

# 2026 PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY



College of Science,  
Technology,  
Engineering &  
Mathematics



# ABOUT PBR



Penguin Baja Racing (PBR) is a high-performing student competition team from Youngstown State University, dedicated to providing immersive, hands-on engineering experiences.

Using a full-cycle design approach, PBR members engage in research, CAD modeling, structural analysis, manufacturing, and rigorous testing to build a custom off-road vehicle from the ground up.

Each year, the team competes on the global stage at Baja SAE events, going head-to-head with internationally renowned engineering programs. PBR has consistently ranked among the best, placing within the top 10 in the Engineering Design category since 2022.

Beyond technical excellence, PBR fosters critical skills in teamwork, leadership, and project management—equipping YSU engineering students for success in the professional world.



**Baja SAE offers engineering students a dynamic, hands-on challenge:**

**Design and build a durable off-road vehicle capable of conquering extreme terrain.**

Baja SAE challenges engineering students to design and build an off-road vehicle that will survive the severe punishment of rough terrain. As in real work situations, these future engineers work together as a team to discover and resolve technical challenges in design, test, and manufacturing, as well as business issues. Each team's goal is to design and build a prototype of an all-weather, rugged, single-seat, off-roader for sale to the nonprofessional weekend off-road enthusiast.

SAE International, the global leader in mobility engineering, serves as the premier resource for advancing knowledge, standards, and innovation within the engineering community.



# A HISTORY OF SUCCESS

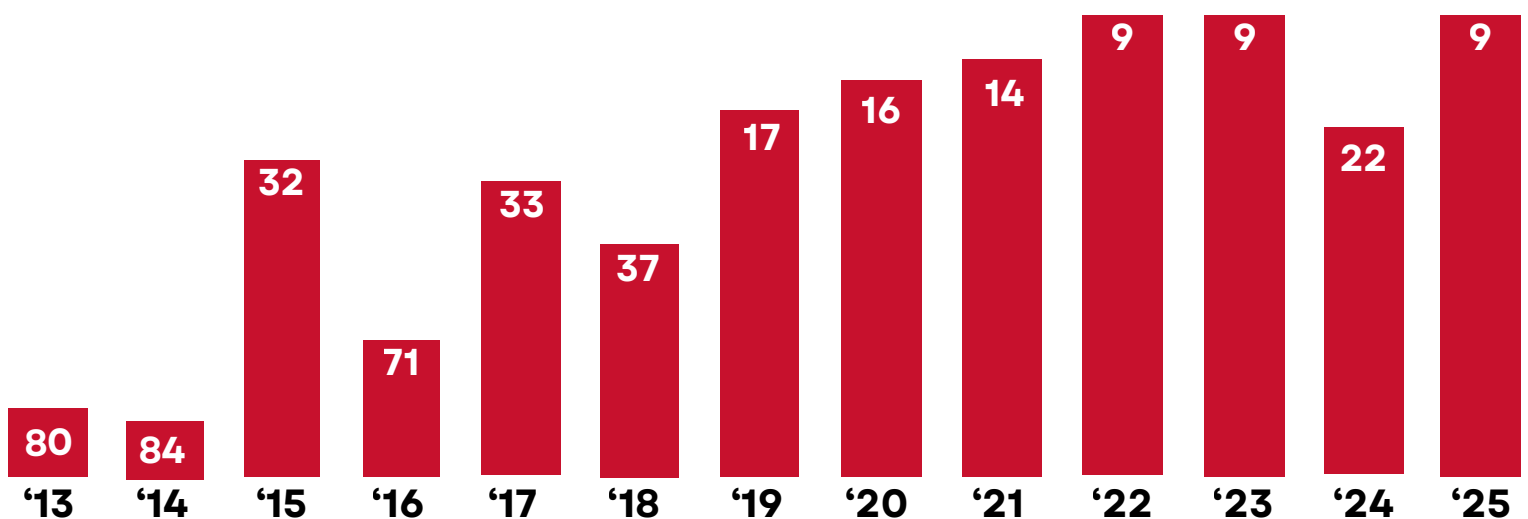


Penguin Baja Racing has steadily climbed the ranks since rejoining Baja SAE in 2013 currently ranking 9<sup>th</sup> overall in the Western Hemisphere.

In 2024, we undertook an aggressive powertrain redesign aimed at breaking into the top 5. This resulted in a temporary setback, finishing 22nd in California, but the experience provided valuable insights that shaped our 2025 rebuild.

This past year, we applied those lessons with precision, achieving our best dynamic performance to date and returning to the top 10 in Maryland. The experience reaffirmed a core belief: challenges arise along the road to long term success.

