



Sail Orcas

A Sailing Education Foundation “Teaching a Lifetime Sport”

JUNIOR SAILING LESSONS: This past year, over one-hundred and fifty sailors, ages eight to fifteen, participated in weekly summer lessons during July and August using the OIYC picnic shelter as home base. Orcas’ own Sam Parish and Taylor Smith, both certified US Sailing Instructors, did an excellent job heading up the program. Orcas High School Sailing Team sailors taught a week-long Junior Race Clinic, giving the junior sailors one-on-one racing instruction. This past summer seven junior sailors took the Open Bic’s to NWYRC Regattas, with Maggie Toombs winning the Bic class for the year.

EXPLORATORY SAILING: Orcas Middle School continued its fall and spring quarters of exploratory sailing classes. Thirty-two middle school students participated in these beginning sailing lessons, taught by Orcas middle school teacher Lori Oakes, and Sail Orcas instructors Nate Avena and Jake White.

ORCAS HIGH SCHOOL SAILING TEAM: Twenty sailors practiced four days a week with the team and participated in twelve weekend regattas during the spring season. Our sailors swept the NWISA District Championships, winning all three disciplines (double-hands, team racing and single-hands) in the same year for the first time in team history, setting the bar high for future teams.

WIND CLINIC: Last July seven Orcas High School sailors participated in this week-long advanced racing clinic and regatta at the Cascade Locks in Oregon. Sailing in the Northwest’s premier venue for strong winds, hot sun and warm water, the sailors learned to overcome their fears and master some very extreme sailing conditions.

ADULT SAILING LESSONS: The adults summer sailing classes were busy again this past year with new sailors receiving instruction from the all-volunteer staff of Sail Orcas instructors. The two CAL 20 sloops kept busy sailing on West Sound, May thru September. A San Juan 21 was added to the program this year, and a Laguna 26 was outfitted, sea trialed and will be used in the cruising program in 2012. Funds generated by the adult program help support all Sail Orcas Youth Programs.