

5/26/2019

WIPA Level 1 Certification Testimonial from Coby Leyden.

“Windsurfing needs more people.
More learners.
More teachers.

Although still popular in Europe, windsurfing in the US seems to be losing its critical mass of interest. Why? For many reasons, I suppose, but the one WIPA is focused on is the lack of good programs to teach it.

To help correct that, WIPA is out to improve both the number of INSTRUCTORS (WHO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE DOING), the CONSISTENCY of the teaching methods, and the EFFICIENCY of skill development.

WIPA has laid out a path of proven instruction (for instructors) that STICKS with the student and forms the basis for acquiring future windsurfing skills. At each level (there are several) the emphasis is on learning and teaching movement fundamentals, and each one outlines a set of skills for teaching correct technique on-land and on-water. Not just *board* skills, but *people* skills, and *communication* skills. It's way better than the way most of us learned. Trust me, there are many bad habits you'll realize you have, and thus have inadvertently been passing on to others.

Look, every windsurfer wants to see others enjoy the sport, and so we all try to help anyone who is curious. But supplying “tips” to someone trying to learn can often be too confusing, too daunting, too unfocused.

Result: without meaning to, we can do more harm than good.

For every one of you trying to bring the “stoke” to others, please take a look at the program that's laid out on this website. (www.windsurfingipa.org)

Then track down a WIPA certified instructor or a WIPA “camp” and get certified. You'll find it's not just about what you can do on a board; it's about the best way to teach others while improving your own skills.

Windsurfing has needed WIPA...and now here it is. Be part of it. Use it.”

Coby Leyden
Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association
Steering Committee Member
WIPA Certified Instructor (Level 1)