

Never Surrender Inc.

Funding the Fight Against ALS

JULY 2026
NEVER SURRENDER INC
ALS NEWSLETTER



HOPE DRIVES LIFE

At Never Surrender Inc., we have one goal, and that is to help people live with ALS. Our organization was built when one of our family members, Kevin Kolquist, was diagnosed with ALS. Kevin always said, "hope drives life," and that is what we aim to do at Never Surrender.

We offer three VIP experiences where our fundraising participants combine their passion for fighting ALS with a passion for the great outdoors: Black Woods Blizzard Tour, Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament, and Tomassoni Tour - Cycle for ALS.

We will continue to push fundraising limits in hopes of ending this disease. We will *Never Surrender to ALS*.

**MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
HAVE FUN. REGISTER
TODAY.**



Tomassoni Tour
September 17 - 19, 2026



Black Woods Blizzard Tour
February 10 - 13, 2027



Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament
June 4 - 5, 2027

Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament Recap

The 31st annual Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament held on May 30th raised over \$302,000. This brings the all-time amount raised to over \$5 million to fund the fight against ALS! This event is the event that started the legacy of Never Surrender, Inc, a non-profit based in Duluth, MN.



There were 110 two-person teams fishing on Island Lake, while 7 people fished in the virtual tournament. This year's top finishers are reigning champions, John Yankowiak of Duluth and teammate Cory Nelson of Barnum. This duo caught six fish, totaling 129.0 inches of walleye. The single longest walleye coming in at 27.25 inches was a tie for first between Yankowiak and Nelson as well as Andy Jonas of Cloquet with partner Allie Jonas of Barnum. Kraig and Hayden Anderson of Superior kept their crown once again for catching the longest stringer of 5 bass. Their tally was 95.5 inches of fish. This father – son duo came to a tie for first place of the longest single bass with Will Johnson of Two Harbors and partner Zak Schwienher of Superior. Both pairs of anglers caught a bass of 20.00 inches long.

Anglers fundraise throughout the year in support of those who are living with ALS. The event's silent and live auctions as well as crucial support from sponsors contributed to the event's success. Event organizers extend their gratitude to the community and surrounding areas. With the funds raised, Never Surrender Inc will be able to continue to fund first-class ALS treatment trials, research and direct care support to individuals and families.

About the organization: The Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament is one of the premiere events that raises money for Never Surrender Inc, the organization that donates the fundraising dollars to the medical community and individuals living with ALS. ALS is a progressive neuro-degenerative disease that affects the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. ALS usually strikes people between the ages of 40 – 70, but it can strike anyone at any time. Although there is no cure or treatment yet, we are committed to helping these families in need. Together, we will Never Surrender to ALS.



Scan to view photos of the 2026
Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing
Tournament!



CYCLIST SPOTLIGHT



My wife, Kris, and I have been actively supporting the fight against ALS for the past four years. It all began when I attended the Icolon Classic for ALS golf outing. That event opened my eyes to the devastating impact of this disease. A few months later, a friend invited me to the Never Surrender snowmobile celebration. Both Kris and I were deeply moved—not only by what we learned about ALS, but also by the incredible support and hope that Never Surrender provides to individuals and families affected by this disease.

At our second Never Surrender event, I learned about the annual fall bike ride fundraiser and decided to take on the challenge. While training for the 100-mile, two-day ride, my brother-in-law's sister lost her battle with ALS. Her passing made the cause even more personal. My brother-in-law joined me for the ride, and together we've completed it for the past two years. We're both looking forward to riding again this year.

One thing that has surprised me throughout this journey is how many people have been touched by ALS. Every time I share why I'm riding and raising funds, someone tells me about a family member, friend, or coworker who has been affected. Most recently, a coworker shared that his sister had passed away from ALS. These conversations remind me just how widespread and heartbreaking this disease truly is.

The more I learn about ALS, the more motivated I become to support the search for better treatments and, ultimately, a cure. Every mile ridden and every dollar raised brings us one step closer to making a difference for families facing this devastating disease.

