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YOUTH SAILING PROGRAMS

Addressing the Key Priorities

BASIC PRINCIPLES: **Safe + Fun + Educational**

SAFETY

- Proper supervision
- Student to instructor ratios
- Safety boats
- Certified instructors
- Medical information and needs met
- Emergency procedures and first aid
- Risk assessment & risk management
- Insurance
- PFD for ALL students and instructors
- Structured program

FUN

- Instructors make or break the program: fun, creative, high energy, love kids
- Proper curriculum
- Lots of different activities
- Games and Fun drills related to sailing
- Lesson plans
- Proper teaching aids and resources
- Adventure
- Social activities and Food

EDUCATIONAL

- Professionally run program
- Mission statement/ goal setting
- Great instructors
- Proper A kid friendly \cong boat for your environment
- Proper class offerings, curriculum, and progression/ skill list
- Appropriate scheduling of class time
- Rewards: intrinsic and extrinsic

OPPORTUNITIES.....

- To keep sailing for fun
- To race
- To travel
- To make friendships
- To continue to learn

OTHER CRITICAL FACTORS AFFECTING YOUTH SAILING PROGRAMS

Youth Sailing Committee

Parents, members, community, school, others interested

What do they do? Give each a small job they can accomplish and know how to do!

Structure

Long term plan

Parent communication & involvement

The good, bad, and the ugly

A Parent of the Day \cong Program (POD Squad)

Parent handbook

Informal, social gatherings

Communication

Feedback/ involvement on program development

Parent orientation

Parent education/ level of sailing knowledge

Market your program:

Demographic survey

Club? Community? School? YMCA? Scouts? Camps? At risk kids?

Member or non-member?

Active marketing vs passive marketing

The equipment issue:

Selection of boat type(s) for kids program

Organization provided? Privately owned? Combination?

Safety boats

Teaching aides

Facility

Long range plan

Why is this an issue? Turnover of parental involvement & Any kid \cong focus

Evaluation of program: Parents/ kids/ instructors/ organizational board

Development of policies

Capital improvements/ budget

Provide opportunity for kids to keep involved with sailing

Expanded program: social, clinics, big boat, high school, trips, year round