



Junior Sailing "MAKING WAVES" January 2016 BEGINNING THE 11TH SEASON!

REGISTRATION DAY Saturday, 16 January 2016

The 2016 Junior Sailing Season got underway with a sensational registration day on January 16th - very well-organized by a great team headed by Nakia Wilhoyte as Coordinator. Junior sailors and their parents congregated at the Sailing Club to learn about the many options for the sailors. This year, four-week sessions are featured in Optis, Sunfish, and 420's. Most classes place emphasis on fun sailing, while special sessions will accommodate the racing-minded kids. There is a group of instructors (and a large group of volunteer assistants) who will share duties depending upon the class of boat.



After registration, the parents stayed to learn about volunteering with the classes, while their children left for a sail on the Abaco Rage (Thanks, Rage crew!!!)



FIRST DAY OF CLASSES Saturday, 23 January 2016

The windy weather pattern of the past weeks did not de-rail the first Junior Sailing class day of the season, using the opportunity for classroom activities related to sailing.

Morning classes: Instructor Caitlin Heavey assisted by Pamela Cantrell and Richard Woods led the beginners' class, introducing the new sailors to the concept of sailing, boat parts, and terminology. The featured activity was a sailing terminology game involving a soccer ball with names of Opti parts printed on the sides. As the ball was passed around, each sailor had to describe the part and its function. Instructors Logan Rowell and Andrew Wilhoyte worked with the Sunfish/420 sailors, firing questions at them regarding points of sail, sail trim, boat parts, etc. - a good refresher course.



Afternoon class: Caitlin and Sarah Gilmer-Lawrence worked with a class of intermediate Opti sailors. They played the "soccer-Opti-terminology" game; then the featured activity was to collect trash on the beach to build boats. Jack Guinness won with his barge-looking boat.



With the short 4-week classes it is especially important to make every Saturday count, keeping the kids interested and engaged. It is clear that this group of instructors and volunteers is going to provide the enthusiasm needed to keep such a fast-paced series of classes going.

Along with the rest of Hope Town, the Junior Sailors cross their fingers for better weather!

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