

**B** 37<sup>TH</sup>  
AMERICA'S CUP  
BARCELONA

**PUIG**

PUIG WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP

**PRESS KIT**



**W** PUIG WOMEN'S  
AMERICA'S CUP  
BARCELONA

PRESS KIT

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# 01

## THE INAUGURAL PUIG WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP

# INTRODUCTION

Puig, a Barcelona-based, global leader in the beauty and fashion industry, announced its partnership with the 37th America's Cup Barcelona as both a Global Partner and the official naming partner of the inaugural Women's America's Cup, back in June 2023 with the aim of providing female sailors with a platform to showcase their skills and talent in the high-performance foiling AC40s and provide a skills pathway to the America's Cup itself.

By supporting the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup, Puig demonstrates its dedication to promoting inclusivity, gender equality, and diversity within the sport of sailing.

Puig's collaboration with the America's Cup holds special significance, reflecting its local identity as a Barcelona-based company, a rich maritime sporting heritage, and global aspirations. Building upon its long-standing tradition of sponsoring sailing events, Puig takes immense pride in supporting this historic competition, which reinforces the company's long-standing commitment to sailing and its passion for promoting excellence and innovation within the sport. As Global Partner, Puig will have a significant presence throughout the event, connecting with sailing enthusiasts worldwide and strengthening its global brand visibility.

The Puig Women's America's Cup is set to be one of the undoubted highlights of the 37th America's Cup in Barcelona, and the line-up for this prestigious event is now complete. Joining the established six official entrants representing New Zealand, Great Britain, Switzerland, Italy, United States, and France are six

new teams from Spain, the Netherlands, Canada, Germany, Sweden, and Australia. The inclusion of new teams, new countries and new faces to the America's Cup further amplifies the anticipation for a remarkable regatta experience.

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# 02

## TIMELESS SAILING COMMITMENT

# ABOUT PUIG

Throughout its more than 100 years of history, Puig has always had a natural connection with water sports in general and sailing in particular. This passion for water sports, shared by the whole family, reflects many of the values that the company identifies with. As the sponsor of the Copa del Rey in Palma de Mallorca from 1984 to 2006, Puig worked hard to make this event one of the most exciting, elegant and prestigious sailing events on the international yachting circuit.

In 2008, Puig embarked on a new challenge with the Real Club Náutico de Barcelona organising the Puig Vela Clàssica Barcelona regatta. This international event reserved for classic and vintage boats grew out of a desire to revive the spirit and tradition of classic sailing in the city. It is an event brimming with beauty, elegance and tradition, showcasing the great historic value of the boats that come to compete. This year, from 4th-7th September, Barcelona will host the seventeenth edition of this regatta, a competition that has established itself as one of the most prestigious sporting events in the Mediterranean. In 2024, Vela Clàssica will be happening in September to become part of the exciting America's Cup calendar.

**ABOUT PUIG - THE COMPANY**

Puig is a home of *Love Brands*, within a family company, that furthers wellness, confidence and self-expression while leaving a better world.

Since 1914, our company's entrepreneurial spirit, creativity and passion for innovation have made Puig a global leader in the premium beauty industry.

Present in the fragrance and fashion, makeup and skincare segments, our house of Love Brands generates engagement through great storytelling that connects with people's emotions and is reinforced by a powerful ecosystem of founders.

Puig portfolio includes our brands Rabanne, Carolina Herrera, Charlotte Tilbury, Jean Paul Gaultier, Nina Ricci, Dries Van Noten, Byredo, Penhaligon's, L'Artisan Parfumeur, Uriage, Apivita, Dr. Barbara Sturm, Kama Ayurveda and Loto del Sur as well as the beauty licenses of Christian Louboutin, Banderas and Adolfo Dominguez, among others.

At Puig we honour the values and principles put in place by three generations of family leadership. Today we continue to build on that legacy, through conscious commitments in our ESG Agenda (environmental, social and governance) aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

In 2023, Puig recorded net revenues of €4,304 million. Puig sells its products in more than 150 countries and has offices in 32 of them.

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# 02

A UNIQUE DESIGN FOR A HISTORIC MOMENT

## THE PUIG WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP TROPHY

The Spanish architect and designer Patricia Urquiola has been commissioned to design and shape the trophy that the winning women's team of the Puig Women's America's Cup will receive on 13 October.

For this, Urquiola has used "a simple, geometric figure, like a cylinder, without decorative elements or a base, which at one point opens up like a large sail struck by the wind".

Made of silver, with a height of 58 cm and weighing about 5 kg, its interior hides a rose gold effect. The finishing has been done by means of an exhaustive chiselling in the widest part of the cylinder. Unlike the original America's Cup trophy—designed by Robert Garrad in 1848—the Puig Women's America's Cup lacks handles so that "the winning team can embrace it in its full form", according to the designer.

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# 03

## TIMELINE

# WHEN: SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2024

The Puig Women's America's Cup begins immediately after the conclusion of the UniCredit Youth America's Cup with practice days starting from the 28th September 2024. The regatta itself starts on the 5th October and runs through to the 10th October before the final match-race scheduled for the 13th October 2024 in-between flights for the 37th America's Cup Match itself. The timing of the finals in each category have been designed to offer maximum media exposure for the Youth and Women's teams and will be streamed live to the world.

The Qualification Series sees a total of eight races completed for both groups—the America's Cup teams and the Invited Teams. The top three teams from each group progress into a Final Series of four races to decide the top two teams that will go head-to-head in a winner-takes-all Final Match Race. Racing starts at 14:00 CEST on race days (times might adjust slightly on the days that coincide with Louis Vuitton Cup racing), and runs until 16:00 or 17:00 CEST, depending on the race schedule.

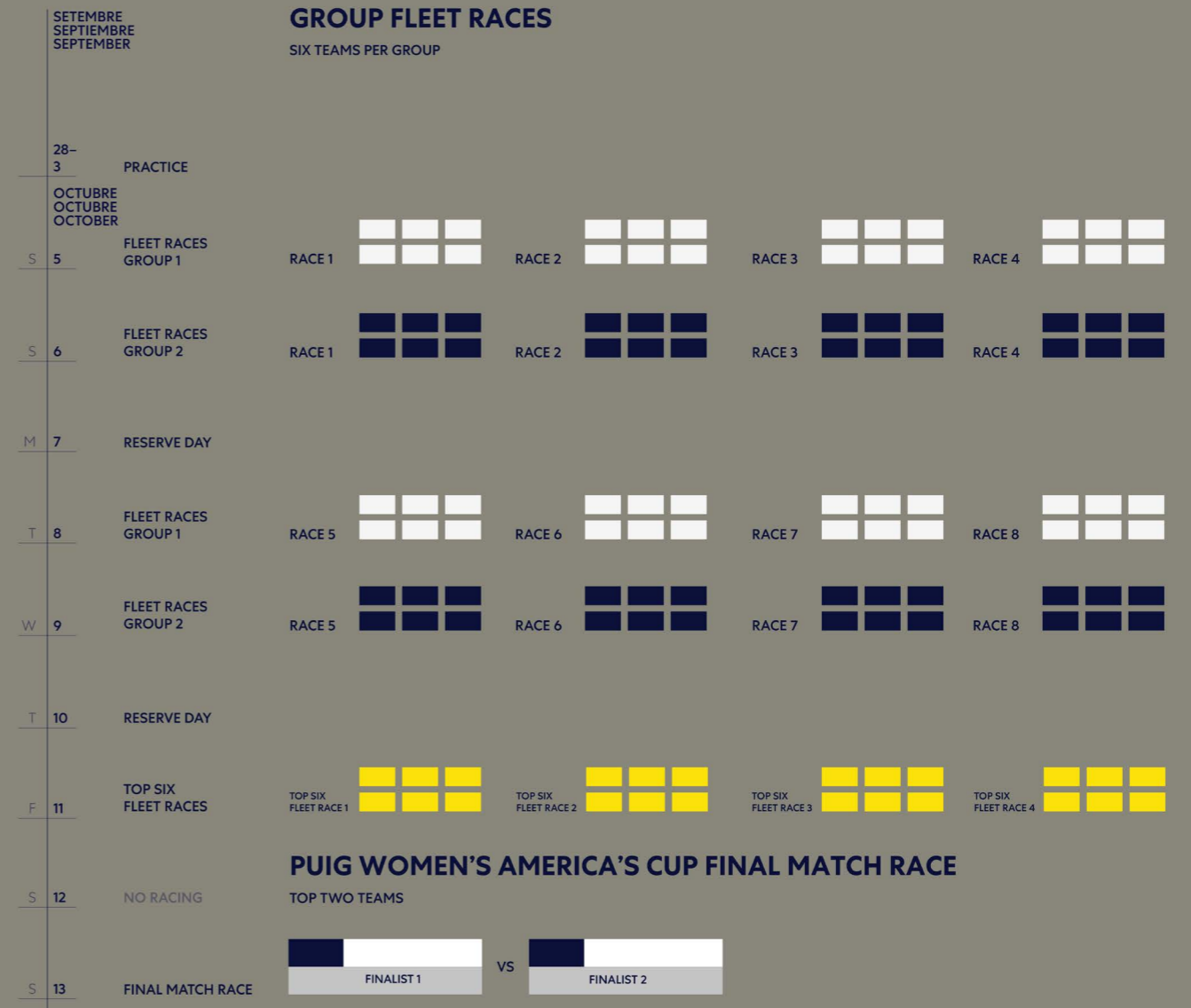


### SCHEDULED RACING IS AS FOLLOWS:

- . 5-9 September 2024: Qualification Series
- . 11th October 2024: Final Series
- . 13th October 2024: Match-Race Final



## PUIG WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP



# 04

CATALONIA, SPAIN

# WHERE: BARCELONA, PORT OLÍMPIC

The AC40 fleets for the UniCredit Youth and Puig Women's America's Cup events will be based along the Barcelona waterfront at the re-developed Port Olímpic to allow fans and spectators the rare opportunity to get up close to the AC40 racing yachts and engage with the athletes.

Barcelona's Port Olímpic was built in 1990 to host the 1992 Olympic Games' sailing competitions and has recently undergone an exciting and ambitious renovation. The new Port Olímpic has been designed to be integrated into Barcelona's new maritime profile. Surrounded by two of the city's most important urban beaches, Somorrostro and Nova Icària, it faces the Olympic Village, today a dynamic residential neighbourhood, and is delimited by some of 1990s Barcelona's architectural icons: the Torre Mapfre, the

Hotel Arts and the sinuous profile of Frank Gehry's statue. Work is being completed to transform the Port Olímpic into a space dedicated to city residents. A revamped area where the blue economy, boating, food and the sea will become the heart of economic and social activity as well as being a focus for the UniCredit Youth America's Cup and the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup from September to October 2024.

Racing will take place just metres off the beach in Barcelona with its natural viewing opportunities all along the extensive beachfront and racing will be a real spectacle with both fleet and match-racing (one-on-one) for the spectators to enjoy.



# 05

## THE PATH TO THE PUIG WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP

# EVENT FORMAT

The Puig Women's America's Cup starts immediately after the conclusion of the UniCredit Youth America's Cup with a briefing on the 28th of September 2024 and six scheduled days of practice that run through to the 3rd of October 2024.

