

Placer Valley Tourism



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Shaun Baland

Rocklin PONY Youth Baseball President



Anyone who has played, coached or had children playing youth sports knows that most of these organizations are run by tireless and devoted volunteers. Shaun Baland tops the list as a third year president of Rocklin Youth Pony Baseball (RYPB). The outstanding reputation that his organization garners speaks volumes to not only Baland but the entire staff of volunteers.

Although he started as the webmaster, he graciously stepped into the president position when the need arose and has been plugging away at it ever since. "I played youth baseball as a child and never stopped loving the sport; I enjoy watching the game and have coached off and on in various leagues over the years and I was interested in

joining the board to try to help further promote RYPB," stated Baland.

He wears many hats as president as his main function is to make sure there is a balance for everyone and that everything goes off without a hitch. "The president position involves a lot of organization, patience and customer service," elaborated Baland. "While this is a kids game, the reality is a lot of adults are needed to make things run smoothly and we are lucky to have the support of great families, amazing volunteers and the support of our city."

The Pony Baseball program is unique because it allows the individual league to develop as they see fit and RYPB has a developmental mindset that focuses on creating a fun atmosphere for the kids and families. Baland explained that many of the kids love to just be at the fields in their uniforms, having fun and falling in love with baseball. One of the most rewarding aspects for him is the knowledge that these experiences at the ballfields will stick with these young kids throughout their lives.

Baland also shared that RYPB is continually focusing on growth in both the quality of the game and in the numbers of participants as well as developing their Select program which benefits high caliber players throughout Placer County. With the regular season in full swing they are also excited about their upcoming Memorial Day Tournament, a four-day event that takes place May 26-30. The tournament will feature age divisions 6U- 13U and all games will played at the Whitney Park fields in Rocklin.

"PVT has been nothing short of great for us and their grants help us profit from tournaments; and they've worked diligently in helping us improve our facilities," commented Baland. Here at PVT, we've been happy to help! It's organizers like Baland that make all the difference. Thank you for your service Shaun!

[Click here for more information about Rocklin PONY.](#)

Region B Synchronized Swimming Championship

300 Swimmers to Compete on May 13-15 in Hopes of Advancing to National Junior Olympics

Sacramento Synchronized Swim Team (SSST) and Placer Valley Tourism (PVT) are teaming up to bring the Region B Synchronized Swimming Championship to Rusch Park Pool in Citrus Heights on May 13-15. This is a USA Synchro sanctioned event that has been around for 25 plus years and rotates between Walnut Creek, Santa Clara and Placer Valley.

Nearly 300 female youth athletes are expected to compete ranging in age from 9 to 18 years old. The categories they will be competing in include solo, duets, trios and teams. Only the solos, duets and teams will be vying for a spot in the National Junior Olympics that are held in Long Island, New York on June 24 -July 2.



"The top three in each event qualify to represent our association in New York; it truly is the best of the best," explained Robin Mizell, SSST Coach. "Often times, the top three at this competition are the same ones who take top honors at the Junior Olympics," added Mizell.

The geographic region these talented swimmers come from is primarily Northern California including the Bay Area and Central Coast. The favored team for the younger age groups, specifically 11/12 and 13/15, is the Santa Clara Aquamaids. In the older age division, 16 and up, the local team SSST is expected to lead the competition.

SSST is looking forward to hosting this incredible meet that will bring top talent to our region and provide the families with an enjoyable place to stay and explore. "We love having our events in Placer, everyone always tells us how wonderful the hotels and restaurants are and how nice the people are," stated Mizell. "PVT has been very helpful with rooms for athletes, coaches and judges; its one of the main reasons we always try to get this meet at this pool in the Placer Valley region."

[Click here for more information about the Region B Synchronized Swimming Championships.](#)

National History Day - California

William Jessup University to Become Permanent Home of Statewide Youth History Competition



May 6-7 the William Jessup University (WJU) campus will literally come alive with history when they host National History Day - California (NHD-CA) for the second year in a row. Designed to encourage students to delve deeper into history by extensively examining a chosen topic that relates to the annual theme is the foundation of this year long educational program. *Exploration, Encounter, Exchange in History* is the 2016 theme and more than 1,200 Calif. students have advanced on to the state finals.

In the past this final leg of the state competition has rotated between Northern and Southern California, however due to the success and support NHD-CA received from WJU, Placer Valley Tourism and Placer County they decided to make WJU their permanent home location for the state finals explained Whitney Olson, NHD-CA Coordinator. "The campus, the dorms, the people and the PVT grant were all amazing and this will allow us stability in our judging pool which is huge," added Olson.

The grade levels competing are 4th through 12th and the grade-span is divided into three divisions; Elementary (grades 4-5), Junior (grades 6-8) and Senior (grades 9-12). The Elementary division ends at this state level, however Junior and Senior divisions will crown state champions who will advance on to the National competition that will take place at the University of Maryland at College Park from June 12-16.

The students will be interviewed by the judges on both Friday and Saturday and the following categories are open for public viewing: performances, websites,

and documentaries. The 2D displays and exhibits have set public viewing times. A full schedule can be found at www.nhdca.org.