Our success is fueled by a relentless commitment to the design process, hands-on engineering, and the grit of a small but determined team. At PBR, we turn obstacles into opportunities and ideas into impact, proving that innovation thrives in Youngstown.



## PLACEMENTS THROUGH THE YEARS



# WHAT A YEAR!

SEASON RANK: 9TH

## Marana, AZ May 1-4

**Competition Placement: 13th**

- 2nd place in Business Presentation
- 8th place in Engineering Design



## Mechanicsville, MA June 12-16

**All Time Highest Total Points**

**Competition Placement: 9th**

- 4th place in Business Presentation
- 9th place in Engineering Design



## GRAY COURT, SC October 2-5

**Competition Placement: 17th**

- 3rd place in Business Presentation
- 10th place in Engineering Design





# A NEW AGE OF PENGUIN BAJA RACING



Thanks to our established success in Baja competitions, Penguin Baja Racing was honored with an invitation to participate in the inaugural “Mini-Baja” event this past October in South Carolina. This unique challenge tasked teams with designing and building a 1:10 scale remote-controlled Baja vehicle using additive manufacturing and core engineering design principles.

Our non-senior members rose to the occasion, demonstrating remarkable initiative and technical skill, earning 5th place overall, with strong performances in endurance, design, and cost analysis.

Because of this success, we’ve been invited to launch a mentorship program with a local high school. This initiative will foster STEM engagement and provide students with hands-on experience in engineering and design, extending our impact beyond YSU and into our local community. We are also excited to see how this scaled prototyping and additive manufacturing can improve our development moving forward.

## MINI BAJA



**SAE**  
INTERNATIONAL®

## 2026 COMPETITIONS

**Oregon**

May 7 - 10  
Washougal, WA

**New York**

June 11 - 14  
Palmyra, NY

**Ohio**

September 24 - 27  
Nashport, OH



# Partnering with PBR

At Penguin Baja Racing, we value every contribution and strive to make sponsorship accessible and rewarding for all. Our tiered structure offers clear options for support, but we recognize that not every partnership fits into a predefined category. Whether you're considering a unique contribution or have specific goals in mind, we're always open to customizing a sponsorship that aligns with your vision and creates meaningful value for both parties. Options include \$2,500 installments, gift-in-kind non-monetary donations, and more!



## PARTNERSHIP LEVELS





# INTERESTED IN BEING AN EXECUTIVE PARTNER?

- **Highest Contributing Partner:** This tier is awarded to the sponsor with the highest cash donation.
- **Cash Donations Only:** Eligibility is limited to monetary contributions.
- **Anonymous Contributions:** All donation amounts will remain confidential until the car is revealed.
- **Live Updates:** Interested sponsors will be notified if a new leading contribution is made.
- **Pledge Deadline:** All participating sponsors must submit their pledged amount by **02/28/2026**.
- **Installment Payments Accepted:** Contributions may be made in scheduled installments.
- **Payment Deadline:** Pledged donations must be received in full by **06/30/2026**.
- **Default to Diamond Tier:** If you express interest in the Executive Partner Tier but are not selected, your contribution will automatically be recognized at the Diamond Tier level. You are not obligated to donate any excess pledged funds unless you choose to do so.

## DONATE BY CHECK

(PREFERRED METHOD)

Donations to Penguin Baja Racing  
by check can be made out to:  
YSU, Mechanical Engineering-Baja.

The team's affiliation with SAE International has the team exempt from federal taxes under section 501©(3) under the Internal Revenue Code and public charity under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Federal Tax ID Number: 25-1494402

Checks can be picked up by a student representative, or be mailed to:

Youngstown State University,  
Mechanical Engineering  
ATTN: Penguin Baja Racing

1 Tressel Way,  
Youngstown OH, 44555

## THROUGH THE YSU FOUNDATION

Donations through the YSU Foundation can be made using:



<http://ysufoundation.org/give-now>

- CLICK "DONATE ONLINE"
- SELECT THE GIFT AMOUNT
- CHOOSE EITHER A ONE-TIME OR RECURRING GIFT.
- UNDER "YOUR GIFT DESTINATION" PICK "COLLEGE OF STEM"
- IN GIFT DETAILS BOX, TYPE "PENGUIN BAJA RACING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING"

# IT TAKES A VALLEY!

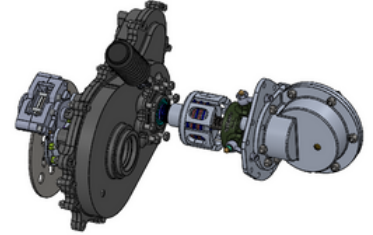


# MEET THE TEAM

## POWERTRAIN

Powertrain lies at the heart of performance – transforming a 14-horsepower engine into controllable power.