-Mark Fenlon

There's still time to join us for an unforgettable weekend of riding!
Register today for the Tomassoni Tour—Secure your spot before they're gone!
September 17–19, 2026 | Giants Ridge



New Opportunity—Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the first 25 new riders who register will receive a \$200 rider credit added to their account. What's in it for you? Your name will be entered in a drawing for a \$500 Ski Hut gift card for EACH person you refer!

First pitch!



ALS Patient Todd Lauer Delivers Ceremonial First Pitch for Lou Gehrig's Day

As part of the celebration honoring Lou Gehrig's Day on June 2, 2026, ALS patient Todd Lauer was invited to the ballpark to deliver the ceremonial first pitch before the evening game against the Chicago White Sox.

For Todd, who had celebrated his 60th birthday just a few days earlier, the opportunity was a true "bucket list experience." Todd shared that he felt both "honored and humbled" to take part in such a meaningful event.

Todd's participation helped shine a light on the ongoing fight against ALS and brought meaningful recognition to those impacted by the disease. Surrounded by fans, players, and supporters, Todd proudly kicked off the night with an unforgettable moment on the field.

Lou Gehrig's Day continues to raise awareness for ALS, celebrate the legacy of those living with the disease, and support efforts toward research and treatment.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Date	Event	Location	Details
August 6, 2026	David Tomassoni ALS Golf Scramble	Fortune Bay Resort & Casino-Wilderness Golf Course	Join us for the 5th annual David Tomassoni ALS Golf Scramble. 11:00 shotgun start at Fortune Bay, silent auction, walleye dinner to follow with the band Brody and the Bootleggers performing. \$50 dinner fee. Contact sonifightsals@outlook.com for more info.
August 9, 2026	Bloody Bash Bloody Mary & Beer Snit Competition	Skyline Social & Games Hermantown, MN	Beer, bloodies, and the Northwood's Band! The 5th Annual Bloody Bash is back on the decks at Skyline Social & Games. From 11am-4pm, local bars and restaurants will compete for top honors in 3 Bloody Mary & Beer Snit Competitions. Tickets are \$25 in advance. All proceeds from the event & bar sales will be donated to Never Surrender Inc.
August 22, 2026	Poker Run Fundraiser	Swampsiders Snowmobile & ATV Club Big Fork, MN	Ride starts at 10am from Swampsiders Snowmobile & ATV Club or Rileys Cannibal Junction. This ride is welcome to ATV, UTV, Cars and Motorcycles. All proceeds from the cause will go to Never Surrender Inc. and the Northern Lights Foundation.
August 22, 2026	Ride, Raffle and Roll	Timber Hall Embarrass, MN	This event is hosted by Travis Erickson and is \$20 a person out of Embarrass, MN. Contact 218-780-8944 for more info.
September 26, 2026	6th Annual Ride It to Cure It ALS Poker Run	The Squirrel Cage Bar & Grill Willow River, MN	All Wheels are welcome! Registration from 8:00 to 10:30am at the Squirrel Cage in Willow River, MN. Cost is \$25 per Poker Sheet and includes a dinner after the ride. All stops are accessible by road or trail. Payout to the top three hands. All Proceeds from this event will benefit those living with ALS.

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Hosting a fundraiser to support a Never Surrender Inc event? Let us know! Send us your event information, and we'll help promote it by adding it to our website.

Contact us with event info or questions! info@neversurrenderinc.org



You can also check out our upcoming community events
by scanning the QR code or visiting
www.neversurrenderinc.org



February 10-13, 2027

Scan the QR code to register today!

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Thank you to the Never Surrender Family for your continued support in the Fight against ALS by participating in our Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament, Tomassoni Tour, and Black Woods Blizzard Tour.

Donate Items – Contribute items, services or experiences to our event auctions or swag bags!
If you know a business willing to donate an item, let us know.

Volunteer Your Time – Share your skills or lend a hand at Never Surrender Inc. events. Every hour makes a difference!

Make a Donation – Your gift helps Fund the Fight against ALS. Check if your employer offers matching gifts to double or triple your impact.

Plan Your Legacy – Include Never Surrender, Inc. in your estate planning to ensure the fight against ALS continues.

**Get involved today! Contact us at info@neversurrenderinc.org or visit NeverSurrenderInc.org.
Together we will Never Surrender to ALS!**

