

SPORTS & OUTDOORS

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

Report scores to Shelby Reardon, sports editor, at 970-871-4253 or sreardon@SteamboatPilot.com

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Bike Match program is back



SPOKE TALK

Routt County Riders' Bike Match is back and taking donations once again. But first, a quick recap of what we were able to accomplish last season.

Our roughly 15 mechanics volunteered over 110 hours and we matched 58 bikes. We repaired over 80 bikes in total, including the entire fleet for the local Boys and Girls Club.

Integrated Community translated our request forms into Spanish, and we worked with The Cycle Effect to match bikes with underserved LatinX and BIPOC members of our community. We provided bikes for kids on scholarship to ride with the Steamboat Springs Winter Sports Club.

And we did all this with a minimal budget, no tools and mostly used parts. Most of all, we empowered folks, expanded the range of what's possible, and made our cycling community more inclusive.

Originally, we planned this for this first "Spoke Talk" to provide detail about upcoming programs, but first we'd like to just say, "thank you." As we reflected on Bike Match over the offseason, it became evident that Bike Match is a product of "Teamboat."

Bike Match is grateful to the Craig-Scheckman Family Foundation, whose continued support keeps the program up and running. We are also thankful for additional grants from the



MATTHEW ROCHON/COURTESY PHOTO

Steamboat Roofing donated helmets to a family receiving bikes through Routt County Riders' Bike Match program. In 2021, Bike Match began as a vision to get bikes that are collecting dust back into use in the community. With the program, potential bicycle recipients fill out an online request, and then Routt County Riders tries to match them with donated bicycles.

Ski Town Rotary and Steamboat Rotary Clubs, and the Tour de Steamboat, who provided money for tools and parts to jump-start the season.

We also appreciate Mythology Distillery's generous donation of

bike storage and workspace this season until their construction starts in July. Bike Match doesn't work without the fantastic support of our sponsors. It also doesn't work without our donors and volunteers.

Since last spring, the outpouring of support from folks in our community has been amazing. We even had one person read about Bike Match and then transport his bike from California just to donate it. Last season,

due to our lack of storage, we could only take donations, so we had to turn away quite a few bikes.

This year, we are able to take

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Arapahoe Basin wins national ski-area sustainability award

Cody Jones
Summit Daily News

The National Ski Areas Association has awarded Arapahoe Basin Ski Area the 2022 Golden Eagle Climate Change Impact Award for the 2021-22 ski season.

The Climate Change Impact Award recognizes A-Basin for the sustainability efforts it undertakes on the path to becoming carbon neutral by 2025 and for several unique actions undertaken during the 2021-22 winter season.

Those actions include the installation of five, dual-port electric vehicle charging stations in

prime parking spaces and calling on elected leaders to take meaningful climate action at the state and federal levels.

The award was announced on May 15 at the annual National Ski Areas Association conference. A-Basin was also a finalist for each of the two other business awards categories including the Overall Environmental Excellence and the Innovation in Sustainability award.

Winning the Golden Eagle Climate Change Impact Award marks the fifth time A-Basin has won a sustainability award from the National Ski Areas Association, going back to 2005

when the ski area was acknowledged for water conservation in snowmaking.

Alongside winning the sustainability award, A-Basin also released its annual sustainability report from the 2020-21 season.

Highlights from the report include the ski area crossing over the 50% threshold for renewable electricity, diverting more than 50% of its waste from the landfill and dropping domestic water use another year.

A full report, and additional details about A-Basin's sustainability program can be found at ArapahoeBasin.com.



ARAPAHOE BASIN/COURTESY PHOTO

Arapahoe Basin's Mike Nathan accepts the 2022 Golden Eagle Climate Change Impact Award at the annual National Ski Areas Association conference on May 15. A-Basin won the award for its sustainability efforts during the 2021-22 season.



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MATTHEW ROCHON/COURTESY PHOTOS

A young Bike Match recipient is shown in this photo.

BIKE MATCH

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bikes for parts in addition to fully operating bicycles. If you want to donate a bike that is in need of a little TLC, we just might be able to re-cycle it and get part or all of it back into action. Send us a

photo. Taking more bikes means additional work for our amazing group of volunteers.

In particular, one volunteer, Ty Ryland, nearly doubled the amount of bikes repaired by all other volunteers. Thank you, Ty! There is a Prickly Pedal collaboration brew already

paid for and waiting for you at Mountain Tap.

More generally, a huge thank you to all our volunteers. Grandma said, "Many hands make light work," and we're grateful for all those hands. So, if you can wrench, are willing to learn, or want to donate, we need you.

Our program is growing, as is our need for folks who like to hang out and fix bikes. For more info, please drop us a line at matthew@routtcountryriders.org.

Matthew Rochon is the outreach program manager for Routt County Riders.

REMODELED CONDO

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