This year, we are focusing on engineering the transmission, reduction gearbox, clutch, and driveline for peak efficiency and strength, ensuring that every bit of energy reaches the ground. Our dedication to precision and innovation powers Penguin Baja Racing toward top competition finishes.



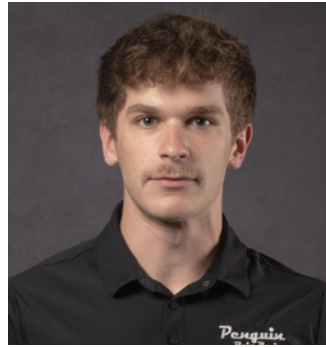
**Thomas Hunyadi**

- Transfer Case & Clutch
- Manufacturing Lead



**Jayanta Pandit**

- CVT
- Testing Specialist



**Ben Stewart**

- Hubs & Shafts
- Design Director



**Tyler Rabenstine**

- Gearbox
- Powertrain Lead

## SSB (SUSPENSION, STEERING & BRAKES)



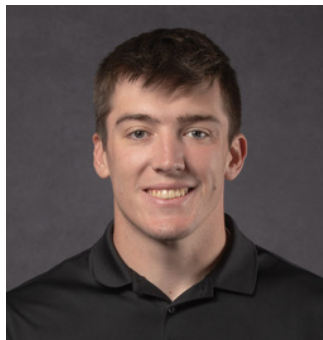
The Suspension, Steering, and Brakes team drives the vehicle's handling and dynamics, ensuring precision control and peak performance on every turn.

This year, we set out to revolutionize performance with a cutting-edge, first-of-its-kind braking system, advanced suspension geometry, and a streamlined rack-and-pinion design. With these innovations, we aim to deliver a rugged, high-performance dynamic system built to dominate on every course.



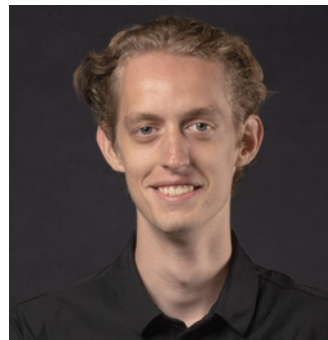
**Alexis Baxter**

- Front Suspension
- Compliance Lead



**Teddy Ruffner**

- Steering
- Cost Lead



**Shane Hetzel**

- Brakes
- Business Presentation



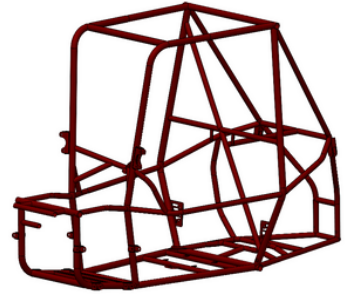
**Cadin Tsvetkoff**

- Rear Suspension
- SSB lead

# CHASSIS & ERGONOMICS

The Chassis and Ergonomics team is responsible for designing a structurally sound steel frame that ensures the safety of both the driver and the vehicle's components, while delivering a smooth and comfortable ride.

This year, our goal is to build on last year's success and push our design to its fullest potential. We aim to achieve this through enhanced aerodynamics, improved ergonomics, and strategic weight reduction—key advancements that will position us to outperform the competition.



**Patrick Pavetic**

- Frame & Ergonomics
- Frame & Ergo Lead



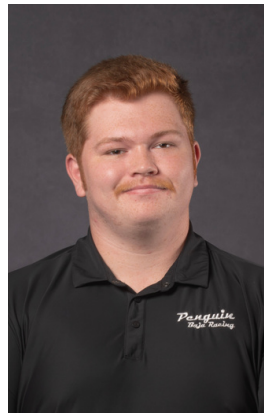
**Aiden Chunn**

- Frame & Ergonomics
- PBR Team Captain

## OPERATIONS TEAM



**James McGlone**  
Operations Lead



**Clifford Phillips**  
Shop Enforcer



**William Frantz**  
Project Manager



**Bobby Harris**  
Marketing & Merchandise



**David Coul**  
Fabrication Lead



**Brian Leeper**  
Recruiting Lead



**Joseph Vanazia**  
Business Presentation



**Stephen Sly**  
Public Outreach



**Ruth Deah**  
Public Outreach



**Nate Willis**  
Business Presentation



# EXPENSES



At Penguin Baja Racing, we provide hands-on engineering and leadership experiences to mechanical engineering students at YSU, while proudly representing Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley on the international Baja stage. Competing at this level requires substantial financial support. The generous contributions from our sponsors are the foundation of our success, empowering us to design, build, and race competitively while developing the next generation of engineering leaders.

