

CHALLENGED ATHLETES FOUNDATION TO PARTNER WITH SOUTHERN IDAHO SAILING OUTREACH

Boise, Idaho (date)— Physically challenged athletes in Idaho will get an opportunity to add a new sport to their repertoire - sailing - thanks to a recent partnership between the Challenged Athletes Foundation (CAF) and Southern Idaho Sailing Outreach (SISO).

SISO, in partnership with Boise City Parks and Recreation, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and Ada and Boise counties, began offering youth sailing classes in the summer of 2019. Though these classes were cancelled in 2020 due to Covid-19 concerns, our sailing classes are resuming in early June 2021.

With the support of CAF, SISO sailing instructors will be trained in specialized equipment and techniques for teaching adaptive sailing to physically challenged athletes. Following this training, SISO will offer two Adaptive Sailing Clinics to challenged athletes in Southern Idaho this summer. The first will be held at Lucky Peak Reservoir August 4-5, and the second will take place at CJ Strike Reservoir near Mountain Home September 18-19. SISO is profoundly grateful to be serving the CAF community.

According to Jennifer Skeesick, Idaho CAF Regional Director: "CAF-Idaho is excited to partner with SISO to establish a premier adaptive sailing experience for athletes across the state. When people think of Idaho, our beautiful lakes are often the first thing that come to mind, and now, more than ever, they can be enjoyed by all Idahoans. This partnership not only embodies our value of community, but creates a platform for our athletes to try new, challenging things as they explore what brings them healing and pride."

The mission and vision of SISO and CAF overlap in wanting to enhance quality of life through sports, as it increases self-esteem and encourages independence. SISO believes everyone should have the opportunity to sail, as it fosters self-reliance, promotes brain development and for the CAF it offers these athletes another way to challenge themselves.

Peter Palmer, Co-Chair of SISO, said this: "SISO is honored to partner with the Challenged Athletes Foundation to offer a world class instructional sailing program for challenged athletes here in Idaho. While adaptive sailing has been on our future planning list for some time, CAF provided the impetus and support needed to get the program off the ground and on the water. We look forward to this partnership and to the benefits it will bring to our community."

About SISO: <https://sailingoutreach.org/>

About CAF: <https://www.challengedathletes.org/caf-idaho/>

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