

The Officers, Directors and Members of  
US SAILING  
**are pleased to present the**  
ARTHUR B. HANSON RESCUE MEDAL  
to  
RICHARD HANNEMAN AND CHRIS LUPPENS  
**For the Rescue that Follows:**

On the 10th of November 2006 the J/22 Class was participating in a circuit regatta held by the Houston Yacht Club on Galveston Bay. The winds were 15-20 knots, the chop was two to three feet, the air and water temperatures were in the 50s. Hanneman and Luppens were serving as judges, using a 25-powerboat as their platform.

From a distance of about 300 yards, Hanneman noticed an object in the water that seemed out of place. Upon closer inspection, they determined that it was a capsized jon boat and that people were struggling in the cold water.

It appeared to Hanneman and Luppens that the two adults and two children were having difficulty righting their vessel, and after notifying the Race Committee they pulled the victims from the water and transported them to safety ashore. The jon boat was later recovered.

The effective lookout and quick actions of Hanneman and Luppens, combined with their successfully executed man overboard recovery efforts resulted in the rescue of four souls in need, and reflected great credit upon themselves, while upholding the best traditions of seamanship.

US SAILING is proud to present the Arthur B. Hanson Medal in recognition of their accomplishment.

Alan McMillan  
Chairman, Safety at Sea Committee  
By Direction



The Hanson Medal was awarded to Richard Hanneman and Chris Luppens at Houston Yacht Club by US SAILING Board of Director Member Jim Tichenor on April 1, 2007.

Date of Incident: 11/10/2006  
Event Name: J22 Circuit Regatta  
Sponsoring Yacht Club: Houston Yacht Club  
Event City: Shoreacres  
Event State: TX  
Body of Water: Galveston Bay  
Was this day or night: Day (early afternoon)  
Air temperature: 55

Water temperature: 57  
Wind speed: 18  
Wave height: 2  
First Victims Name: Unknown  
First Boat Length: ~14'  
First Boat Make Model: aluminum jonboat w/ deckhouse  
Was a PFD worn: adults N, children yes  
What type1: 3  
What type2: 3  
Rescuing Skipper 1: Richard Hanneman and Chris Luppens  
Rescuing Boat Make Model: Mako 25  
Rescuing Boat Name: Judges boat  
Rescuing Boat Length: 25  
What was the nature of this incident: Overturned boat  
What recovery method was used: Power boat  
Did the victims boat lose site of the victim: No - overturned  
What search pattern was used: Direct visual about 300 yards  
Was electronic MOB function used to locate the victim: NO  
Was a rescue swimmer put in the water: N  
Did the victim have a strobe light or whistle: N  
What color clothes were visible above the water: dark  
Was the victim able to help in the recovery: yes  
Was any injury sustained by the victim: mild hypothermia  
Was a Lifesling aboard: N  
How much time did the victim spend in the water: 8-15 minutes  
Did a Mayday call go out: Notified race committee  
Who responded: Judges boat was able to handle alone.  
Nominators Name: James S Tyson  
Can your story be published: Y  
Can you provide articles about this event: N  
What happened: As Dick Hanneman and Chris Luppens, both U.S. Sailing Judges in Texas, were out on the water keeping the J22s honest, Dick spotted something in the water looking like a large, odd-shaped log. When they made their way over to it, they discovered it was 4 people next to an overturned boat. The two pulled the two male children and two male adults onboard and took them to the yacht club.  
How did the victim get hoisted onto the deck: Hoisted over transom  
What type hypothermia included: mild