



PHOTO NEWS RELEASE:

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THE SEA ISLE CITY BEACH PATROL WELCOMES 2016 ROOKIES PRIOR TO HOSTING JUNIOR LIFEGUARD PROGRAM ON JULY 19

SEA ISLE CITY, NJ – The Sea Isle City Beach Patrol (SICBP) is a well-respected life-saving organization with an impressive history. To ensure that Sea Isle’s beaches are safe for swimmers year after year, each summer the SICBP nurtures future recruits during a “Junior Lifeguard Program,” which is open to participants age 14-17. This year’s Junior Lifeguard Program begins July 19.

The SICBP’s Junior Lifeguard Program introduces basic lifesaving skills and rescue techniques to prospective beach patrol employees. During the program, instructors apply the principles of surf bashing, swimming, running, paddling and ocean rowing to techniques of water rescue and beach management appropriate to age and developing skill. Junior lifeguards developing through the program to the advanced level, who are sixteen years of age or older, may be selected for employment with the beach patrol upon graduating in August.

The SICBP also has “Lifeguard Tryouts” each summer, which help secure skilled employees for the pending season. Following this year’s tryouts on June 11-12, twenty-three “Rookies” joined the SICBP, ranging in age from 16 to 21.

During the SICBP’s 2016 Rookie Week, which took place June 18-24, Sea Isle’s newest lifeguards ran, swam, rowed, paddled, practiced ocean rescues and achieved certification in CPR and first aid – plus they generally learned how the SICBP has established itself as a premier life-saving organization.

According to Rookie Week instructor Lt. Dave Stearne, 6 of this year’s 23 rookies participated in the SICBP’s Junior Lifeguard Program.

“Despite valuable pre-training gained through the Junior Lifeguard Program experiences for some recruits, all rookies were exposed to unique conditions created by changing water, wave and beach topography secondary to recent beach replenishment projects,” said Lt. Stearne. “Anticipation of potential dangers associated with waves breaking very close to shore and gullies and sandbars formed as shallow water undersurfaces reorganize presents a special set of challenges to the new rookie class.”

According to SICBP Captain Renny Steele, one of the original purposes for establishing the Sea Isle City Beach Patrol Junior Lifeguard Program, in the year 2000, was to train the children of alumni and local tax payers in an effort to prevent the disappointment of non-employment due to a failure to meet the minimum requirements of testing.

“The program prepares each junior guard to take the actual lifeguard test when they become of age,” said Captain Steele. “It improves their chances of being hired and provides the beach patrol with a greater number of qualified applicants. For those junior guards who are age appropriate and pass the lifeguard test during the three week program, it provides end of the summer employment. Those chosen for employment help the beach patrol maintain lifeguard coverage on beaches as guards return to school before the summer season is over.”

For more information about the SICBP – or to sign-up for this year’s Junior Lifeguard Program – phone 609-263-3655 or visit www.sicbp.com.

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

(Image: Rookie Group) The Sea Isle City Beach Patrol 2016 Rookie Class is shown with instructors on the 44th Beach during Rookie Week: (front, from left) Mark Novatorskiy, 19, of Vineland, NJ; Jack Dougherty, 17, of Medford, NJ; Mandi Basantis, 18, of Medford Lakes, NJ; Melanie Vasso, 21, of Haddonfield, NJ; Bridget O’Hanlon, 19, of Medford, NJ; Amanda Conley, 19, of Doylestown, PA; Alyssa Wadsworth, 16, of Colledgeville, PA; Joseph Dirago, 19, of Egg Harbor Township, NJ; Timothy Rafter, 18, of Havertown, PA; Timmy O’Hanlon, 17, of Medford, PA; Katie McErlean, 18, of Phoenixville, PA; and (back, from left) SICBP Lt. Mike McCormick, of Ocean View, NJ; SICBP Captain Renny Steele, of Sea Isle City; Jack Devine, 16, of Princeton, NJ; Conall Loughlin, 21, of Blue Bell, PA; Chris Sewell, 21, of Oley, PA; Matt McSurdy, 20, of Colledgeville, PA; Samantha Cordero, 16, of Lansdale, PA; Molly McGurrin, 19, of Yardley, PA; Carson West, 18, of Suwanee, GA; Matt Mulvaney, 18, of Yardley, PA; Devon Boyle, 19, of Turnersville, NJ; Thomas Moran, 17, of Easton, PA; Spenser Zaleskiewicz, 18, of Mays Landing, NJ; Luke Krauter, 21, of Springfield, PA; SICBP Lt. Dave Stearne, of West Chester, PA; and SICBP Sr. Guard Jack Vallen, of Chester Springs, PA.



(Image: Fireman Carry) Sea Isle City Beach Patrol Rookie Week instructor Lt. Dave Stearne is shown demonstrating a Fireman's Carry Lift – with the assistance of rookie Mandi Basantis, of Medford Lakes, NJ.



(Image: Chair Carry Lift) Sea Isle City Beach Patrol rookie Jack Devine, of Princeton, NJ (at left), rookie Mandi Basantis, of Medford Lakes, NJ and instructor Lt. Dave Stearne demonstrate a Chair Carry Lift on June 22 during the SICBP's Rookie Week.



(Image: Three on Stand) Sea Isle City Beach Patrol rookies (from left) Jack Dougherty, 17, of Medford, NJ, Samantha Cordero, 16, of Lansdale, PA, and Timmy O'Hanlon, 17, of Medford, NJ, prepare for a rescue drill during rookie week. Both Dougherty and O'Hanlon previously attended the SICBP's Junior Lifeguard Program, which better prepared them for rookie week – and protecting Sea Isle's beaches.



(Image: Flag) Conall Loughlin, 21, of Blue Bell, PA, is shown demonstrating a flag signaling during a rescue drill on June 22 while participating in the Sea Isle City Beach Patrol's annual Rookie Week.



(Image: Victim) Sea Isle City Beach Patrol Lt. Dave Stearne teaches rookies medical procedures during a mock rescue on June 22. The “drowning victim” is SICBP Sr. Guard Jack Vallen.



(Image: Bridget O’Hanlon) Sea Isle City Beach Patrol Rookie Bridget O’Hanlon, of Medford, NJ, runs toward the surf during a mock rescue drill on June 22.



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