

Sailing classes start six-week run

By SUE RYAN
News staff writer

Boats hit the water at the Hood River Marina and Cascade Locks sailing beach this week.

The occasion isn't a flotilla touring the county but the beginning of six weeks of Community Education sailing classes.

On Thursday morning, instructor Hannah Darrin took students through their "chalk talk" lesson on a white-erase board before they headed down the gangplank.

The group was part of a beginners class being held in both towns this week. (See B3 for class schedule; there is still time to register.) Darrin wanted the students to learn how to sail into the wind.

"You all know what luffing is, right?" she asked. "That's when the sail flaps back and forth in the breeze and you don't go anywhere."

She pointed to a map of arrows drawn on the board and explained how students could avoid ending up in the "No Go Zone."

Students chanted "Sheet in, head up and fall off" in response to her query about what to do.

Coach Brodie Sutherland, an older student and experienced sailor, helped Darrin and lead instructor Dan Falk test students on their sheeting before letting them go out in the water.

Students clambered aboard the Optimist and Bic dinghies, took the tiller in one hand and their sail rope in the other. After performing the sheeting maneuver, they pushed off into the water and sailed away around buoys in the basin.

■ Beginners

Age 9-14, Fee \$150 per session
All sailors will learn basic sailing skills including rigging, knot tying and safety.
Hood River — July 14-18; July 28-Aug. 1; Aug. 4-8
Cascade Locks — July 21-25; Aug. 4-8
Time: 9 a.m. to noon

■ Intermediate

Sailors will build upon skills learned in the Beginner class. Classes will be taught in "Optimist" dinghies.
Age 9-14, Fee \$150 per session
Prerequisite: Beginner class or instructor approval.
Hood River — July 21-25; Aug. 11-15
Cascade Locks — July 14-18; July 28-Aug. 1; Aug. 11-15.
Time: 9 a.m. to noon



Photo by Sue Ryan

STUDENTS MAN boats in the Hood River Marina Thursday morning during the start of six weeks of sailing classes both in Hood River and Cascade Locks.



Photo by Sue Ryan

JACOB MEARS stands ready to start sailing Thursday morning at the Hood River Marina.

Classes

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can only be made through Hood River Community Education.

Children must know how to swim and will be required to wear life jackets at all times while on the docks, on the beach and sailing.

Please call (541) 386-2055 or visit www.hrcommunityed.org.

■ Intermediate/Advanced

Age 12-16, Fee \$150
Prerequisite of Intermediate class or instructor approval.

Sailors will build upon skills learned in the Intermediate class. Classes will be taught primarily in "Optimist" dinghies with opportunities to sail other boats. Basic racing skills will be introduced.

Hood River — July 22 and 24; July 29 and 31; Aug. 5 and 7; Aug. 12 and 14

Time: 1-4 p.m.

■ Advanced

Age 12-16, Fee \$150
Prerequisite of Intermediate or Advanced class or instructor approval.

Students will be introduced to a variety of boats including Optimis, Laser 4.7, Byte and O'pen Bic boats. More advanced racing skills will be introduced.

Cascade Locks — July 8 and 10, July 15 and 17, July 22 and 24, July 29 and 31.

Time: 2-5 p.m.

Registration for sailing classes

Against violence inc. s both an
niversity. What started as a small
group of volunteers offering
hope, safety and support to sur-
vivors of domestic violence, sexu-
al assault, stalking and dating vi-
olence has grown into two facili-