or \$10,000 Cash | \$10 a ticket**

& MORE!

We offer several ideas and tools to help with fundraising:

- **Facebook Fundraising**
 - Ask friends and family for online donations that go directly toward your fundraising total.
- **Company Matching**
 - Does your workplace offer matching dollars for financial donations or volunteer time?
- **Letter Templates**
 - There are a variety of email and mail templates on our website to send to friends and family. www.TomassoniTour.com
- **Host a Fundraising Event**
 - Find a list of fundraising ideas on our website (titled A-Z fundraising). Consider partnering up with another cyclist.
- **Participant Center**
 - After you register, you are invited to personalize a personal webpage (Participant Center). Simply share the link to your Participant Center via social media, email, etc. and ask friends and family for support.

HOW TO SUBMIT \$

Raffle ticket sales, event proceeds, cash donations, and check donations (made payable to Never Surrender Inc) can be mailed to Never Surrender Inc. Attn: Julie Jacobson 4894 Miller Trunk Hwy Hermantown, MN 55811 or dropped off in a sealed/marked envelope at the bowling counter of Skyline Social & Games in Hermantown. You **MUST** return all sold AND UNSOLD raffle tickets at the time of event check-in or before the drawing takes place - *Whichever comes first*.

TOMASSONI TOUR Q&A

WILL THE TOUR BE CANCELLED IN THE EVENT OF POOR WEATHER CONDITIONS?

We will never cancel our fundraiser. In the event of lightening, we would first postpone the tour by 30 minutes until the weather became favorable. If weather conditions do not allow us to ride, we will have organized activities at the hotel, such as a Bags Tournament.

CAN MY FRIEND OR SPOUSE COME ALONG FOR THE WEEKEND?

Yes! Please indicate during the registration process that you would like to share a room with a non-participant. You will be invoiced for half of your room cost (The Tomassoni Tour will still pay for your half) and all of your guest's meals, should they choose to dine with us. Fundraising dollars cannot be used for this.

HOW LONG DOES THE TOUR TAKE?

The tour is not a race. Most participants ride at a leisurely pace. Historically, the half ride tour rides from 9-11am and the full tour rides from 9am-1pm each day.

DO E-BIKES FOLLOW THE SAME ROUTE AS TRADITIONAL BIKES?

Yes. All full tour cyclists will start/end together and all half tour cyclists will start/end together, regardless of bike type. The route will be posted when it is finalized.

WHAT IS THE MESABI TRAIL LIKE?

The Mesabi Trail is not a rail to trail conversion. There are a number of hills and turns. Some sections of trail are secluded and other sections of trail go through town. Please be aware that there are road crossings and we do not stop traffic for our event. Shelter, water/snack stations, and restroom facilities are available along the tour and will be marked. Expect breathtaking views that can only be seen from the trail!

WHAT CAN I EXPECT IN THE AFTERNOON?

Some participants choose to go back to the hotel to clean up after lunch, while some choose to stay and explore the area. We provide shuttles for both. At 3pm, we open our "hospitality room", which is stocked with complimentary snacks and beverage (alcoholic and non-alcoholic). Enjoy getting to know the other cyclists. Please see the itinerary for more information.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO AFTER I REGISTER?

We take care of hotel and meal reservations on your behalf. All you need to do after registration is set up your participant center and start fundraising! You can expect email communication from Never Surrender, Inc. about fundraising milestones, our annual Open House Party, Tour updates, etc. If you have any questions at any time, please contact Julie@NeverSurrenderInc.org.

WHAT DO I NEED TO PACK?

We will provide all meals and snacks and drinks along the trail. Pack your bike, proper footwear, a helmet (required), a water bottle that fits in your bike, a charger if you have an e-bike, and layered clothing. We also suggest sunscreen and cushioned cycling shorts/pants.

TOMASSONI TOUR SAFETY & EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

EACH TOMASSONI TOUR PARTICIPANT SIGNS A WAIVER AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO REVIEW OUR SAFETY AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.

