

SEASONS is in the NEWS!

PARTNERING WITH THE SANDPOINT SAILING ASSOCIATION

12 BONNER COUNTY DAILY BEE Saturday, July 26, 2008



Seasons at Sandpoint officials donate sails to the Youth Sailing Program, which will allow the Sandpoint Sailing Association and Sandpoint Parks and Rec to reinstate the program.

SSA, city reinstating youth sailing program

SANDPOINT—Thanks to a donation of new sails from Seasons at Sandpoint, the Sandpoint Sailing Association and Sandpoint Parks & Rec. department will be reinstating its Youth Sailing Program. The program gives locals the opportunity to learn to sail using five 14-foot Hobie Holder sailboats.

Lessons haven't been offered in three years because of liability insurance requirements, and the boats fell into disrepair. By donating the boats to the city, the program can now operate under Parks and Rec. department's liability. Seasons stepped in to make sure the boats were in fine sailing order by donating the money to purchase new sails.

"This is the first year of the last three for the program to be available. Sailing Association Commodore Ivan Rimar said. "thanks to our relationship with the Season and the city, we are able to offer youth sailing instruction. We are very excited about it."

The program originally began with the donation of the five Hobies by Sailing Association founder Keith Sheckler.

"The second of two beginner sailing courses starts Aug. 4 and is already full," Sheckler said.

"Next year we plan to add more classes, given the amount of interest the program has already received," Rimar added. "We need a few more volunteer instructor and we're hoping to increase

our insurance to allow kids to take the boats out and practice whenever they want, not just during sailing classes."

The Seasons first got involved with the Sailing Association by hosting the annual championship regatta, The Spud Cup, which takes place August 30-31.

"This is a great opportunity for Sandpoint's youth," Harry Tishler, senior vice president of BVG, Inc. said. "We're just glad to be able to help out."

For more information about the Sandpoint Summer Sailing Program, please contact the Sandpoint Sailing Association at www.sandpointsailing.com or the Sandpoint Parks and Recreation Department at (208) 263-3613.



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