

PORPA Sprints back

PRIEST RIVER – The Pend Oreille Rowing and Paddling Association held the Priest Lake Sprints Saturday at the Priest River Recreation Area, also known as The Mudhole. The Sprints were called off at the last minute last year because of the threat of lightning.

Twenty-five rowers took part in a variety of races, including junior, relay, kayak and canoe races, in addition to single and double scull contests. Most races were 1,000 meters, although double canoe races were 500 meters and junior races were 200 meters. Relay races were 1,000 meters, with rowers competing in 250-meter segments. In the relay races competitors had to have one segment with a different vessel, such as a canoe, a paddleboard, a kayak and a double canoe.

While there was a competition, the main goal of the event was to have fun and introduce people to competitive rowing.

Winners include:

1,000 METERS

Men's experienced single scull: 1. Robert McElrath 2. Doug Coats 3. Paul Osmun 4. Silas Thompson
Women's experienced single scull: 1. Gayne Sears 5:23 2. Roberta Rodgers 5:34 3. Valerie Thompson 6:17
Women's experienced double scull: 1. Okju Cha / Roberta Rodgers 5:19 2. Peggy Coyle / Valerie Thompson 5:49
Junior 13 single scull: 1. Jace Thompson 6:33
Novice single scull: 1. Brent Frerichs 11:13
Single kayak: 1. Doug Coats 6:48 2. Todd Winegar 7:21 3. Rory Axel 7:35 4. Silas Thompson 7:37
Experienced double kayak: 1. Lynn Axel / Claudia Fernandez Souto 16:25
Experienced single kayak: 1. Elise Axel with Taurine (dog) 16:48
Experienced coxed eight sweep: 1. Gayne Sears, Peggy Coyle, Paul Osmun, Brent Frerichs, Tonja Brown, Katie Cisewski, Roberta 5:29

500 METERS

Experienced double canoe: 1. Nathan /



Rowers look for instruction, as the Kalispel Tribe canoe gets ready for an outing.

MINER PHOTO|DON GRONNING

Lauren (Kalispel Tribe) 3:40 2. Gayne Sears / Curt Palmer 4:01

200 METERS

Junior 10 single kayak: 1. Rodgers, Jace Thompson (cox) Cael Schneider 2:14
Junior 8 single kayak: 1. Eli Schneider 2:29
Junior 5 single kayak: 1. Owen Schneider 1:40
Junior 11 single kayak: 1. Josiah Carrigan 2:49

RELAY RACES

1. 7:25 single kayak Debbie Foersch, paddleboard Brent Frerichs, single kayak Josiah Carrigan, double canoe Valerie & Sam (Kalispel Tribe)
 2. 7:27 single kayak Cael Schneider, single kayak Guy Thomas, double canoe Nathan & Loren (Kalispel Tribe), single scull Gayne Sears

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Two canoes take off for a 1,000-meter sprint Saturday at the Pend Oreille Rowing and Paddling Association Sprints.



Hunting season coming

BOISE - Hunting season will be here before we know it. If you haven't already, here's why now is the perfect time to dust off that firearm or bow in preparation for the 2022 season.

In a 1957 issue of American Rifleman Magazine, famed writer and marksman Col. Townsend Whelen quipped, "only accurate rifles are interesting." Townsend argued that only those who spent the time sighting in and taking pride in their firearm – we'll go ahead and assume he meant bows as well – produced rewarding outcomes as their skill set and marksmanship increased.

As hunting season approaches, let Whelen's remark serve as a reminder that taking pride in your firearm or bow is merely the prologue to yet another edition of the hunting season. An obvious, yet important, reminder: Your hunt will not end successfully if you can't deliver a bullet or arrow on target when it matters most.

"Taking the time to prepare and become a better marksman is a hallmark of an ethical hunter," said Brenda Beckley, Hunter

Education Administrator. "And the better marksman you become, the better your chances of successfully harvesting an animal."

Idaho Fish and Game offers several options for shooting and/or archery ranges around the state. Blacks Creek, Farragut, Nampa and Garden Valley Shooting Range are all Fish and Game-owned, public shooting ranges designed for safe firearm/bow practice by shooters of all abilities.

In the panhandle, there is Farragut Public Shooting Range, which also includes a one-mile walk-through archery range. Several Idaho state parks, in cooperation with Fish and Game, have archery ranges with life-sized, three-dimensional targets that mimic big game animals.

There are several other shooting ranges located across the state, some of which are co-managed by Idaho Fish and Game and the Shooting Range Development Grant program.

Calling before you go is highly recommended, as hours of operation, services or shooting opportunities may change.

For rifle hunters, many shooting experts recom-

mend setting your initial target at 25 yards to make sure you hit the paper if you have a new rifle, have replaced a scope or don't know where your rifle is hitting. After shooting at that distance, move your target out to 100 yards or more to finish the sighting-in process.

Consistent accuracy is the ultimate goal, so it's important that hunters consider their effective shooting range and practice at all distances out to that maximum number.

It's also important to practice from a variety of shooting positions and not just from a bench. Shooters should try to replicate the conditions they are likely to encounter in the field as closely as possible, so after your rifle is sighted in, consider doing some exercise to get your heart rate elevated and your lungs working harder to mimic what shooting may feel like in the field.

Hot Tip: Hunters should always use the same ammunition for hunting as they did when sighting in their rifle.

When it comes to preparation for wing shooting, hunters should focus on practicing different shots at

different angles that may at first seem difficult.

Hot Tip: Be sure you use the choke and shell combination you plan to use for the hunting season. Modified chokes produce a moderately tight pattern, good for rabbits, quail and upland game birds. Full chokes have an even tighter pattern and are best suited for turkey, squirrels and other game at longer range.

Patterning a shotgun before the season is a fairly common practice with turkey hunters, but it's something upland and migratory bird hunters should consider, too. Knowing your pattern density at given distances can help you determine your effective range, and give you a good idea of how your shotgun performs with a particular choke and shell combination. Every shotgun is different, and your shotgun will likely perform differently if you change either of those variables.

By this point in the game, most archery hunters using traditional and compound bows will already be dialed in as early-season and archery-only hunts kick off in late August.

Registration for Diamond Lake Triathlon closes Sept. 1

DIAMOND LAKE – Adults and kids can sign up for the first annual Diamond Lake Triathlon starting at 8 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 10 at the Cowles Scout Reservation.

Distance and course options are SuperSprint – 200 yards swim, 6 miles bike, 1.5 miles trail run or the Sprint – 400 yards swim, 12 miles bike, 3 miles trail run.

Ages: Youth SuperSprint (ages 11-17), Adult SuperSprint (ages 18+) and Adult Sprint (ages 18+)

Race entry fees increase to \$80 between Aug. 1-31. Registration closes Thursday, Sept. 1.

A finisher T-shirt, finisher medal, swim cap, electronic timed results, and breakfast from Edgewater Lounge and lunch from David's Pizza are included in the registration fee. To register, go to www.diamondtri.pacificmultisports.com.

Cowles Scout Reservation is located at 4161 N. Shore Diamond Lake Rd., Newport, WA 99156.

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