- When in doubt ALWAYS call 911 first. The trail is accessible to emergency vehicles
- Our traveling Tomassoni Tour EMTs will shadow riders from the highway and can be reached by phone
- First aid supplies are available at rest stations
- A Google map of the Mesabi Trail is available at mesabitrail.com - Mesabi Trail mile markers are on the map to assist 911 in locating incidents
- Please be aware of your location, should you need to call for assistance
- Rider Drop Out: If a rider feels they cannot finish, call a coordinator to arrange transportation
- Thunderstorms: If you see lightning or hear thunder - Leave the trail and seek shelter (Each rest stop has shelter available. Don't return to the trail until 30 minutes after the last crack of thunder)
- Mechanical Repair is available by phone
- A "sweep" will be following the last riders - they are available by phone
- Incident Report Forms: In the case of an accident, injury or any notable incident - contact Julie Jacobson or Corey Kolquist so we can fill out a report
- Weather delays - we will send a mass text message if we are requiring people to shelter at the nearest aid station
- This is a tour, not a race
- Travel with traffic on the right side of the road
- NO pace lines
- Everyone is required to wear a helmet
- We do not stop vehicle traffic at road crossings - Yield to motor vehicles.
- You will encounter 2-way bike traffic on the trail
- The trail is not closed for our event
- Treat the trail like a highway - Stay to your right
- Pass on the left - Announce your presence: "On your left"
- If possible, bike with your cell phone and carry the emergency contact information card

CALL 911 FOR MAJOR INCIDENTS

Call our EMS for minor medical needs

Ask volunteers at rest stations for basic medical supplies (Band-Aids)

Call Dave (Ski Hut) for mechanical needs

Call Corey for drop-out, or general needs/concerns

TOMASSONI TOUR SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER 19-21

Our home base will be Fortune Bay Resort Casino, Tower, MN.

Remember -- your \$1,000 fundraising minimum covers your lodging, meals, and more!

All times below are subject to slight changes.

THURSDAY

- **Check In | 3:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**

- Participants will arrive at Fortune Bay Resort Casino and drop off their bikes at the Ski Hut tent outside of the hotel before proceeding indoors to the Tomassoni Tour check-in table, where they will turn in any remaining funds/raffle tickets, choose incentive prizes, and get their hotel key.

Each registration includes double-occupancy lodging. We have booked a room for you and have assigned you a roommate if one was not requested. Spouses/significant others not participating are able to stay in your room. However, you must indicate this when you register for the Tour and you will be responsible for the additional cost.

- **Social Hour (Cash Bar) - Woodlands Ballroom, Fortune Bay Resort Casino | 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.**
- **Dinner - Woodlands Ballroom, Fortune Bay Resort Casino | 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.**
- **Welcome Program & Ride Details | 7:30 p.m.**

FRIDAY

Cyclists will ride the beautiful Mesabi Trail, located in Northern Minnesota. We will include transportation for both you and your bike.

- **Continental Breakfast Downstairs | 7:00 - 8:30 a.m.**
- **Ride Start | 9:00 a.m.**
 - Water & Snack Stations along the trail
- **Lunch Station Open from 11:00 - 1:00 on the Trail**
- **Hospitality Room Open - Sumac Room | 3:00 - 4:45 p.m.**
- **Brief Meeting in Woodlands Ballroom | 4:45 p.m.**
- **Social Hour (Cash Bar) at the Lake | 5:00 p.m.**
- **Traditional Northern Minnesota Outdoor Walleye Fish Fry | 5:45 p.m.**
- **Live Entertainment by Deuces Wild in Woodlands Ballroom | 7:00 p.m.**

SATURDAY

Continue your ride on the Mesabi Trail, you will see different parts of the trail from yesterday. We will include transportation for both you and your bike.

- **Continental Breakfast Downstairs | 7:00 - 8:30 a.m.**
- **Ride Start | 9:00 a.m.**
 - Water & Snack Stations along the Trail
- **Lunch Station open from 11:00 - 1:00 on the Trail**
- **Hospitality Room Open - Sumac Room | 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.**
- **Social Hour | 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.**
- **Dinner | 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. (Silent Auction closes at 7pm)**
- **Thank You Program and Unveiling of our Fundraising Total | 7:15 - 8:30 p.m.**
- **Live Entertainment | 8:45 p.m.**

SUNDAY

- **Continental Breakfast Downstairs | 7:00 - 9:00 a.m.**
- **Check out by 11:00 a.m.**