With YOUR support, we demonstrate that innovation and community commitment can rival other universities with significantly larger budgets and manufacturing capabilities.

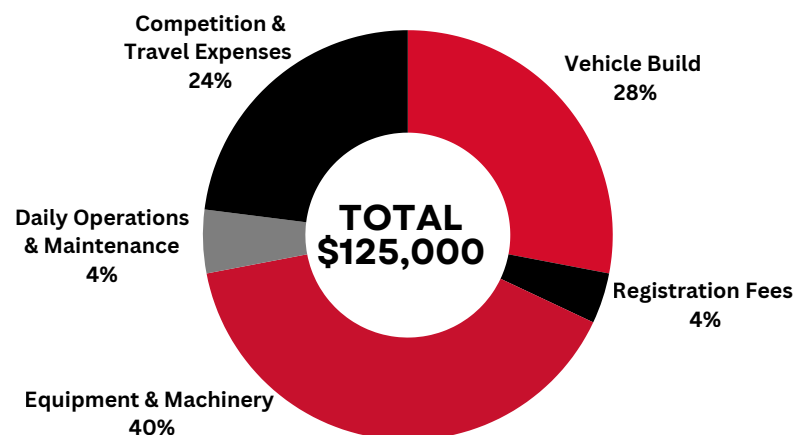
With YOUR support, our team continues to excel through ingenuity, collaboration, and a relentless drive to improve.

## OPERATING BUDGET

### OVERALL TEAM

#### EXPENSES INCLUDE:

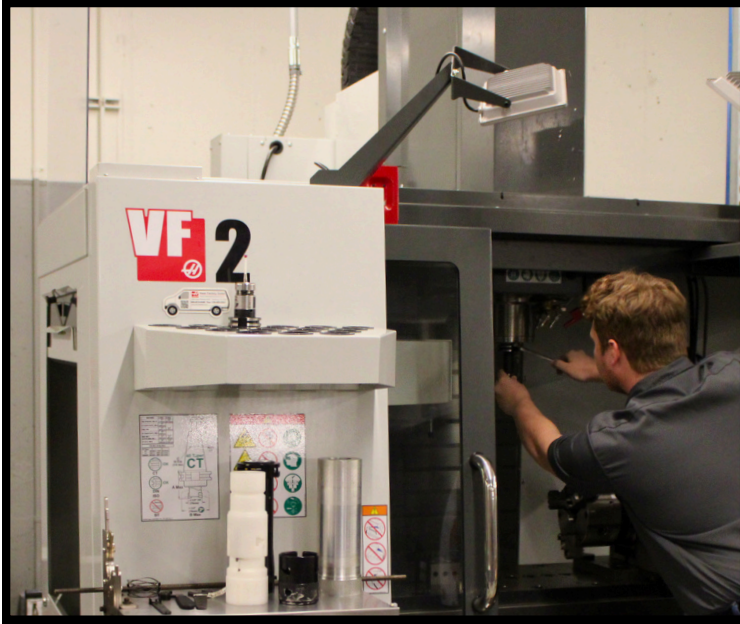
- Vehicle Build \$35k
- Daily Operations & Maintenance \$5k
- Equipment & Machinery \$50k
- Registration Fees \$5k
- Competition & Travel Expenses \$30k





# WHY BAJA MATTERS

SAE Baja competitions not only deepen understanding of the design process but also promote collaboration with local manufacturers, professional engineers, and industry experts. Through participation, students strengthen essential skills in teamwork, machining, and fabrication—preparing them for real-world engineering challenges and careers.