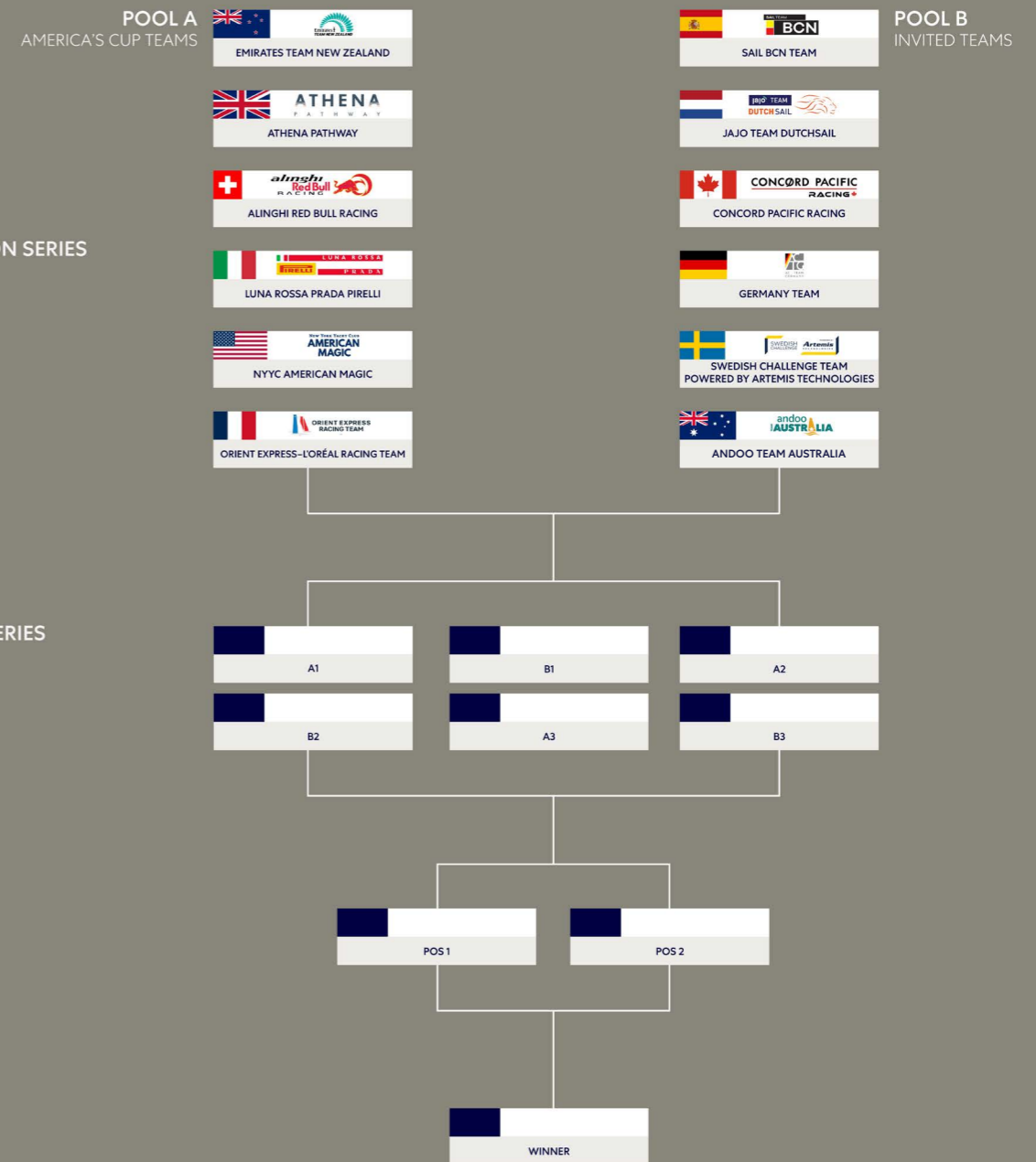
The fleet of twelve teams will be split between the Invited Teams and the 37th America's Cup Teams with the competition beginning with fleet racing on Saturday 5th of October 2024. Eight fleet races are scheduled for each group to determine the top three rankings that will then move forward to the Semi-Final stage of the Puig Women's America's Cup.

The Semi-Final is where the pressure comes on with just one day of intense fleet racing amongst the top six teams on the 11th of October 2024. Four races are planned to determine the top two boats who will make it through to the Final where the format switches to match-racing (one-on-one) and is scheduled to take place at 14:00 CEST on Monday 13th of October 2024.

Crucially, and for the greatest exposure, the Puig Women's America's Cup Final will be raced in-between races scheduled on the 13th of October 2024 of the 37th America's Cup Match and will be screened, free-to-air, around the globe. It's the highest pressure, winner-takes-all race with no margin for error whilst ensuring maximum publicity to propel the next generation of female athletes to the widest possible audience.

The winner of the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup will be the team that can master big fleet foiling racing and then have the ability to switch into match-racing mode with a whole different mindset and playbook. It is the ultimate test to find the greatest female foiling athletes on the planet with the winner claiming the fabulous, bespoke, inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup Trophy.

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# 06

## THE WORLD'S COOLEST NEW FOILING BOAT

# THE BOAT: AC40 [↗](#)

The AC40 is the designated boat for the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup that will take place in Barcelona in 2024 and usher through to the top echelons of high-performance sailing, the next generation of foiling superstars.

At the World Sailing Awards in Málaga, the AC40 was named as the 2023 winner of the Boat of the Year—'presented to mark outstanding boat design, innovative concepts and ground-breaking technological advancements that are changing the face of sailing and pioneering change across the world.'

World Sailing described the AC40 as: "A highly innovative and technologically advanced sailing yacht. It is designed to bring America's Cup foiling performance to competitive racing, featuring self-tacking headsails and an autopilot control system that maintains stable flight. It incorporates advanced hydraulics, electric assistance, and onboard electronic systems to control various aspects of the yacht, such as foil arms, sail control, and flight stability."

Grant Dalton, CEO of America's Cup Events, has been impressed with the boat and its potential for creating the next generation of sailing stars, saying: "The AC40 opens the pathway for female athletes into the big league of the America's Cup and with twelve teams forming, training and getting the buzz for high performance sailing, the AC40 couldn't have been a better platform to deliver on our goals with the America's Cup and its future. Undoubtedly the most exciting foiling class to come to the mainstream, the AC40 is re-defining sailing at the top end of the sport

and we look forward to supporting the Puig Women's America's Cup with incredible coverage of the Final in between the 37th America's Cup Match."

The fleet of AC40s have all been built by McConaghy's in China whilst the foils and onboard systems have been delivered by the Emirates Team New Zealand North Shore Facility. The teams of the 37th America's Cup have been able to modify and test out componentry on the AC40 throughout their training, and for this purpose, they were deemed as LEQ12 (less-than-or-equal-to-12-metres in length) boats, but for competition purposes in the Puig Women's America's Cup, they will be returned to one-design according to strict rules that govern the event to make every boat as equal as possible and ensure that the best female athletes win.

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### IN NUMBERS

- Hull: 11.3m
- Mast: 18 m
- Weight: 2t
- Crew: 4 sailors
- Top speed: 45+ kn



[↗](#) MEDIA CLOUD

### KEY FEATURES OF THE AC40:

- **ALL UP** The hull length is 11.3 metres with a 3.38 metre beam and an 18 metre mast. The boat has an all-up weight of just 2 tons and is sailed by a crew of four comprising two helmsmen and two trimmers. There is no requirement for power as it is all battery operated. In light winds the AC40 is expected to be able to sail at up to 26 knots at 46° upwind and 30 knots boat speed at 138° downwind. At the upper limits of 20 knots TWS, the boat speeds are expected to escalate to 39 knots upwind at 41° and 44 knots at an angle of 155° downwind.
- **HYDRAULICS** Hydraulics are at the heart of the AC40 control systems, with most hardware being operated by electrically assisted hydraulics, supplied by Cariboni. Controls include: Foil arms, autopilot control, all sail controls and mast rotation. These are all operable using a push button control system, whilst sitting at either the helm or crew positions.
- **FOILS** Each AC40 is supplied ready to sail, with two foil arms, wings and flaps and the T-foil rudder blade. The foil arm is a carbon composite construction with the foil wings and flaps a mixture of carbon and stainless steel for strength and durability. The foil arms connect to two bearing points, one on the hull and the other onto the hydraulic rams directly to control overall foil position. The T-foil rudder is a carbon/steel construction, with a solid wing fixed into a stock and hull mounting at deck level.
- **ELECTRONICS** One of the key points with the new AC40 is the reliance on battery power versus manpower, so gone are the days of requiring a small army of crew. Each boat is provided with a lithium battery pack and the required charging unit and power reserves are designed to last around 8 hours, so even a long day's racing is more

than taken care of. Power is used to accumulate hydraulic pressure and operates the boat's PLC (Programmable Logic Controller) unit which handles all sail, board and mast controls.

- **MAST AND RIGGING** Provided by Southern Spars, the rig on the AC40 is a high-modulus D Section spar, which flies two mainsail skins simultaneously. Coupled with internal composite battens it allows sail camber and twist to be manipulated far more than a conventional sail. A single boom is fitted inside the two skins which allows for mainsheet attachment, traveller attachment and outhaul control. The mast is built in two sections that allows for easy break-down when shipping/trucking the AC40.

- **SAIL PLAN** The AC40 has a standardised one-design sail inventory, consisting of five sails—two mainsail skins and three headsails. Class sails are provided with North Sails using a mixture of C-Tech and custom-built hardware.

- **SAIL AREAS** Mainsail: 63 m<sup>2</sup>, J1: 38m<sup>2</sup>, J2: 32m<sup>2</sup>, and J3: 26m<sup>2</sup>.

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# 07

## TWELVE TEAMS FOR THE RACE FOR THE INAUGURAL PUIG WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP

# WHO IS RACING

Entries for the Puig Women's America's Cup have come from yacht clubs from all around the world. Forming one racing group initially, the six confirmed entries for the 37th America's Cup will all field Puig Women's America's Cup teams and they will be joined by a further six invited yacht club teams who will race in a separate group. The top three teams from each group then meet at the Semi-Final stage of the Puig Women's America's Cup.

The countries and yacht clubs are as follows:

### 37th America's Cup entrants:

- . New Zealand (Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron)
- . Great Britain (Royal Yacht Squadron)
- . Switzerland (Société Nautique de Genève)
- . USA (New York Yacht Club)
- . Italy (Circolo della Vela Sicilia)
- . France (Société Nautique de Saint-Tropez)

### The six countries and yacht clubs that form the Invited Teams come from:

- . Spain (Royal Barcelona Yacht Club)
- . The Netherlands (Royal Netherlands Yacht Club & Royal Maas Yacht Club)
- . Canada (Royal Vancouver Yacht Club)
- . Germany (Kieler Yacht Club 3.V & Norddeutscher Regatta Verein)
- . Sweden (Royal Swedish Yacht Club, Royal Gothenburg Yacht Club)
- . Australia (Cruising Yacht Club of Australia).

### POOL A: AMERICA'S CUP TEAMS



**NEW ZEALAND**  
Emirates Team New Zealand Women's Team



**ITALY**  
Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli Women's Team



**UNITED KINGDOM**  
Athena Pathway



**USA**  
NYYC American Magic Women's Team



**SWITZERLAND**  
Alinghi Red Bull Racing Women's Team



**FRANCE**  
Orient Express – L'Oréal Racing Team

### POOL B: INVITED TEAMS



**SPAIN**  
SAIL TEAM BCN




**GERMANY**  
Women's AC Team Germany



**THE NETHERLANDS**  
JAJO Team DutchSail



**SWEDEN**  
Swedish Challenge powered by Artemis Technologies



**CANADA**  
Concord Pacific Racing



**AUSTRALIA**  
Andoo Team Australia



NEW ZEALAND



# EMIRATES TEAM NEW ZEALAND

ROYAL NEW ZEALAND YACHT SQUADRON (RNZYS)

Emirates Team New Zealand named their Puig Women's America's Cup crew revealing a world class and exciting line-up of the best of New Zealand female sailing and foiling talent. The team will represent the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron and Emirates Team New Zealand to compete against eleven other countries in the Puig Women's America's Cup.

The selection criteria assessed several different factors after the potential shortlisted sailors had a week at the team base being assessed on sailing experience, ability, leadership, team work as well as the applicant's individual motivations.

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## TEAM COACH

Aaron McIntosh

## WOMEN'S & YOUTH TEAM MANAGER

Polly Powrie

## COMMUNICATIONS

Hamish Hooper | hamish.hooper@emiratesteamnz.com

James Somerset | james.somerset@emiratesteamnz.com

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**JO ALEH**

Hometown: Auckland, NZL  
Date of Birth: 15 May 1986  
Instagram: @Joaleh



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 1st (470W) ●
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 2nd (470W) ●
- . 2013: Rolex World Sailor of the Year
- . 2023: Women's Foiling Gold Cup – 1st ●
- . 2021: NZ Nacra 17 Coach 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games

**BIOGRAPHY**

Olympic Gold and Silver medallist in the 470 class, Jo has been at the top of world sailing since announcing herself on the global stage winning the coveted 420 World Championship in 2007. Jo represented New Zealand at the Beijing Olympics in 2008 in the Laser Radial class before switching to the 470, winning Gold at the London Olympic Games in 2012 and then Silver at the Rio Olympic Games in 2016. She was also crowned World 470 Champion in 2013. Jo will again compete at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games in the 49erFX with Molly Meech.

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

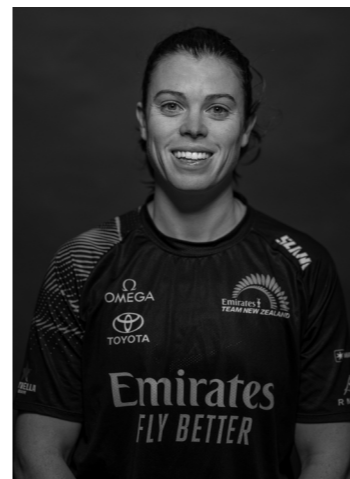
- . 2013: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2023: Women's Foiling Gold Cup – 1st ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 7th (49erFX)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Having already won the 2013 49erFX World Championships in 2013, Molly set her sights on the Rio Olympics in 2016, and secured a silver medal competing with Alex Mahoney. Molly will again represent New Zealand at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games in the 49erFX with Jo Aleh.

**MOLLY MEECH**

Hometown: Tauranga, NZL  
Date of Birth: 31 March 1993  
Instagram: @mollymeech



**ERICA DAWSON**

Hometown: Auckland, NZL  
Date of Birth: 24 July 1994  
Instagram: @erica\_daws



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 12th (Nacra 17)
- . 2022: European Championships – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . 2023: Olympic Test Event, Marseille – 5th
- . 2023: Women's Foiling Gold Cup – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

The only female athlete to ever win the Starling National Championships, Erica moved on to the highly technical foiling Nacra 17 class and qualified for the Tokyo Olympic Games in 2021 where she finished 12th with Micah Wilkinson. Multi-disciplinary, Erica has campaigned in both the 49erFX and the ILCA 6 (Laser Radial) class and is representing New Zealand in the 2024 Paris Olympic Games once again in the Nacra 17 class.



