• Special to the Daily Leader

Sign-ups start Jan. 30

This year's Pancake Day races on Feb. 16 will feature a new age category: all youths ages 14 to 18 are invited to enter the new youth division, with sign-ups set for Jan. 30 through Feb. 6 at the Tourist Information Center.

Pancake Day is all about community participation, and since last year's addition of more races for the younger kids was a huge success, organizers have decided to offer a chance for older teenagers to participate as well.

"We got nothing but positive feedback on the addition of more kids' categories last year, and everything went really smoothly," Ray Petty, Pancake Day Race co-chairman, said.

The new youth division will feature at least two races, one for men and one for women. The number of racers who sign up will determine how many age categories the racers will be grouped into.

The youth division race will be a 75-yard dash and will take place immediately after the children's races conclude.

"Pancake Day is a school holiday, and we have had increasing interest by high school students who want to race, so we are hoping for great participation," said Jan Nondorf, Pancake Day

Race co-chairman.

Winners will receive medals only and no monetary prizes, so high school athletes can enter without losing eligibility.

Sign-up times are as follows: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat. Jan. 30; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 1–5; and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 6. No early or late sign-ups will be accepted.

Sign-ups will take place at the Tourist Information Center, 1 Yellow Brick Road, across the street from the Coronado Museum. Any entrant under 18 must have a parent or guardian present to sign the entry form.

For more information, call 624-6423.