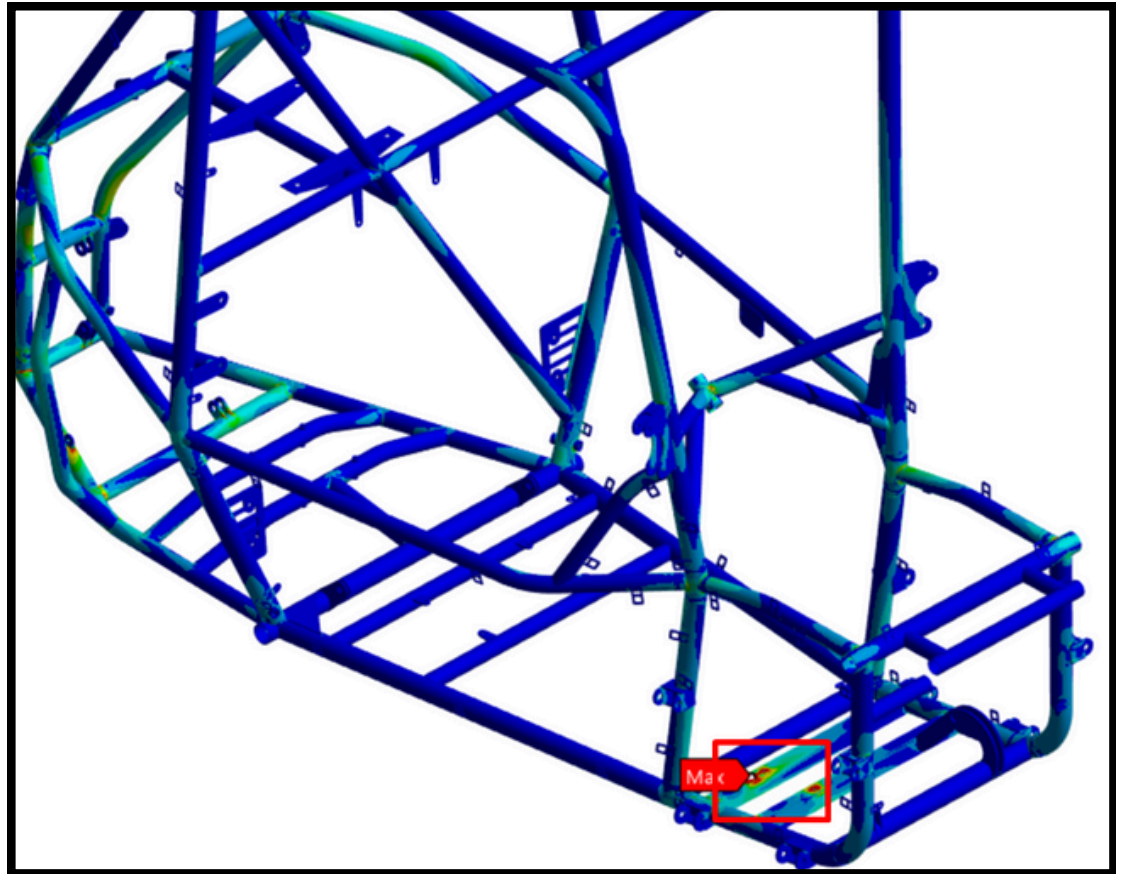
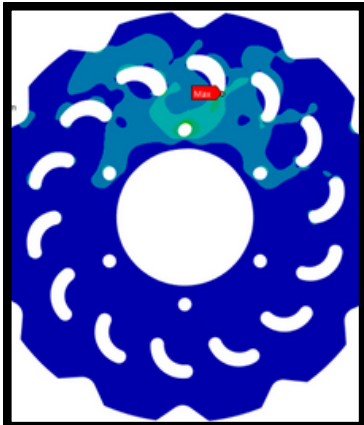
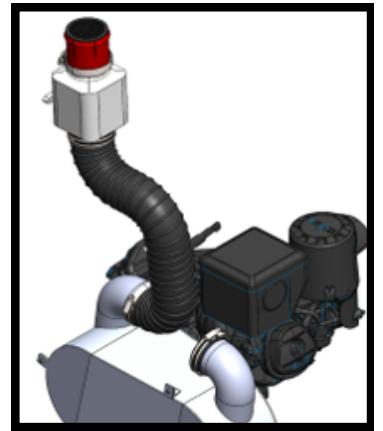
**Supporting Baja supports  
the future of your industry!**



# BONUS CONTENT 2025







**BONUS CONTENT  
2025**



# BONUS CONTENT 2025





# THANK YOU 2025 SPONSORS



We extend our sincere thanks to the sponsors of our 2025 race season. Your generous support has been instrumental to our success and continued growth over the past decade. Our current 9<sup>th</sup> overall rank would not be possible without your partnership. As we prepare for an exciting and ambitious 2026 season, we look forward to building on this momentum together.

Questions regarding sponsorship?  
Contact James McGlone, Operations Lead  
Email: [jmmcglone@student.ysu.edu](mailto:jmmcglone@student.ysu.edu)  
Phone: (330)-565-8625





# 2025 TEAM SPONSORS



QUALITY BRIDGE & FAB, INC.