**OLIVIA "LIV" MCKAY**

Hometown: Tutira, Hawkes Bay, NZL  
Date of Birth: 01 March 1996  
Instagram: @livmackay

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Red Bull Foiling Generation World Champion ●
- . 2023: New Zealand SailGP Team – 2nd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Olivia learned to sail at Napier Sailing Club before relocating to Auckland to pursue an Olympic campaign in the Nacra 17 class. Liv won the Red Bull Generation U23 World Championships and is the regular strategist on the NZL SailGP team with extensive experience on the foiling ETF26 world circuit.



**GEMMA JONES**

Hometown: Auckland, NZL  
Date of Birth: 07 January 1994  
Instagram: @gemma\_\_jonesy

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Top 5 at 4x Nacra 17 World Championships
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 4th (Nacra 17 Helm)
- . 2022–23: The Ocean Race Sprint Cup – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Having finished fourth in the World Championships in 2015, Gemma partnered with Jason Saunders in the inaugural mixed Nacra 17 fleet at the Rio Olympic Games of 2016 representing New Zealand and just missed out on the medal podium, finishing fourth. She has also represented her country from a young age at the Youth World Championships in the 420 and the SL16 catamaran classes.



GREAT BRITAIN



# ATHENA PATHWAY

ROYAL YACHT SQUADRON LTD (RYS) 

Athena Pathway was launched in August 2022 by Hannah Mills and Sir Ben Ainslie, the world's most successful Olympic sailors, with the aim of fast-tracking development in high-performance sailing and bringing diversity into the sport and the UK marine industry more broadly. The Puig Women's and Youth America's Cups are a central focus for the Pathway, with the first-time inclusion of a women's event and the renewed emphasis on supporting the next generation representing major progress for the World's oldest sporting trophy in achieving gender equity and raising the sport's profile for young people.

Over 300 applications were received for Athena Pathway's Cup squad, with an intensive 18-month trials process, comprising on-water and simulator-based analysis, used to assess the hopefuls' abilities to adapt to the unique skill set required to sail the AC40's. The selected 12, form a strong sailing squad and have been getting the hours in on the water in Barcelona, upskilling alongside the senior British America's Cup team, ensuring a comprehensive skill enhancement program. The team will be supported in this challenge by leading global aerospace and maritime technology innovator Cobham-Ultra, in a continuation of the firm's extensive investment in UK engineering skills. •

## TEAM HEAD (YOUTH & WOMEN'S TEAM)

Hannah Mills

## TEAM COACHES

Chris Draper, Penny Clark

## COMMUNICATIONS

Kimberleigh Readman | kimberleigh.readman@athenapathway.com

Annabel Stagg | annabel.stagg@ineosbritannia.com

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# ATHENA

P A T H W A Y



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 3x World Champion ● ● ●
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 1st (470W) ●
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 1st (470W) ●
- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 2nd (470W) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Hannah Mills is the most successful female Olympic sailor in history. Mills made her Olympic debut at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, where she won a silver medal in the 470 class along with her teammate Saskia Clark. The duo continued to excel in subsequent years, winning several World Championship titles and securing Gold at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. Hannah's dominance in the event continued at the Tokyo Olympics, where she won Gold once again, an achievement which led to her winning the 2021 World Sailor of the Year award.

### HANNAH MILLS (OBE) | SKIPPER & HELM

Hometown: Cardiff, GBR  
Date of Birth: 29 February 1988  
Instagram: @hannahmills\_gbr



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 1st (470W) ●
- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 2nd (470W) ●
- . 2008: Beijing Olympic Games – 6th (470W)
- . 2012: World Championship – 1st (470W) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

A three-time GB Olympian winning both Olympic Gold and Silver medals, World Championships, numerous World Cup victories and crowned Rolex Sailor of the Year in 2016. Since leaving the Olympic scene in 2016, Saskia has been racing a diverse array of one-design, IRC and classic yachts around the UK, the Mediterranean and the Caribbean, including the British entry for the 1987 Louis Vuitton Cup, White Crusader.

### SASKIA CLARK | TRIMMER

Hometown: West Mersea, Essex, GBR  
Date of Birth: 23 August 1979  
Instagram: @SaskiaClark118



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . Two-times World Champion ● ●
- . Two-times European Champion ● ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 4th (Nacra 17)

### BIOGRAPHY

Anna is an accomplished sailor achieving an Olympic silver medal in Tokyo 2020 and the esteemed titles of two-time world and European champion. Collaborating with teammate John Gimson, she trims the Olympic foiling Nacra 17. Anna's sailing journey commenced on the west coast of Scotland, navigating an Optimist on the scenic Gareloch. As she prepares for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, she also looks ahead to competing in the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup.

### ANNA BURNET | TRIMMER

Hometown: Helensburgh, Scotland, GBR  
Date of Birth: 27 September 1992  
Instagram: @annaburnet



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2023: Formula Kite European Championship – 1st ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 1st (Kite) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Ellie Aldridge, hailing from Poole, embarked on her sailing journey straight out of school in 2016, immersing herself in the competitive world of 49erFX racing. Two years on the global circuit laid the foundation for her next challenge – the exhilarating realm of kitefoiling, the fastest sport in the Olympics. Starting from scratch, Ellie ascended the ranks, capitalising on her sailing knowledge and a relentless thirst for speed. Over the past three years, she has consistently graced the podium at the World Championships, culminating in her crowning achievement as the European Champion last autumn. These triumphs solidified her position for the upcoming 2024 Olympic Games in Paris this summer.

### ELEANOR "ELLIE" ALDRIDGE | HELM

Hometown: Poole, GBR  
Date of Birth: 29 December 1996  
Instagram: @elliealdridge



# ATHENA

P A T H W A Y



## HANNAH DIAMOND | TRIMMER

Hometown: Southampton, GBR  
 Date of Birth: 13 January 1990  
 Instagram: @handiamond

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2013: World Championships – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . 2017/2018: Volvo Ocean Race
- . GBR SailGP Team Seasons 2/3/4

### BIOGRAPHY

Hannah's journey with the British Sailing Team spanned from 2008 to 2016, primarily focusing on the Nacra 17 class. Her notable achievements include a silver medal at the Nacra 17 World Championships in 2013. She then switched focus to the off-shore sailing world, where she made her mark in the Volvo Ocean race in 2017/2018 aboard Vestas 11th Hour Racing. Notably, she secured a commendable 2nd place in the doublehanded class for the Rolex Fastnet Race 2019.



## SASKIA TIDEY | TRIMMER

Hometown: Dun Laoghaire, Dublin, IRL  
 Date of Birth: 11 June 1993  
 Instagram: @saskiatidey



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . Triple Olympian 49er FX
- . 2020: World Championships – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2020: European Championships – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2020: Olympic Test Event Medalist
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 16th (49erFX)

### BIOGRAPHY

Saskia embarked on her sailing journey at the age of 14, inspired by the 2008 Olympic Games. Despite entering the sport relatively late, her passion and dedication quickly propelled her to impressive heights. After representing Ireland in the 2016 Olympic Games, Saskia transitioned to Team GB, leveraging her dual nationality. She achieved a commendable 6th place overall in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. Undeterred by challenges, Saskia is poised to become a three-time Olympian at Paris 2024 with team mate Freya Black.



## FREYA BLACK | HELM

Hometown: Goudhurst Kent, GBR  
 Date of Birth: 22 May 2001  
 Instagram: @freya.blackk



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2019: European Championships – 2nd (29er) ●
- . 2019: Youth National Championships – 1st (29er) ●
- . 2018: Ladies European Championships – 1st (29er) ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 16th (49erFX)

### BIOGRAPHY

Freya Black, a formidable presence in the 49er FX category, proudly represents the British Sailing Team. Nurturing a deep-seated passion for sailing since her youth, Freya amassed an impressive collection of national and European titles during her early career. The realisation of Freya's long-standing dream is now tangible as she gears up to represent her country at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games alongside her accomplished sailing partner, Saskia Tidey.



## NATASHA "TASH" BRYANT

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 01 July 2001  
 Instagram: @tash\_bryant

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2023: Australia SailGP Team Season 3 – 1st ●
- . U19 Youth World Championship – 1st ●
- . 2018: Australian Female Sailor of the Year

### BIOGRAPHY

At the age of 23, Tash, born to two British parents and holding dual British and Australian nationality, has considerable experience on the Olympic circuit in the 49erFX Skiff Class where she qualified Australia for Tokyo 2020 as well as competing on the IQFoil for the first few years of this Paris Quad. In 2018 she was voted Female Sailor of the Year. Tash won the U19 Youth World Championship at only 15 years old and qualified the country for the Olympics at 17. In 2022 she became the youngest member of the Australian SailGP Team, and then in 2023 the youngest ever winner of the SailGP Championship after winning the season finale with the Australian team in San Francisco. She has continued her role as strategist onboard the Australian team for Season 4, with a highlight of winning the home event in Sydney in February 2024. Tash is studying for a Bachelor of Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering.



SWITZERLAND



# ALINGHI RED BULL RACING

SOCIÉTÉ NAUTIQUE DE GENÈVE (SNG)

It took more than six months of selection trials over three separate phases culminating with a week of sailing and evaluations in Barcelona in October 2023 to determine the final roster for the Alinghi Red Bull Racing Women's Team for the Puig America's Cup. Coraline Jonet, project manager for the Alinghi Red Bull Racing Youth & Women's America's Cup said: "We made sure our selection process was thorough by evaluating each of the sailors closely and individually across many criteria. We have huge respect for the other eleven teams and it's going to be a high level of competition among the world's best in the two regattas."

"The crews we selected are the result of a meticulous selection process that started (last) spring and took place over three phases," said Matias Bühler, head coach of the two teams. "It was always about trying to find a trade-off between keeping it simple and thinking out of the box on how to select the final candidates. But it started by defining the profiles we were seeking for these events, and we believe we've found the best team we can build for Switzerland."

## TEAM HEAD (YOUTH & WOMEN'S TEAM)

Coraline Jonet

## TEAM COACH

Matias Bühler

## WOMEN'S SKIPPER

Nathalie Brugger

## COMMUNICATIONS

Sophia Urban | [sophia.urban@alinghiredbullracing.com](mailto:sophia.urban@alinghiredbullracing.com)





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2008: Beijing Olympic Games – 6th (Laser Radial)
- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 14th (Laser Radial)
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 7th (Nacra 17)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Three-time Olympian, Nathalie Brugger is one of the most successful Swiss Olympic sailors. She competed at Beijing 2008 (6th) and London 2012 (14th) in the Laser Radial, then Rio de Janeiro 2016 (7th) in the Nacra 17, before coaching Maud Jayet in the ILCA 6 for Tokyo in 2021. She then sailed on many different boats including the Decision 35, J70 and Diam 24 before helming Alinghi Red Bull Racing TF35 in the 2023 season.

**NATHALIE BRUGGER | SKIPPER**

Hometown: Fribourg, SUI  
 Date of Birth: 25 December 1985  
 Instagram: @nat\_brugger\_sailing



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: U19 World Championships – 1st (Nacra 15) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Growing up in Valencia in the Alinghi family, Marie started her sailing career with the Optimist before moving to the Nacra 15 achieving podiums in three World championships between 2022 and 2023, including an U19 World title in 2023. She also has experience sailing boats such as the J/70, Waszp, M2 and Flying Phantom. In 2023 she helmed the Alinghi Red Bull Racing TF35 for some regattas.

**MARIE MAZUAY**

Hometown: Aire-la-Ville, SUI  
 Date of Birth: 21 May 2005  
 Instagram: @marie.mazu



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2010: World Championships – 1st (420) ●
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 14th (470W)
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 4th (470W)
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 8th (470Mixed)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Maja is one of the most experienced 470 sailors of Switzerland. After winning the 420 Worlds in 2010, she started a 470 Olympic campaign with Linda Fahrni and raced twice at the Olympic Games, finishing 14th in Rio 2016 and 4th in Tokyo 2021. With the 470 class changing to mixed crew, she has now qualified for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games with Yves Mermod.

**MAJA SIEGENTHALER**

Hometown: Bern, SUI  
 Date of Birth: 11 November 1992  
 Instagram: @maja.siegenthaler



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2014: European Championships – 4th (Optimist)
- . 2019: U23 World Championships – 1st (49erFX) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

A 49erFX helm since 2018, Alexandra is a dual-national Swiss-Italian living in Lake Garda, Italy. Before focusing on the 49erFX in which she won the U23 Worlds in 2019, she sailed the 420 and the Optimist, starting as an 8-year-old and finishing 4th at the Optimist Europeans in 2014.

