

# Junior News

Sponsored by United States Soaring Teams



*Bulletin 1, May 20, 2004*

## **First issue of the Junior News**

Developed by the U.S. Team Committee, the Junior News is intended to keep soaring pilots under age twenty six informed about cross country, camp, competition and team related soaring opportunities.

## **Junior Pilots invited to get on team list**

If you have received this issue of the Junior News it means that you are on the Team's Junior Pilots List. This is good. If your address needs to be corrected (check your envelope) then use the sign-up and change of address form online. **Your e-mail address is a critical bit of information** as future Junior News bulletins will likely be sent by e-mail. To update your e-mail address contact John Seaborn the Team's Junior List manager at [planned@boulder.net](mailto:planned@boulder.net)



To update your address or other information use the online sign up form at the link below.

[http://www.ssa.org/UsTeam/ust\\_jrsignup.htm](http://www.ssa.org/UsTeam/ust_jrsignup.htm)



## **Two fun soaring camps this summer.**

You are invited to participate in one of two fun cross country and training camps have been scheduled for this summer. First is the Cross Country & Racing Experience Camp, to be held in Sugarbush, Vermont in conjunction with the Region 1 Championships. Dates are June 15-26. Junior pilots are welcome and can take advantage of the camp at greatly reduced costs. Check out the Sugarbush Experience camp at [www.sugarbushsoaring.com](http://www.sugarbushsoaring.com)

The second opportunity to learn from the best will be the first **Junior Soaring Development and Training Camp** scheduled for July 11-17, 2004 in Moriarty, NM. The Camp will be open to Junior Soaring pilots age 26 and under. Both camps will feature U.S. Team members giving presentations on cross country and performance soaring, participating in discussion groups, answering questions on contest flying, flying participants in two place gliders or doing lead-and-follow training. [http://www.ssa.org/UsTeam/ust\\_news.htm](http://www.ssa.org/UsTeam/ust_news.htm)

## **2004/2005 Will be big for the U.S. Junior Team**

The USA has not missed a chance to compete in Junior World Gliding Championships since 1989 and the next event in 2005 will not break this chain of success. Two additional pilots will be selected in 2004 to represent the United States at the 4th FAI Junior World Soaring Championships to be held at Husbands Bosworth in the United Kingdom from July 31 to August 8 in 2005.



### ***How to qualify for the Junior team?***

The U.S. Junior Soaring Team is made up of pilots under age 26. Team candidates are selected based upon their performance in any U.S. national competition over the previous three years. Selection factors include primarily SSA Contest Ranking and performance in the any U.S. National championships, but also total glider hours and type experience, and intent to contribute to the team effort. The FAI age limit is for pilots "whose 25th birthday occurs in the year of the Championships, or later". To make the Junior Team you need to meet the FAI definition of a Junior pilot as outlined and fly well in any U.S. Nationals for the prior two years. A 3-year Team Selection Ranking can be found posted at the [http://acro.harvard.edu/SOARING/JL/US\\_TEAM/jun.html](http://acro.harvard.edu/SOARING/JL/US_TEAM/jun.html)

### ***Junior Pilots to attend George Lee's XC school***

Three time World Champion George Lee brings together junior pilots from around the globe to participate in advanced cross country training. Four of his UK students have gone on to become World Champions. In the 2004/05 season two US junior pilots, Mike Riley and Kathy Fosha, will be spending two weeks in Australia flying with Mr. Lee in his Nimbus 4DM. Past US participants include Garret Willat, Liz Schwenkler, Mike Robison, and Dillon Krapes. **Mike Riley**, age 20, is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association with a Private Glider rating and is working on his CFIG. He holds a gold badge and two diamonds. Mike has flown three contests and is the two time winner of Colorado Soaring Association (CSA) Gogos flight scholarship and the SSA Kolstad college scholarship. **Kathryn Fosha**, age 21, is a member Colorado Soaring Association, with a commercial glider license. Kathy holds a Silver badge with Gold distance. She has flown a Sports Class Regionals and the 15m Nationals. She has won the CSA Gogos flight scholarship, Women's Soaring Pilots Association Sky Ghost flight scholarship, the SSA Kolstad college scholarship and is currently on an engineering internship in Germany with BMW.



### ***Junior Soaring Team Development Program***

With the expansion in the number of FAI sanctioned classes and World Gliding Championships (WGC) comes opportunity and challenges. Nowhere is this more evident than in the Junior Class in which pilots under age 26 have the opportunity strive for soaring excellence and become a World Champion.



The SSA US Team Committee (USTC) feels that a successful future for soaring, both in general and at the highest competitive level, requires bringing young people into our sport, helping them develop their cross country and racing skills, and supporting them in their initial international competitive experiences. There is a clear linkage between pilots who get an early start in competitive soaring and those who ultimately achieve the top level of international competitive status. Therefore, the USTC has decided to launch a program to revitalize and strengthen our US Junior Soaring Team.



The idea is simple, build the Junior Team program and develop opportunities for Junior pilots interested in cross country and competition. The Team Committee cannot do it alone and seeks qualified and engaged participants to fill the above positions and help keep the emerging Junior programs going.

If this is you, or someone you know, please contact Tim Welles, Junior Team Strategist via e-mail at [timwelles@earthlink.com](mailto:timwelles@earthlink.com)