This two-day event is free to the public so come on down to WJU located at 333 Sunset Blvd in Rocklin and see what these incredible, creative and innovative students have created!

[Click here for more information about National History Day.](#)

PVT NEWS

2015 Annual Report Recaps Best Year Ever!

Last year proved to be a record breaking year for Placer Valley hotels as well as PVT. Here are the highlights from our recently released 2015 Annual Report:

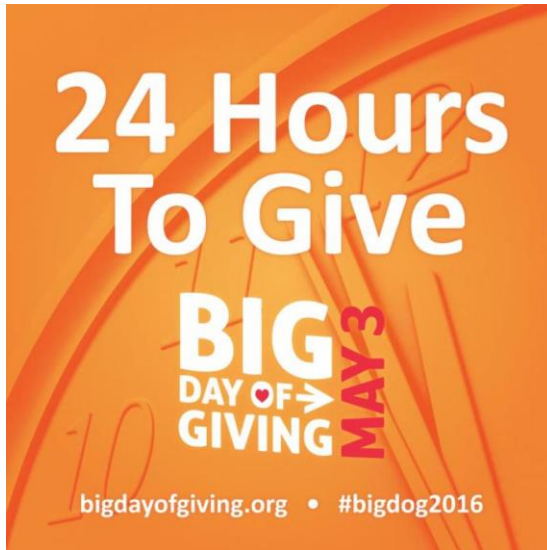
- 71% Hotel Occupancy
- \$99.69 Average Daily Rate (ADR)
- 593,815 Rooms Sold - Almost as many that were available in 2006
- \$303,300 Provided in event support - Most Ever
- 393 Events - Most Ever
- 58 Organizations - Most Ever
- Planned Dramatic Expansion of Capital Grants
- Initiated Strategic Event Development for Shoulder Period
- First Major Educational Event (National History Day - California)

[Click here to read the full report.](#)



PVT by the Number

May Events



Room Nights Sold

March 2016: 52,778
March 2015: 48,918
YTD: 145,200
Prior YTD: 139,389

Occupancy

March 2016: 74.4%
March 2015: 69.0%
YTD: 70.5%
Prior YTD: 67.7%

Sport Events

Volleyball Tournament: May 1, 7, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29 Jackson Sports Academy

USA BMX Races: May 1, 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29, Roseville

Soccer for Life! Soccer Tournament: May 1, Cherry Island Sports Complex

Basketball Tournament: May 1, 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, Rocklin

ASA Softball Tournaments: May 1, 14-15, Roseville

USTA Adult 40+ Tennis Tournament: May 1, Roseville

CIF Sections Boys Tennis: May 5-6, Roseville

SW Regional Jr Rowing Championship: May 6-8, Sac State Aquatic Center

SCTA Spring Jr. Open Grand Prix: May 7-8, Antelope

TBF Folsom Lake International Triathlon: May 7, Granite Bay

TBF Mother's Day Triathlon: May 8, Granite Bay

ASA Tournaments: May 7-9, 21-22, Lincoln

Professional Women's Bowling Tour: May 12-15, Citrus Heights

Region B Synchronized Swimming Championships: May 13-15, Citrus Heights

Pacific Coast Rowing Championships: May 14, Sac State Aquatics Center

Valley Cup Soccer Tournament: May 14-15, Cherry Island Soccer Complex

Tour de Lincoln: May 14, Lincoln

[USTA 40+ District Playoffs](#): May 14-15, Roseville
[Rocklin PONY Memorial Day Tournament](#): May 26-30, Rocklin
[ASA Memorial Day Tournament](#): May 28-30, Roseville & Lincoln
[USTA National Selection Tournament](#): May 28-30, Roseville
[USSSA All Stars Tournament](#): May 28-30, Roseville & Rocklin
[Gold Cup Adult Soccer Tournament](#): May 30-31, Cherry Island Soccer Complex
[PAC Track & Field Meet](#): May 30-31, Whitney High School, Rocklin
[Wrestling CA State Duals Championships](#): May 28-29, Rocklin
[NCAA Women's Rowing Championships](#): May 26-29, Sacramento

Community Events

[I Love the 80's Fun Run](#): May 1, Roseville
[Dinosaur Day Science Fest](#): May 1, Rocklin
[Cinco Denio's](#): May 1, Roseville
[American's Clayfest](#): May 1-28, Roseville, Rocklin & Lincoln
[Big Day of Giving](#): May 3, Placer County
[Wine Down Wednesday](#): May 4, 11, 18 Roseville
[National History Day-California](#): May 6-7, Rocklin
[BerryFest](#): May 7-8, Roseville
[Fire Station Open House](#): May 7, Roseville
[Food Truck Mania](#): May 12, Roseville
[City of Roses Tattoo & Art Festival](#): May 14-15, Roseville
[Courage Worldwide 6th Annual Golf Tournament](#): May 16, Roseville
[Concerts at the Quarry](#): May 21, Rocklin
[Night out at the Museum](#): May 21, Roseville
[Townsquare Concert Series](#): May 21, Roseville



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