**ALEXANDRA STALDER**

Hometown: Oppeano, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 12 July 1999  
 Instagram: @\_\_\_aleale\_\_\_



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2019: Junior Worlds – 1st (ILCA 4) ●
- . 2020: Europeans – 1st (ILCA 4) ●
- . 2021: U19 Worlds – 2nd (ILCA 6) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Anja is one of the two sailors that received the Boarding Pass during the last qualifier in Barcelona, thereby directly joining the final Youth and Women's team. She has been a talented ILCA 6 sailor for the past three years where she was Vice World Champion U19 in 2021, and before this sailed the ILCA 4 winning a junior world title in 2019 and the Europeans in 2020. In the Optimist class, she finished as 3rd girl in the World Championship in 2018 (27th overall).

**ANJA VON ALLMEN**

Hometown: Spiez, SUI  
Date of Birth: 23 May 2003  
Instagram: @anja\_vonallmen



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2012-2015: Women's World Match Racing Tour
- . Member of Switzerland SailGP Team

**BIOGRAPHY**

A member of Switzerland's SailGP team for the past two years, Laurane Mettraux has over 10 years of sail racing experience at an international level beginning with the Women's World Match Racing Tour from 2012-2015. Laurane has competed across multiple boat classes during her career including in the J70, J80, GC32 and TF35 classes and was co-skipper onboard Teamwork which finished first in the coastal race at the Tour de Bretagne 2021.

**LAURANE METTRAUX**

Hometown: Geneva, SUI  
Date of Birth: 03 August 1992  
Instagram: @lauranemettraux

LUNA ROSSA

PIRELLI PRADA

ITALY



# LUNA ROSSA PRADA PIRELLI

CIRCOLO DELLA VELA SICILIA (CVS) 

The final selection for the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli Women's Teams was the result of months of training and testing at the team base, with specific practice sessions onshore and on the water. "I am very happy with the choices made, but it was not easy," said Max Sirena, Skipper and Team Director of Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli. "The long list was already excellent, we had a choice of athletes with exceptional backgrounds who in their careers have already achieved important results at world level, some with Olympic qualifications. In the end, we focused on

individuals best suited to excel on the AC40, the foiling monotype with which they will compete. For this decision we didn't only evaluate the technical-sporting qualities, but also passion, character and ability to work as a team to achieve a common goal. Now that we have nominated the crew we will focus on training and on the regatta format so that our sailors can approach the event in Barcelona as well-prepared as possible. To all the others I wish the best of luck for their upcoming sporting endeavours, I am sure that our paths will cross again."

## TEAM HEAD

Max Sirena

## TEAM COACH

Simone Salvà

## COMMUNICATIONS

Sara Paesani | PR & Communications Manager | sara.paesani@lunarossachallenge.com

Bianca Ascenti | Press Officer | bianca.ascenti@lunarossachallenge.com





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2008: World Championships – 2nd (470W) ●
- . 2010: World Championships – 3rd (470W) ●
- . 2009: European Championships – 1st (470W) ●
- . 2007–10: European Championships – 2nd (470W) ●●●●
- . 2015: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2014: World Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2015: European Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2016: European Championship – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2004: Athens Olympic Games (Yngling)
- . 2008: Beijing Olympic Games (470W)
- . 2012: London Olympic Games (470W)
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games (49erFX)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Giulia is the Italian sailor with the most participations at the Olympic Games. Following her debut in the Athens 2004 games in the Yngling Class, she competed in the Beijing and London Games in the 470 and then switched to the 49erFX in Rio 2016. She finished the last three Olympics in 5th place. In the 470, Giulia has won silver (2008 and bronze (2010) at the World Championship and was gold medalist at the European Championships in 2009. In the 49erFX she won the World Championship in Buenos Aires in 2015 and the European Championships in Porto in 2015.

**GIULIA CONTI**

Hometown: Rome, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 04 November 1985  
 Instagram: @giuliaconti



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Women World Championship – 1st (O'pen Bic) ●
- . Women World Championship – 1st (RS Tera) ●
- . Women World Championship – 1st (RS Feva) ●
- . Women World Championship – 1st (29er) ●
- . Women European Championship – 1st (29er) ●
- . Youth World Championships – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . Italian Championships – 1st (Nacra 17) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

As a youth sailor, Margherita won world titles in the O'pen Bic, RS Tera and RS Feva classes before moving on to the 29er class, where she won the World and European titles. In 2017 she began sailing foiling boats, starting in the Waszp, before switching to the mixed Nacra 17 foiling catamaran as helm. In 2022 she won the Italian Championship and was second place at the U24 World Championship.

**MARGHERITA PORRO**

Hometown: Brescia, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 11 May 1999  
 Instagram: @porro.marghe



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2011: Women World Championship – 3rd (Optimist) ●
- . 2016: World Championship – 1st (420) ●
- . 2019: Youth World Championship – 1st (470 mixed) ●
- . 2019: Youth European Championship – 3rd (470 mixed) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

At just 14, Maria won a bronze medal at the Optimist Women's Worlds before winning a bronze medal at the 2016 420 Women's Worlds. Sailing in the Olympic 470 class in 2019, Maria won the World Junior Mixed gold and the European Junior Mixed bronze medal. In 2022 Maria Vittoria switched to the 49erFX as crew and also took up wing-foiling, competing at the world championship in 2023. Also in 2023, helming a Persico 69F, Maria secured third place in the Woman Foiling Gold Cup.

**MARIA VITTORIA MARCHESINI**

Hometown: Trieste, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 15 October 1997  
 Instagram: @mavimarche



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2008: World Championships – 2nd (470W) ●
- . 2010: World Championships – 3rd (470W) ●
- . 2009: European Championships – 1st (470W) ●
- . 2007–10: European Championships – 2nd (470W) ●●●●
- . 2008: Beijing Olympic Games (470W)
- . 2012: London Olympic Games (470W)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Having distinguished herself as a child on the Optimist and 420, she was at the top of the World Ranking List in the women's 470 doubles paired with Giulia Conti between 2005 and 2012, winning several medals in the World Championships (a silver in 2008 and a bronze in 2010) and European Championships (silver in 2007, gold in 2009, silver in 2010). She also placed 5th twice at the Olympics (Beijing 2008 and London 2012). In the Nacra 17 class with Lorenzo Bressani she participated in the Olympic campaign for Rio 2016.

**GIOVANNA MICOL**

Hometown: Trieste, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 18 April 1982  
 Instagram: @giovannamicol



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

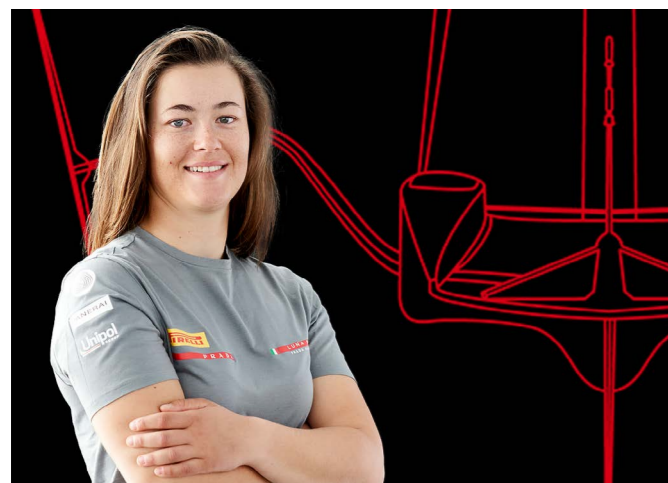
- . 2021, 2022: World Championship – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . 2018, 19, 21: U24 World Championship – 1st (Nacra 17) ●●●
- . 2022, 2023: European Championship – 3rd (Nacra 17) ●
- . 2023: Paris Test Event – 1st (Nacra 17) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

In 2017 Maria embarked on the Olympic path in the Nacra 17 class where she achieved several successes paired with Gianluigi Ugolini: two-time World Vice-Champion (2021 and 2022), three-time U24 World Champion (2018, 2019 and 2021), two bronze medals at the European Championships (2022 and 2023) and Gold at the Paris 2024 Test Event.

**MARIA GIUBILEI**

Hometown: Rome, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 27 December 1998  
 Instagram: @marameeeoo



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

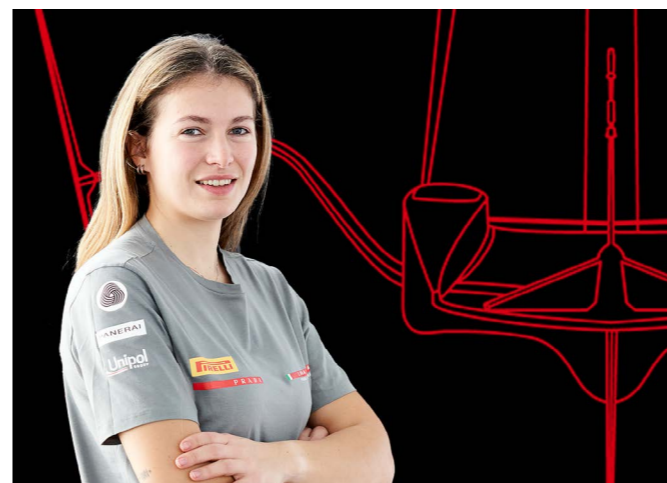
- . World Championship – 3rd (420W) ●
- . European Championship – 2nd (420W) ●
- . World Championship – 2nd (Nacra 15) ●
- . European Championship – 2nd (Nacra 15) ●
- . 2018: Buenos Aires Youth Olympic Games

**BIOGRAPHY**

Giulia began her sailing career in Optimists at the age of 8, to then compete successfully in several youth classes, including the 420 and Nacra 15. She has achieved remarkable results, including two world bronze and one European silver in 420 and one world and European silver in Nacra 15. With the latter boat she also participated in the 2018 Youth Olympics in Argentina. She then devoted herself to Olympic classes, starting with the 49erFX discipline and then moving on to Nacra 17, with which she still sails.

**GIULIA FAVA**

Hometown: Rome, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 17 October 2000  
 Instagram: @giu\_broadbean



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2016: World Championship – 1st (420W) ●
- . 2019: Youth European Championship – 1st (470 mixed) ●
- . 2019: European Championship – 3rd (470 mixed) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Alice began sailing at the age of seven in Optimists, moving on to the 420s as bowman where she won the world title when she was just 15 years old. She then switched to the Olympic 470 class in which she won the European Mixed Juniors title in 2019, taking the bronze in the overall ranking. In 2017, at 16, she helmed an 80-footer at the world's most attended regatta, the Barcolana, later winning (in their division) the 2023 edition. That same year she entered the world of foiling sailing, competing aboard a 69F in the Women Foiling Gold Cup (coming third).

**ALICE LINUSSI**

Hometown: Trieste, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 25 December 2000  
 Instagram: @alichelinussi



USA



# NYYC AMERICAN MAGIC

NEW YORK YACHT CLUB (NYYC) 

The New York Yacht Club American Magic Women's Team is set to make history representing the United States in the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup. The 5-strong team includes 3 Olympians, a winner and a finalist of US Sailing's Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year Award, a winner of the Women's Moth Worlds, a winner of The Ocean Race, and multiple collegiate All-Americans. Together they bring a diverse background of sailing skills and experience to this amazing and historic challenge.

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## TEAM HEAD

Sara Stone

## TEAM COACHES

Charlie Ogletree, Kinley Fowler

## COMMUNICATIONS

Graeme Harrison | [graeme.harrison@americanmagic.com](mailto:graeme.harrison@americanmagic.com)

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**FRANCESCA CLAPCICH**

Hometown: Park City, UT, USA  
 Date of Birth: 28 January 1988  
 Instagram: @francescaclapcich

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 19th (Laser Radial)
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 5th (49erFX)
- . 2022-23: The Ocean Race round the world race – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Francesca is a 2-time Olympian who competed in the Laser Radial class at the London 2012 Olympics and achieved a 5th-place finish in the 49erFX at the Rio 2016 Olympics alongside Italy's Giulia Conti. Francesca has excelled in numerous championships, securing a World Championship title in 2015 and achieving third place in the 2014 49erFX World Championship. Additionally, she clinched the European Championship in 2015 and achieved podium placements in various World Cup events. In 2022-23, Francesca crewed onboard 11th Hour Racing, the first US-flagged team to win the Ocean Race, and named by World Sailing as the '2023 Team of the Year'. Francesca is also the only female skipper in the Ocean50 trimaran class, leading her project Upwind by MerConcept.



**ERIKA REINEKE**

Hometown: Fort Lauderdale, FL, USA  
 Date of Birth: 15 May 1992  
 Instagram: @erikarreineke

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2017 US Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year
- . 2017 Quantum Women's Sailor of the Year
- . 4x Collegiate All-American at Boston College
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 9th (ILCA6)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Erika has a rich history of success and currently competes in multiple disciplines at the top level of the sport. Her sailing career began at a young age in Optimist class where she became a 2x Girl's National Champion. She then moved into the ILCA 6 class and achieved two Youth World Championships Titles. As a collegiate sailor, Erika made history by becoming the first person to win four Singlehanded National Championships. More recently, she won Gold at the 2023 Pan American Games in the ILCA6 class and triumphed in the 2023 SailGP event in Cadiz, ESP, serving as a strategist for the US team. Erika will also be representing the US in the 2024 Paris Olympic Games in the ILCA6.



