

Hello parents, fans, and supporters of the San Juan Island Sailing Foundation Youth Sailing Team!

We have some pretty exciting news on our annual fund raiser coming this May 5th. This year, Jake Beattie comedian and brain child of the Race to Alaska will be presenting at our High School Sailing Team fundraiser. Mark your calendars as this will be a really interesting talk about sailing, adventuring, last year's race, this year's race and it will be delivered through Jake's different and humorous view of the world! Keep an eye on our facebook page for updates soon. [www.facebook.com/sjisf](http://www.facebook.com/sjisf)

Over the last couple of seasons, we have continued to strengthen our youth sailing program. We've had a number of logistical and organizational changes with both our team management/coaching structure as well as adjusting to the imposed fleet change from Vanguard 15 to Flying Junior (FJ) sailboats for NorthWest racing. We have also increased our focus on keeping our youth sailors safe through the Foundation's Safety Committee and board's policy efforts.

As a result, 2015 was a very busy and very successful year for San Juan Island Sailing Foundation!

Part of that success is largely due to our generous community of volunteers and donors. Through donations from people like you, local businesses, and charitable organizations we have been sailing with three new FJ sailboats this year and are about to order two more for the Spring of 2016. We continue toward achieving our target of 7 FJ's in order to be able to run all practices and races in the new boats.

These donations have a powerful impact for us as we run on a lean budget. Each new FJ sailboat is just over \$8,500 so we have to rely heavily on the community to help with this change. Thank you!

The Foundation is specially grateful to the following who each donated enough to purchase a new FJ sailboat fully rigged with sails and dolly. These generous donors have helped us in the required transition to racing the Flying Junior sailboats sailed regionally and nationally.

🚤 San Juan Island Community Foundation (now in fleet)

🚤 Ron and Anne Collins (now in fleet)

🚤 Charles and Kate Foster (boat ordered)

Last year, our team coach, Todd Roberts was in his second year coaching and ran a great season for the sailing team competing in events around the NW. Per Black, a sophomore on the sailing team even qualified as one of only 20 sailors nationwide for the Cressy Cup, the national championship for single handed youth sailing.

This year coach Todd Roberts has our team of 18 sailors off to a good start and you can follow their progress on our Facebook page.

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Summer Community Sailing finished its second year. This was a program we setup in 2014 to encourage more people to get out sailing. We ran it every Tuesday evening for two months, getting four or five short races in over an hour and a half before coming back for a pot luck. We had a few new sailors attend and averaged 4-5 boats and 8-10 people each evening. It's low cost and no experience necessary. So if you feel like sailing this Summer, keep an eye on our Facebook page starting this June.

The Summer sailing classes run jointly by our Foundation and Island Rec also had a really good year in 2015. We had 88 sailors enter beginner and intermediate sailing classes on Percich Pond and two intermediate classes in Vanguard 15's from Jackson's Beach. This was an increase of about 15 participants over 2014 and half of the participants were from San Juan Island. These classes are open to ages eight and up. This educational program is a core goal of our Foundation to provide opportunities for and encourage participation in sailing in the San Juan's.

If you are able to help us achieve our goal of purchasing two more FJ boats to complete our transition program, please do get in touch. Every gift makes a difference in allowing us to give sailing and team sporting opportunities to kids on San Juan Island.

We hope you will join us at our annual fund raiser dinner May 5<sup>th</sup> at San Juan Island Yacht Club. Check our Facebook page or website for specifics or call me at [# redacted] for tickets. Your attendance is another way to help inspire our youth team sailors as they experience support from our wonderful community.

Gratefully,



Nigel Oswald  
President  
San Juan Island Sailing Foundation Board



**Please make a donation or find out more about SJI Sailing Foundation at**

**[www.sanjuansailing.org](http://www.sanjuansailing.org)**

**Or mail check to SJISF, P.O. Box 2464 Friday Harbor, WA 98250**

**We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit and your donations can be tax deductible.**

**For pics and videos go to [www.facebook.com/sjisf](https://www.facebook.com/sjisf)**