**LOUISA NORDSTROM**

Hometown: Sarasota, FL, USA  
 Date of Birth: 25 May 1998  
 Instagram: @louisanordstrom

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2024: US Olympic Team Trials – 2nd (470 mixed) ●
- . 4x All-American at Yale University
- . 2019 Quantum Women's Sailor of the Year Finalist

**BIOGRAPHY**

Building on a strong youth sailing career, Louisa went on to sail at Yale University where she achieved the impressive feat of becoming a 4-time All-American Sailor. After earning her B.S. degree in Cognitive Science, Louisa dedicated herself to a mixed 470 Olympic campaign as a helm, was named to the US Sailing Team and finished in a hard-fought 2nd place in the 2024 US Olympic Team Trials. Louisa is now excited to make history as a member of NYYC American Magic Women's Team.



**HELENA SCUTT**

Hometown: Kirkland, WA & San Francisco, CA, USA  
 Date of Birth: 15 June 1992  
 Instagram: @Helenas9

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 10th (49erFX)
- . 2022: Foiling Awards Female Sailor of the Year
- . 2022: International Women's Moth World Champion ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Helena Scutt brings a unique blend of technical expertise and sailing prowess to the NYYC American Magic Women's Team. As the 2022 International Women's Moth World Champion and a 2016 49erFX Olympian in Rio, her achievements are diverse, with top-10 international rankings in 49erFX and Nacra 17 classes. Helena was also celebrated as the 2022 Foiling Awards Female Sailor of the Year. With a Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University, Helena is a Mechatronics Engineer for American Magic, playing a pivotal role in designing sailors' interfaces for American Magic's AC75 foiling monohull, adding a unique technical perspective to the team.



**SARA STONE | TEAM HEAD**

Hometown: Marion, MA, USA  
 Date of Birth: 05 November 1991  
 Instagram: @sarab\_stone

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: US Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year Finalist
- . 2022: Bermuda Doublehanded Return Race – 1st overall ●
- . 2023: TP52 Super Series, Quantum Racing – 3rd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Sara's dedication to sailing is reflected in her impressively diverse resume. She excels in distance racing, foiling, match racing, and fleet racing across various boat classes. Her offshore experience exceeds 25,000 nautical miles, including 5,000nm of double-handed sailing, with a notable victory in the inaugural 2022 Bermuda Doublehanded Return Race. Sara is a past member of the US Sailing Team where she competed in the Nacra17 foiling catamaran, and is one of the only permanent female crew in the ultra-competitive international TP52 Class as a member of the Quantum Racing, powered by American Magic Sailing Team. Sara earned recognition as a 2022 Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year Finalist for her broad-based success.



FRANCE



# ORIENT EXPRESS – L'ORÉAL RACING TEAM [↗](#)

SOCIÉTÉ NAUTIQUE SAINT-TROPEZ (SNST) [↗](#)

Orient Express Racing, the French Challenge for the 37th America's Cup announced their Puig Women's America's Cup squad at the end of December 2023. The list of seven sailors includes several world, European, match-racing and youth champions, and Olympic sailors across a range of yacht racing disciplines.

Their selection followed a near year-long programme of assessment which involved a collaboration

between France's challenger for the America's Cup the Orient Express Racing Team, the French Sailing Federation, the École Nationale de Voile et des Sports Nautiques, and Team France. The team have been training hard on the simulator through the European winter and Manon Audinet skipper of the Women's team got her first taste of AC40 sailing in March 2024 whilst the rest of the team continued their training at the French National Sailing School in Bretagne.

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## TEAM HEAD

Bruno Dubois

## TEAM COACH

Fabrice Levelt

## COMMUNICATIONS

Caroline Muller | French Media | [caroline.muller@orientexpressracingteam.fr](mailto:caroline.muller@orientexpressracingteam.fr)

Sabina Mollart-Rogerson | International Media | [sabina.mollartrogerson@orientexpressracingteam.fr](mailto:sabina.mollartrogerson@orientexpressracingteam.fr)

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**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2020: World Championship – 1st (Nacra 17) ●
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 8th (Nacra 17)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Selected for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games, Manon partnered with Orient Express Team Skipper Quentin Delapierre and notched up a string of good results, winning the World Cup in Enoshima, 4th in the World Championships, 2nd in the European Championships; before the duo performed below expectations at the Games, finishing 8th.

**MANON AUDINET | SKIPPER**

Hometown: La Rochelle, FRA  
 Date of Birth: 12 February 1992  
 Instagram: @manonaudinet



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

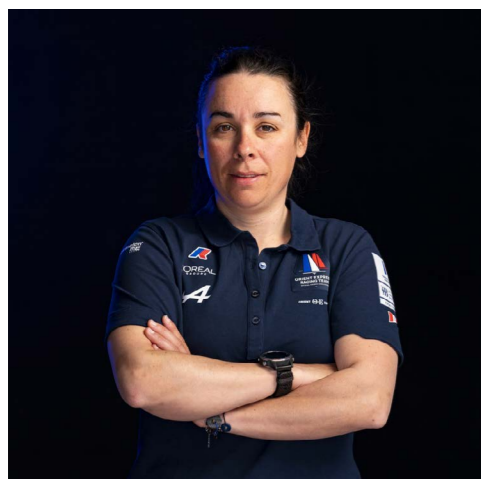
- . 2018: Youth World Championship – 2nd (470W) ●
- . 2018: Elite French Championship – 2nd (470) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Lara was raised in Kenya starting sailing in the Optimist at the age of 8. Upon arriving in France Lara levelled up her interest in sailing by joining the Antibes training centre to start in the 420 class. She later moved into the 470 class at Pôle France in Marseille, coming second at the Youth Worlds and Elite French Champion in 2018 before teaming up with Amélie Riou in the 49erFX class.

**LARA GRANIER**

Hometown: Nairobi, KEN  
 Date of Birth: 11 November 1995  
 Instagram: @laragranier



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021–23: Women's Match Racing World Champion ●●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Pauline Courtois is a match-racing specialist having won the Women's Match Racing World Championship three times between 2021 and 2023. Prior to those successes she was a coming force, placing second in 2018 and third in 2019. She also placed third in the 2023 double-handed Paprec Transat with Corentin Horeau.

**PAULINE COURTOIS**

Hometown: Brest, FRA  
 Date of Birth: 27 April 1989  
 Instagram: @pau\_courtois



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Winner Tour de France à la Voile ●
- . Member of France SailGP Team

**BIOGRAPHY**

Amélie comes from the offshore sailing mecca of Brittany in France. Amélie has completed Olympic campaigns first in the Laser Radial class in 2016 where she was a reserve before moving into the Nacra 17 through to 2019. Amélie then went on to win the Tour de France à la Voile on a Diam 24 before joining the French SailGP Team with Quentin Delapierre.

**AMÉLIE RIOU**

Hometown: Morlaix, FRA  
 Date of Birth: 02 October 1992  
 Instagram: @a\_riou



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

. 2022/24: European Formula Kite Championship – 2nd ●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Part of the new breed of foiling superstars, Jessie is one of the hottest Formula Kite sailors in the world having secured silver medals at both the 2022 and 2024 European Formula Kite Championships. She will be looking to bring a wealth of experience to Orient Express in the Puig Women's America's Cup.

**JESSIE KAMPMAN**

Hometown: Crawley, GBR  
Date of Birth: 16 May 2000  
Instagram: @jessiekampman



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

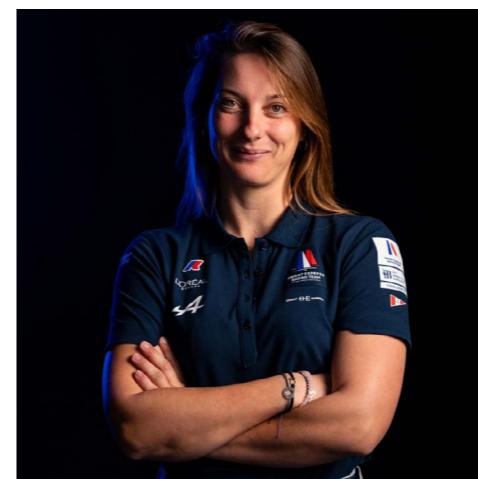
. World Championship – 2nd (Nacra 15) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Audrey started sailing Optimist at age 10, before moving on to catamarans in the classic Hobie 16 and SL16 series, and the Nacra 15 where she was runner up in the World Championships before beginning Olympic sailing in the Nacra 17. An accomplished offshore sailor, she skippered Oman Sail in the Tour de France sailing with Omani women. Recently she completed a Transatlantic and the Transat Jacques Vabre with sailed with Erwan Le Roux on the Ocean50 Koesio.

**AUDREY OGEREAU**

Hometown: Nantes, FRA  
Date of Birth: 20 July 1992  
Instagram: @audreyogereau



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

. 2019: Sailor of the Year (French Sailing Federation)  
. 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 3rd (470W) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Aloïse, together with Camille Lecointre, won the 470 European Championship in 2019 and 2021 and a silver medal in the 470 at the 2029 Military World Games in Wuhan plus the final of the Sailing World Cup in Marseille. Alongside Camille, Aloïse was awarded the 2019 Sailor of the Year award by the French Sailing Federation before the duo won the bronze medal in the 470 Women fleet at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games.

**ALOÏSE RETORNAZ**

Hometown: Brest, FRA  
Date of Birth: 03 February 1994  
Instagram: @aloiseretornaz



SPAIN



# SAIL TEAM BCN

REAL CLUB NÁUTICO DE BARCELONA (RCNB) 

Sail Team BCN's crew for the Puig Women's America's Cup includes Paula Barceló, Támara Echegoyen, Neus Ballester, Silvia Mas, María Cantero and Nicole Van der Velden. The Spanish female sailors have a wealth of Olympic experience, including Támara's Olympic gold medal, as well as numerous world, European and national titles.

Stewart Hosford, CEO of Sail Team BCN, and Ross Daniel, team manager, lead a project that also has Spanish Olympian Mónica Azón and Portuguese Luis Brito as coaches. The team has been training for several months at the Port de Sitges and in July moved its operations to the Real Club Náutico de Barcelona, the club it represents.

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## TEAM HEAD

Ross Daniel

## TEAM COACHES

Luis Brito, Mónica Azon

## COMMUNICATIONS

Nacho Gómez-Zarzuela | [comms@sailteambcn.com](mailto:comms@sailteambcn.com)

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 OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PROFILE



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 1st (Elliott 6) ●
- . 2013: World Championship – 1st ●
- . 2011: European Championship – 1st (Match Race Class) ●
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 4th (49erFX)
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 4th (49erFX)
- . 2016, 20: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●●
- . 2017/18: Volvo Ocean Race, Team MAPFRE – 2nd ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 12th (49erFX)

**BIOGRAPHY**

After winning a Gold medal at the London 2012 Olympic Games in the Elliott 6 keelboat, Támara has since gone on to represent Spain at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games in the 49erFX and the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games in the 49erFX Women fleet. In the last two regattas she finished 4th and was awarded the Olympic Diploma. She has also competed offshore onboard Mapfre in the Volvo Ocean Race 2017-18 edition. Támara, with crew Paula Barceló qualified in the 49erFX class for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games and the duo were selected to represent Spain.



**TÁMARA ECHEGOYEN**

Hometown: Orense, ESP  
Date of Birth: 17 February 1984  
Instagram: @xiquitagolden



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2x World Championship – 2nd (420W) ●●
- . Youth European Championship – 3rd (470) ●
- . Youth World Championship – 5th (470)

**BIOGRAPHY**

A rising star of Spanish sailing, Neus won the U17 420 World Championships in 2019 before going on to win the 2021 Youth Sailing World Championships with a race to spare.



**NEUS BALLESTER**

Hometown: Palma de Mallorca, ESP  
Date of Birth: 16 December 2003  
Instagram: @neusbbover



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

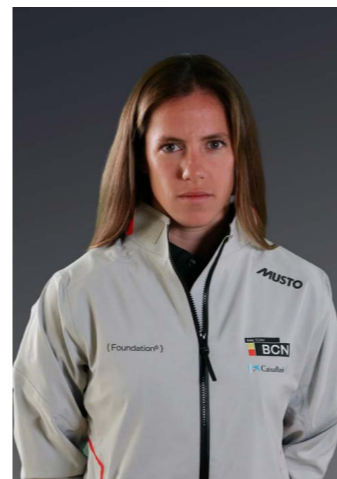
- . 2013: Youth World Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2021: World Championship – 5th (49erFX)
- . 2022: World Championship – 6th (49erFX)
- . 2021: Youth Foiling Gold Cup, RHKYC Team Agiplast – 3rd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Highly experienced sailor who announced herself on the world stage with a bronze at the 49erFX Youth World Cup in 2013. At the 49erFX World Championships, crewing for Patricia Suárez, the team finished sixth. Transferring to the foiling Persico 69F class, María was part of the team that secured third place in the opening event at Gaeta in 2021 for the Royal Hong Kong YC Team Agiplast.

**MARÍA CANTERO IZQUIERDO**

Hometown: Canarias, ESP  
Date of Birth: 26 June 1997  
Instagram: @merycantero



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

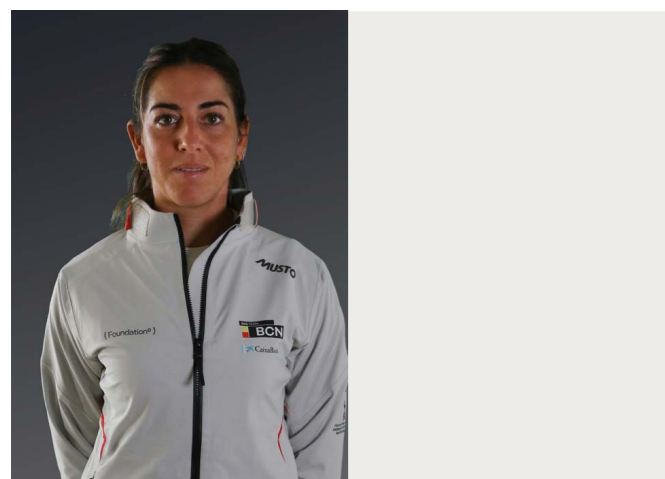
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games (470W)
- . World Championships – 1st (470W) ●
- . 2x Youth World Championships Winner ●●
- . Spanish Championship Winner (Women and Men) ●
- . European Championship Bronze Medal ●
- . 7x International Medals

**BIOGRAPHY**

After winning a gold medal at the 470 Women's World Championships in Vilamoura, Portugal, in March 2021, Silvia had high hopes for a medal at the Covid-delayed 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games later that year. Sailing with Patricia Cantero they ended up 11th but Silvia is regarded as one of the brightest stars of Spanish sailing with seven international medals and two Junior World Championships on her CV.

**SILVIA MAS**

Hometown: Barcelona, ESP  
Date of Birth: 23 August 1996  
Instagram: @silviamasd



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2020: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2022: World Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 4th (49erFX)
- . 2023: European Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 12th (49erFX)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Sailing with Támara Echegoyen, Paula secured a gold medal at the 2020 49erFX World Championships and went on to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games where the pair finished fourth and were awarded the Olympic Diploma. In 2023 the team scored bronze at the 49erFX European Championships. Paula, together with helm Támara Echegoyen qualified Spain in the 49erFX class for the 2024 Paris Olympic Games and the duo were selected to represent Spain.

**PAULA BARCELÓ MARTÍN**

Hometown: Palma de Mallorca, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 13 March 1996  
 Instagram: @paula.barcelo



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . SailGP Season 4 Los Angeles & Bermuda with Team Spain – 1st ●●
- . 2022: Lanzarote International Week – 1st (IQFoil) ●
- . 2021: European Championship – 7th (IQFoil)
- . 2019: World Championship – 14th (49erFX)
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 16th (Nacra 17)
- . 2015: World Championship – 7th (Nacra 17)
- . 2014: European Championship – 10th (Nacra 17)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born in Madrid, but raised in Aruba in the Dutch Caribbean, Van der Velden competed in the Nacra 17 at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, after which she switched to the 49erFX Olympic skiff and competed globally from 2018 through to 2020. More recently she has focused on competing in SailGP as a strategist with the Spanish team.

**NICOLE VAN DER VELDEN**

Hometown: Madrid, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 26 October 1994  
 Instagram: @nicoleveldenn



THE NETHERLANDS 



# JAJO TEAM DUTCHSAIL

KONINKLIJKE NEDERLANDSCHE ZEIL- & ROEIVEREENIGING (KNZ&RV)   
ROYAL MAAS YACHT CLUB (KR&ZV 'DE MAAS') 

Coached by Annemieke Bes, Pieter-Jan Postma and Cas van Dongen, the JAJO Team DutchSail have been busy upskilling the twelve sailors throughout Spring with plenty of simulator training and online match-races being held between the Dutch and NYYC American Magic, Canada and Australian teams. In March the team announced a new sponsor in the

form of JAJO Construction Group whose CEO Ivo van der Mark officially christened the simulator during a presentation at Van der Zwan in Scheveningen. The JAJO Team DutchSail is led by Sander van der Borch with skipper Odile van Aanholt.

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## TEAM HEAD

Sander van der Borch

## TEAM COACHES

Pieter Jan Postma, Annemieke Bes, Cas van Dongen

## COMMUNICATIONS

Bart Salemans | Head of Communications | bart.salemans@dutchsail.com

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**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021/22/24: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●●●
- . 2021/22: European Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 1st (49erFX) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Odile started sailing at the age of 4 in the Optimist in Curaçao. In the Optimist Odile became, among other things, North American champion and finished several times among the top 3 girls at various World Championships. Over the years Odile sailed various boats, such as the 29er, Laser 4.7, Laser Radial and Byte c2, and not without success! She took for example second place at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games. Since 2017, Odile has been sailing in the 49erFX with the Dutch High Performance Project of the Waters Sports Association. In 2022 she decided to sail together with Annette Duetz. A strong combination as they will become European Champions in Aarhus and World Champions in Nova Scotia. For Odile already her second World Champion title after 2021 in which she took the title with Elise de Ruyter. Winning the last World Championship in the 49erFX earlier this year in Lanzarote, Odile can now even call herself a triple World Champion. This summer she will make her debut at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

**ODILE VAN AANHOLT | SKIPPER**

Hometown: Curaçao  
 Date of Birth: 14 January 1998  
 Instagram: @ootje5



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 7th (49erFX)
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2018/19/22/24: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●●●●
- . 2022: European Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 1st (49erFX) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

With her sailing parents as an example, Annette has been in the boat from an early age and started sailing competitively at the age of 14. Since November 2013, Annette has been sailing in the 49erFX class. From 2014 onwards, Annette has been sailing with Annemieke Bekkering. Which brought her already to two Olympics and the bronze medal at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. With Annemieke Annette is also a double 49er FX World Champion winning Gold in 2018 at Aarhus and again in 2019 in Auckland. The pair also won Gold twice at the European Championships in 2019 and 2022. In 2022 Annette decided to sail together with Odile van Aanholt. Together they become European and World Champions in the same year. After also winning the last World Championship in the 49erFX earlier this year in Lanzarote, Annette can now even call herself a four-time World Champion. This summer she will make her third appearance at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games.

**ANNETTE DUETZ**

Hometown: Bergh, NED  
 Date of Birth: 29 June 1993  
 Instagram: @annetteduetz



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2012: World Youth Championship – 1st (Laser Radial) ●
- . 2018–2021: European Championship – 2nd (Laser Radial / ILCA6) ●●●●
- . 2020: World Championship – 2nd (ILCA6) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

One of the elite ILCA 6 (Laser Radial) sailors in the world, Maxime burst onto the scene winning the U21 World Championships in 2015 and has gone on to secure the European Championships. Unfortunately for Maxime, she just missed out on selection for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games after an heroic effort that came down to the wire. Maxime started sailing in the Optimist at the age of 6. As a member of the K.W.V.L. she got a taste for competitive sailing and eventually joined the National Optimist Team. When the Optimist became too small, she switched to the Laser.

**MAXIME JONKER**

Hometown: Tiel, NED  
 Date of Birth: 06 March 1995  
 Instagram: @maximejonker



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: The Ocean Race Sprint Cup, WindWhisper – 1st ●
- . World Championship – 3rd (Swan 50) ●
- . Multiple Dutch Champion J70 and match race

**BIOGRAPHY**

As a product of the Dutch Team Heiner Academy it was Roy Heiner who taught her the basics of competitive sailing on big boats. After the academy Arianne sailed the Fastnet race, Sydney Hobart and the Caribbean 600 she joined the Magenta project and found in sailing legend and fellow Dutchie Carolijn Brouwer a mentor. Nowadays Arianne has earned her stripes on big boats and both offshore and inshore racing. From VO65, she won The Ocean Race Europe Sprint Cup with WindWhisper Racing Team, to TP52s, Fast40s and the SWAN 50s. She has sailed thousands of miles on them and brings some great grand prix racing experience to the team.

**ARIANNE VAN DE LOOSDRECHT**

Hometown: Utrecht, NED  
 Date of Birth: 26 January 1994  
 Instagram: @ariannevandeloosdrecht



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021/22: Youth Foiling Gold Cup – 1st (69F) ●●
- . 2016: Youth World Championship – 5th (29er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Ismene started out sailing Optimists together with her sister. After her switch to the 29er she sailed several Youth World Championships around the globe and ended as fourth girl's team at the 29er European Champions in 2017. After the 29er, she switched to the 49erFX but decided to focus on her studies in Molecular Science and Technology first. In preparation for the 2020 edition of the Puig Women's and UniCredit Youth America's Cup with JAJO Team DutchSail, Ismene paused her studies and focused full-time on sailing. Nowadays Ismene as a two-time 69F Youth Foiling Gold Cup champion is considered one of the top Dutch foiling talents.

**ISMENE USMAN**

Hometown: Leiden, NED  
 Date of Birth: 15 January 1999  
 Instagram: @ismene\_usman



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2018/19: Youth World Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2019: U21 & U23 Youth European Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2021: Youth World Championship – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2023: European Championship – 10th (Nacra 17)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Willemijn is more or less born on board and has been sailing competitively since she was 6 years old. First in the Optimist and in 2011 she switched to the RSFeva together with her brother Manus. Their next step together was sailing in the 29er. In the autumn of 2016 Manus and Willemijn boarded the 49erFX together. After a successful European Championship in 2017, Willemijn joined the Dutch Olympic Sailing Team full-time and became one of the training partners for Annemieke Bekkering and Annette Duetz. In 2023 Willemijn switched from the 49erFX towards the Nacra 17 in which she is now sailing with Scipio Houtman, aiming for a spot at the Los Angeles Olympic Games of 2028.

**WILLEMIJN OFFERMAN**

Hometown: Amsterdam, NED  
 Date of Birth: 05 September 1999  
 Instagram: @willemijnofferma

# CONCORD PACIFIC RACING

CANADA



# CONCORD PACIFIC RACING



ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB (RVYC)

The Canadian Women's Teams have been balancing their time between the AC40 Simulator and foiling in Moths. This approach aims to fine-tune foiling skills and develop strategies that the sailors can transfer to the AC40 monohull they'll be racing in the Puig Women's America's Cup regattas in 2024.

Following their summer training on Lake Garda, which included competing in the Persico 69F at the inaugural Women's 69F Gold Cup—the focus of Concord Pacific Racing's America's Cup training program has moved to Spain. As the countdown to the regatta gains momentum, the Canadian team has set up a base in Barcelona.

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## TEAM HEAD

Isabella Bertold

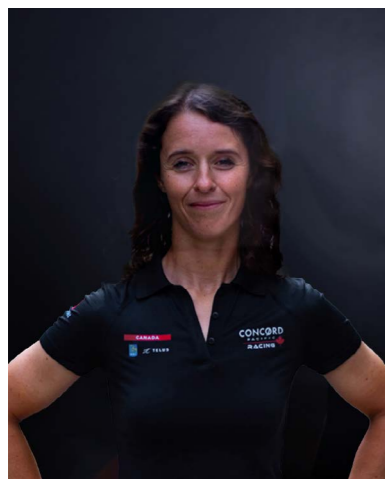
## COMMUNICATIONS

James Rigby | james@jrigby.co

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# CONCORD PACIFIC RACING



## ISABELLA BERTOLD | SKIPPER

Hometown: Vancouver (BC), CAN  
 Date of Birth: 04 February 1991  
 Instagram: @isabella\_bertold

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

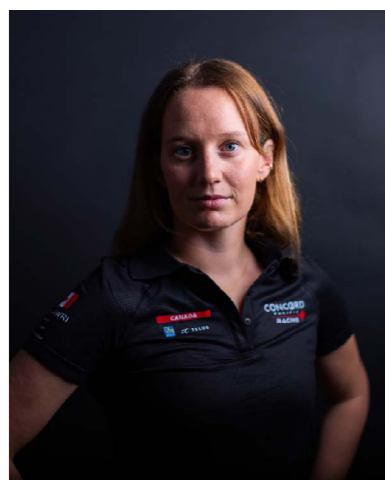
- . 2x World Cup wins (ILCA6) ●●
- . SailGP Team Canada strategist

### BIOGRAPHY

Meet Isabella Bertold, Canada's Women Team Captain. For 17 years, Isabella was a member of the Canadian National Sailing Team, winning two World Cup medals in the ILCA 6 class, and reaching a career-high ranking of 2nd in the world. After retiring from competitive sailing, Isabella switched gears, literally, and traded her sails in for spokes and hit the pavement as a UCI Professional Cyclist.

Drawn back to the water, Isabella returned to competitive racing as the strategist for Canada's SailGP team in 2022 and helped lead the team to a historic victory in Christchurch in April 2023, marking Canada's first-ever win in the F50 class.

Isabella holds a Bachelor of Commerce from the Sauder School of Business, and a Master of Finance and Sustainability from the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management. Passionate about empowering the next generation of female athletes, Isabella launched the Next Gen Legacy Fund in 2021 to support youth sailors in British Columbia.



## ALI TEN HOVE

Hometown: Kingston (ON), CAN  
 Date of Birth: 23 December 1995  
 Instagram: @alitenhove

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

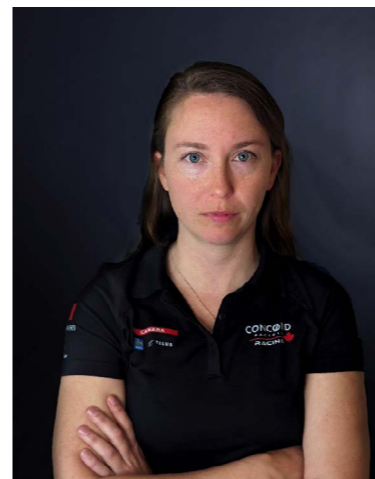
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 16th (49erFX)
- . 2023: Pan American Games – 2nd (49erFX) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Ali ten Hove is an Olympian whose passion for sailing was sparked by her father's Olympic legacy. Martin ten Hove competed in the 470 at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics and was a bronze medalist at the 1983 Pan American Games. Ali's passion for the sport is in the genes.

In 2016, Ali partnered with Mariah Millen to compete in the 49erFX; the duo joined the Canadian National Sailing Team in 2018. Fueled by determination, Ali and Mariah climbed to a career-high ranking of 7th in the world and represented Canada at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. In 2023, they secured a silver medal at the Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile.

Ali holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Queen's University. Beyond her own training, she's a fierce advocate for women in sport, inspiring the next generation to chase their dreams and make waves in the world of sailing.



## MAGGIE DRINKWATER

Hometown: Vancouver (BC), CAN  
 Date of Birth: 02 January 1990  
 Instagram: @mdwater

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . dinghy, keelboat, coastal and offshore sailor

### BIOGRAPHY

Maggie Drinkwater grew up sailing dinghies at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and became a seasoned sailor who made her mark in high-performance keelboat classes. Her competitive spirit and dedication have seen her excel in coastal races around Vancouver and Vancouver Island, including the offshore Vic-Mauai International Yacht Race in 2022, the longest offshore race off the west coast of North America.

Recently, Maggie has discovered a dual love for offshore racing and fast-flying boats.

Maggie holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of British Columbia and works in the financial technology industry. With a vibrant career and a commitment to excellence, Maggie continues to build on her impressive sailing journey.



## MARIAH MILLEN

Hometown: Toronto (ON), CAN  
 Date of Birth: 29 June 1998  
 Instagram: @mariahmillen

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 16th (49erFX)
- . 2023: Pan American Games – 2nd (49erFX) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Mariah Millen is another Olympian with a rich heritage. Her father, John Millen, is an I14 World Champion, America's Cup crew member, and took the bronze medal in the Flying Dutchman at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul.

Mariah transitioned from the 29er to the 49erFX in 2016, teaming up with Ali ten Hove. The pair were named to the Canadian National Sailing Team in 2018, and quickly climbed the ranks, reaching a career-high ranking of 7th in the world. The team represented Canada at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics, finishing 16th. In 2023, they secured a silver medal at the Pan American Games in Santiago, Chile.

Mariah is dedicated to training and continues to build on her impressive sailing career. With a legacy of excellence and a bright future ahead, Mariah is set to continue making her mark in Canadian sailing.



## MAURA DEWEY

Hometown: Victoria (BC), CAN  
 Date of Birth: 09 October 1992  
 Instagram: @mauradewey

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . National and North American Championships – 1st (ILCA6) ●●

### BIOGRAPHY

Maura Dewey grew up on Vancouver Island and has been a member of Canada's National Sailing Team since 2017. Maura competes in the ILCA 6, the women's single-handed dinghy. She has won national and North American championships, World Cup races, and competed in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic test event.

Maura has also made waves internationally in other classes, including the J70 and Melges 24. For her latest challenge, she's taken on the high-speed International Moth.

Maura holds a Bachelor of Science in Atmospheric Physics from the University of Victoria and is currently a PhD candidate at Stockholm University in Sweden, where she delves into meteorology and machine learning. Passionate about blending her love for science and sailing, Maura regularly holds weather seminars for sailors and provides meteorological consulting for major competitions.



GERMANY



# WOMEN'S AMERICA'S CUP TEAM GERMANY

KIELER YACHT CLUB

NORDDEUTSCHER REGATTAVEREIN

BAYRISCHER YACHT-CLUB

Jochen Schümann, the legend of German sailing with three Olympic gold medals, nine medals at world championships and two America's Cup victories has joined Team Germany to act as a 'supporter, sponsor and mentor'. "My goal is that the German Youth and Women's AC participation in 2024 does not remain a one-off experience. Such big challenges require long-

term and sustained effort and investment to be not just a participant, but a real competitor with a chance of winning."

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## TEAM HEADS

Caroline Werner (Women), Paul Farien (Youth)  
Ole Sartori (GM), Oliver Schwall (GM)

## TEAM COACH

Marc Pickel

## WOMEN'S TEAM SKIPPER

Carolina Werner

## COMMUNICATIONS

press@ac-team-germany.com



© Team Germany



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games participation
- . 2017: Olympic campaign
- . 2017: World Championships – 5th (Nacra)
- . Foiling experience: Foiling Nacra 17 and WASZP

**BIOGRAPHY**

As the team lead of the Women's Team, Carolina's sailing career is marked by significant achievements, including participating in the 2016 Olympics and another Olympic campaign in 2017. She achieved 5th place at the Nacra World Championship in 2017 and has extensive foiling experience with the Foiling Nacra 17 and WASZP. Carolina is thrilled about the opportunity to compete in the first-ever Women's America's Cup, viewing it as a groundbreaking event in sailing.

**CAROLINA WERNER**

Hometown: Kiel, GER  
 Date of Birth: 02 March 1994  
 Instagram: @windywerner



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games participation
- . 2022: World Championship – 1st (470) ●
- . Current Olympic campaign

**BIOGRAPHY**

Luise participated in the Tokyo Olympics in the 470 class in 2021 and became World Champion in the 470 class in 2022. She is currently engaged in another Olympic campaign. Luise considers the Puig Women's America's Cup a historic and special opportunity, highlighting its significance as the first event of its kind in the Cup's history, allowing women to compete at such a prestigious level.

**LUISE WANSE**

Hometown: Essen, GER  
 Date of Birth: 07 June 1997  
 Instagram: @luisewanser



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 3x Olympic Games participations
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2017/20: European Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

"When I was 15, I was able to sail on an America's Cup boat for the first time as an Opti World Champion. Chris Dickson invited me to have a taste—I was even allowed to steer myself. It was immediately clear to me: one day I would like to sail in the America's Cup. It would be amazing if this childhood dream came true."

**TINA LUTZ**

Hometown: Munich, GER  
 Date of Birth: 25 October 1990  
 Instagram: @tinam.lutz



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2019: World Championship – 1st (Foiling Moth) ●
- . 2022: World Championship – 2nd (Foiling Moth) ●
- . 2019: German Championship – 1st (Foiling Moth) ●
- . Foiling experience: Foiling Moth

**BIOGRAPHY**

Franziska has made her mark in foiling International Moth sailing, becoming World Champion in 2019 and Vice World Champion in 2022. She also secured the title of German Champion in 2019. Franziska's fascination with the America's Cup began when she collected signatures from America's Cup sailors on her life jacket as a young Optimist sailor. Now, she is on the brink of fulfilling her dream to compete in this prestigious regatta, the Puig Women's America's Cup, with a women's team.

**FRANZISKA MÄGE**

Hometown: Munich, GER  
 Date of Birth: 29 October 1995  
 Instagram: @the.flyingunicorn



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: Kiel Week – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 49erFX Olympic campaign
- . 2020: Youth Worlds – 5th (49erFX)
- . 2020: 49erFX World Cups – top ten placements
- . Foiling experience: One season of iQFoil and Wingfoil

**BIOGRAPHY**

Sophie's accomplishments include participating in a 49erFX Olympic campaign, winning Kiel Week in the 49erFX in 2022, and placing 5th at the Youth Worlds in 2020. With top ten finishes in World Cups and a season of experience in iQFoil and Wingfoil, Sophie views the Women's America's Cup as a significant opportunity for women to showcase their tactical knowledge and sailing skills, particularly in a class where physical strength isn't the only determining factor.

**SOPHIE STEINLEIN**

Hometown: Munich, GER  
 Date of Birth: 06 March 2002  
 Instagram: @sophiesteinlein\_



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2019: Kieler Woche – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2018: European Championship – 2nd ●
- . 2016: World Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2017: European Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games participation

**BIOGRAPHY**

Victoria has a distinguished record in the 49erFX, including participating in the 2016 Olympics, winning a silver medal at the European Championship in 2018, and bronze medals in 2017 and 2016. She also secured victory at Kiel Week in 2019. Now, she is excited to showcase her skills and passion for sailing with an inspiring team of women in the upcoming Puig Women's America's Cup.

**VICTORIA JURCZOK**

Hometown: Berlin, GER  
 Date of Birth: 25 March 1990



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: World Cup – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . 2022: Junior World Championships – 5th (49erFX)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Jill achieved 2nd place at the World Cup Medemblik in the Nacra 17 in 2021 and 5th place at the Junior Worlds in 49erFX in 2022. Jill is excited about the opportunity to compete in the Puig Women's America's Cup, seeing it as the ultimate goal to experience the thrill of foiling and racing at high speeds with the world's best sailors.

**JILL PALAND**

Hometown: Düsseldorf, Hamburg & Kiel, GER  
 Date of Birth: 24 September 2000  
 Instagram: @jillpaland



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: Worldcup Medemblik – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2021: European Championships – 9th (49erFX)
- . 2018: Youth Sailing Worlds – 6th (29er)
- . 2017: Youth Sailing Worlds – 5th (29er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Maru views the increasing popularity of foiling classes as the future of sailing. Throughout her career, she secured 3rd place at the World Cup Medemblik in 2021 (49erFX) and 9th at the European Championship in the same year. She also gained valuable experience at multiple Youth Sailing Worlds in China and Texas in the 29er class.

**MARU SCHEEL**

Hometown: Kiel, GER  
 Date of Birth: 12 August 2000  
 Instagram: @scheel.feilcke



SWEDEN



# SWEDISH CHALLENGE

## POWERED BY ARTEMIS TECHNOLOGIES

**ROYAL SWEDISH YACHT CLUB (KSSS)** 

**ROYAL GOTHENBURG YACHT CLUB (GKSS)** 

Backed by Artemis Technologies, the Swedish Challenge whittled down the 120 applicants to just 29 for a place at the Artemis Academy from which the sailing team will be selected for the Puig Women's America's Cup team. Overseen by Cup winner Kyle Langford as Head Coach with plenty of valuable input from Olympic gold medalist Iain Percy and Sailing Team Manager Fredrik Bergström, Olympic silver medalist in Tokyo, the Swedish have been sailing small foiling boats and training in the simulator in Sweden since August. In April they took delivery of their own AC40 and were based in Belfast until moving to their base in Barcelona in June.

As Kyle Langford said: "We have been really impressed with the high quality of sailing and more importantly the enthusiasm of the sailors. The depth of talent in Sweden is really impressive and it shows great signs for the future of sailing in Sweden. We were truly impressed by the exceptional skills and dedication displayed by all the participants at the Selection Camp. The standard was exceptionally high, which led us to award more Artemis Academy spots than initially planned. The commitment and drive shown by these young sailors has undoubtedly set the stage for a promising future in competitive sailing."

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### TEAM HEAD

Sarah Gundersen

### TEAM COACHES

Kyle Langford, Fredrik Bergström, Ben Durham, Anna Östling

### WOMEN'S TEAM SKIPPER

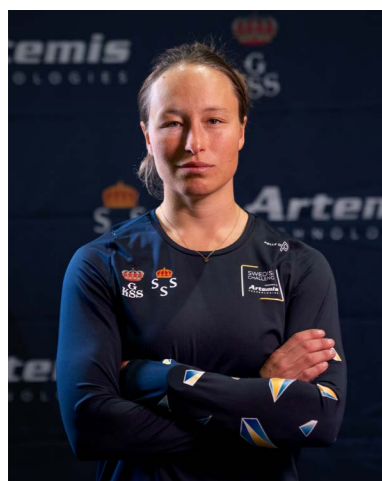
Anna Östling

### COMMUNICATIONS

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**IDA SVENSSON | HELM**

Hometown: Stockholm, SWE  
Instagram: @Idassvensson

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Youth World Championships – 2nd & 3rd (Nacra) ●●
- . Swedish Championship – 2nd ●
- . World Championship – 12th (Nacra 17)

**BIOGRAPHY**

As a youth, Ida showcased early talent in sailing. During her four years at sailing high school in Motala, Ida gained invaluable knowledge that she brought with her when she entered Olympic sailing. Ida has taken on mixed sailing and is a team player with no fear for high speed having sailed the Nacra 17 since 2013. Now, after an intense year with a tough trial in the Nacra 17, she is 100% determined and focused on her new goal at the helm of the Women's Team for the Swedish Challenge. Her dream is to work within professional sailing, and we know that the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup is a pinnacle moment in her journey.



**JULIA GROSS | HELM**

Hometown: Stockholm, SWE  
Date of Birth: 17 July 1992  
Instagram: @Juliagross

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2020: European Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . Two-time medallist at World Cup Series events in the 49erFX

**BIOGRAPHY**

Julia began sailing as a young girl in Stockholm. It was during this time that she crafted her strength as an incredibly structured sailor. Having both recently graduated from law school and also owning her own swimwear company, Julia demonstrates that hard work and time management will drive success. After ending the Olympic campaign just before Tokyo, she was planning on further exploring a career in law. However, once the Swedish Challenge announced the Women's Team Julia decided to embrace this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and make a comeback.



**FELICIA FERNSTRÖM | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Gothenburg, SWE  
Date of Birth: 03 December 2001  
Instagram: @Felicia\_fernstrom



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: Youth Match Racing Swedish Championships ●
- . 2021: Youth Match Racing Swedish Championships ●
- . 2018: Nordic Championships – 2nd (1st Women's) (29er) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Felicia is a fast learner and hard worker. With a background at the sailing high school in Lerum, she has been sailing the 29er and also a wing foil. Driven by her passion to become part of both the Youth and Women's Swedish Challenge teams, Felicia was one of the top sailors in the WASZP in the Artemis Academy. Felicia's strength is her determination. When she sets a goal, she does everything she can to achieve it. Her endless curiosity means she's never afraid to ask questions, bringing her closer to her dream of professional sailing success.



**LOVISA KARLSSON | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Gothenburg, SWE  
Date of Birth: 24 May 1995  
Instagram: @Lovisasailing



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games (470 mixed)
- . 2022: European Championship – 1st (470 mixed) ●
- . 2023: European Championship – 1st (470 mixed) ●
- . Swedish Champion 7 times across ILCA and 470 classes
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 3rd (470 mixed) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Lovisa has always loved the sport of sailing. As a young sailor, she did the Opti and progressed to Laser Radial via sailing high school. After four years in the Laser, she stepped into the 470. It was the Tokyo Olympics that gave her an appetite for more and, when the class changed into mixed, she teamed up with silver Olympic medallist, Anton Dahlberg. The team have been selected to compete in Paris 2024 and are a clear medal chance for Sweden at the Games. It will be a busy year for Lovisa with high goals in the Olympics and then straight to Barcelona to join the Swedish Challenge Team in their pursuit of success.



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2024: World Championship – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2023: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2022: World Championship – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 2nd (49erFX) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Rebecca is from the north of Sweden where most sports are connected to snow. But this girl grew up on a lake and the Swedish sailing community are very happy for that. Rebecca is an extremely positive influence, always keeping the team around her happy. She constantly seeks to improve both herself, and her team around her, helping them to always push forward. Rebecca's unrivalled work ethic means that, together with Vilma Bobeck, she is one of the top candidates for a medal at her first Olympic Games in the 49erFX this summer in Paris.

**REBECCA NETZLER | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Östersund, Sweden  
 Date of Birth: 12 June 1995  
 Instagram: @Netzler



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2024: World Championship – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2023: World Championship – 1st (49erFX) ●
- . 2022: World Championship – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . 2019: Youth World Championship – 2nd ●
- . 2018: Youth World Championship – 1st ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 2nd (49erFX) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Vilma's professionalism is clear to everyone around her as she impressively navigates sailing both the 49erFX for the Olympics and the AC40 for the Swedish Challenge. Growing up in Stockholm, Vilma always loved competing. Her drive, ability to learn fast and unwavering focus helped her climb the ranks to where she is today. After her first Olympic Games this summer, we look forward to harnessing Vilma's expertise for the battle in the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup challenge.

**VILMA BOBECK | HELM**

Hometown: Stockholm, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 05 January 1998  
 Instagram: @vilmabobek



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023 Women's World Championship Match Racing – 2nd ●
- . 2023: W World Match Racing Tour – 1st ●
- . 5 times winner of Match Cup Marstrand, Sweden
- . 2016: W World Championship MR – 1st ●
- . 2014: W World Championship MR – 1st ●
- . 2012: London Olympic Games MR
- . 2009-2021 Several Silver and Bronze medals at W World Championships (Elliot 6m)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Anna Östling is currently leading the Women's World Match Racing ranking and has been on the podium at the Championships for more than 10 years. She was one of the initiators for the Puig Women's America's Cup invitation for Sweden and to crown a long career with this pinnacle event of women's professional sailing is a dream come true. She has been working on giving younger sailors better opportunities for many years and through her Match Racing team she has inspired a generation of young Swedish female athletes. Anna's strengths are that she can easily see what people around her need to perform, and she gives a lot of energy to all around. In the Swedish Challenge, Anna is the Skipper and supporting the team both on and off the water.

**ANNA ÖSTLING | SKIPPER**

Hometown: Lerum, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 14 February 1984



AUSTRALIA



# ANDOO TEAM AUSTRALIA



CRUISING YACHT CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

A squad of 17 of Australia's top performing sailing women and youth athletes was revealed by Andoo Team Australia patron John Bertrand AO to spearhead the nation's return to the America's Cup in the UniCredit Youth and Puig Women's America's Cup events in 2024.

The team have been training hard on the simulator and are regularly racing other teams virtually, even as one Instagram post said: "before breakfast!" Among the Andoo Team Australia squad are medal winning Olympians, world ranked sailors, multi-national and international champions in fleet and match racing.

### TEAM HEADS

Annick Donat (Chair) | Peter Wrigley (Director of Operations)

### TEAM COACH

Harry Price

### COMMUNICATIONS

Carolyn Grant | Director of Communications | carolyn@teamaustraliachallenge.org  
Nic Douglass | Head of Content | nic@nicdouglass.org





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 2nd (Elliott 6) ●
- . 2017/18: The Volvo Ocean Race, Team Brunel – 3rd ●
- . Australia SailGP Team, Season 2 – 1st ●
- . 2022: Winner World Sailing Rolex 'Team of the Year'
- . 2022: NSW/ACT Female Sailor of the Year

**BIOGRAPHY**

London 2012 Olympic silver medallist, Nina has pursued elite level, threshold breaking sailing achievements including participating on the third place winning Team Brunel Volvo Ocean Race in 2017/18 and being the first female Champion in SailGP on the Australian Team in Season 2. She was a member of the World Sailing Rolex 'Team of the Year' win in 2022 and named NSW/ACT Female Sailor of the Year in 2022. Early in her career Nina took 1st at the ISAF World Cup (Melbourne) in 2013 and podium spots in World Cups throughout 2015 and 2016. Her trophy cabinet boasts gold, silver and bronze medals from ISAF Match Racing World Championships and World Cups. Nina was named Australian Female Sailor of the year in 2010 and 2012. She went on to campaign in the 49erFX winning a third in the 2016 World Cup. She has also crewed numerous ocean races with great success and continues to sail on SailGP Team Australia. Nina has a B.A in Human Movement Studies.

**NINA CURTIS**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 24 January 1988  
 Instagram: @ninacurtis



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: Sail Sydney – 1st ●
- . 2023: Junior World Championships – 2nd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Sarah is a member of the Australian Sailing Squad aiming for the 2028 Los Angeles and 2032 Brisbane Olympics in the Nacra 17. She began competitive sailing from the age of 10 on a state and national level in a Flying 11, followed by competing in the 29er and Nacra 15 youth classes. Joining the NSW Youth Sailing Squad in the Nacra 15, Sarah represented Australia at the 2018 European Championships and the 2019 Pacific Games. Transitioning to the Olympic Nacra 17 class in 2019, Sarah has pursued an Olympic campaign alongside her university studies. In 2022, she was 1st at Sail Sydney and competed in the Nacra 17 European Championships and Kiel Week. In 2023, Sarah came 2nd at the Junior World Championships and was the youngest team in the Gold Fleet, coming 24th, at the World Championships in the Hague. Sarah has completed a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Politics and International Relations. She is currently in her 4th year of a Bachelor of Laws at the University of Newcastle.

**SARAH HOFFMAN**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 10 December 2002  
 Instagram: @sarah\_.hoffman



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2016: Rio Olympic Games – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 5th (Nacra 17)
- . 4x World Championships – 1st ●●●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Lisa represented the Australian Sailing Team from 2013 to 2023. She won a Silver Medal in the Nacra 17 class at the Rio 2016 Olympics and finished 5th at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics. Throughout her career, Lisa has consistently delivered outstanding results at World Championships in the Nacra class. Between 2014 and 2020, she clinched a total of 4 World Championships medals. Lisa was awarded Australian Female Sailor of the Year in 2015, 2016, and 2020 and UNSW Female Athlete of the Year in 2011, as well as the Ben Lexcen Scholarship from 2011 to 2013. Beyond her competitive pursuits, Lisa is a commentator and presenter for sailing on the international stage.

**LISA DARMANIN**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 27 August 1991  
 Instagram: @lisadarmanin



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2024: World Championship – 5th (49erFX)
- . 2016: Youth World Championship – 1st ●
- . 2017: Australian Female Sailor of the Year
- . 2017/19: NSW Female Sailor of the Year

**BIOGRAPHY**

Annie grew up sailing on Sydney Harbour, and is a member of the Australian Sailing Team, campaigning successfully in the 49erFX. She placed 5th at the World Championship 2024 in Lanzarote, and has achieved multiple top 10 performances in the class since 2018. Annie was Youth World Champion in 2016 and secured multiple first-place titles, including All Female Australian National, Australian Youth, New Zealand National and German National Champion in the same year. Annie was named Australian Female Sailor of the Year in 2017, and NSW Female Sailor of the year 2017 and 2019.

**ANNIE WILMOT**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 09 February 1999  
 Instagram: @annie\_wilmot



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2012: London Olympic Games – 2nd ●
- . 2015: European Championship – 3rd ●
- . 2023: World Championship – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 9th (49erFX)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Olivia started competing on the world sailing stage aged 16, and at 18 skippered to win a Silver Medal at the London 2012 Olympic Games. Olivia became the youngest female sailor ever to win an Olympic Medal. She has been selected to compete at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games with her team mate Evie Haseldine in the 49erFX.

Following the London games Olivia campaigned in the 49erFX Olympic Skiff Class, and in her first year achieved three podiums in the brand-new class. In 2015 she achieved a Bronze Medal at the Palma Euro Cup. Olivia competed in the high powered SuperFoiler Grand Prix circuit as the only female in the league and won bronze at the Allianz Regatta in 2023 after just six months with crew mate Evie Haseldine, also winning bronze at the World Championships in The Hague, booking Australia a quota spot at the Paris Olympics.

**OLIVIA PRICE**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 02 August 1992  
 Instagram: @oliviaprice



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2016: Youth World Championship – 1st (Laser 4.7) ●
- . 2016: Australian Championship – 1st (Laser 4.7) ●
- . 2023: World Championships – 2nd ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 20th (ILCA6)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Zoe has been a member of the Australian Sailing Team since 2018 sailing the ILCA class, coming through a competitive youth sailing career that saw her Youth World Champion in 2016 and Australian Champion in Open Skiff, Laser 4.7, Laser Radial, National 125. She was named West Australian female sailor of the year in 2019, 2021, 2022 and 2023 and is an Australian Institute of Sport 'Podium Level Athlete'. This year she came second at the Palma World Cup and featured highly in the European Championships in 2022 and 2023 and the World Championships in Oman in 2022. She was a finalist for Australian Female of the Year 2023.

**ZOE THOMSON**

Hometown: Fremantle (WA), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 02 April 1998  
 Instagram: @zoeethomson



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2017: Junior World Championship – 1st ● (420)
- . 2021: Sail Sydney and Sail Melbourne – 1st ●●
- . 2022: Victorian Female Sailor of the Year
- . 2024: World Championship – 5th (49erFX)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Laura grew up sailing at Blairgowrie Yacht Squadron with her junior career starting aged 7 sailing Minnows. In 2014 she started sailing 420s placing in State Championships and winning the Queensland Youth Week in 2015 and 2016, scoring firsts and seconds in State and National Championships. Laura was granted a scholarship at the Victorian Institute of Sport in 2016 and was selected for the Australian Youth Sailing Team in 2017. Following this she became the 420 Junior World Champion and Vice Open World Champion in 2018. Laura joined the Olympic Pathway in the 49erFX that year winning the Victorian State Championships, finishing second the following year in the Australian Nationals. She won Sail Sydney and Sail Melbourne in 2021 and scored a 4th place at the Allianz Hempel World Cup in 2022, the same year she was named Victorian Female Sailor of the Year for the second time. In 2024 she placed 5th in the 49erFX World Championship in Lanzarote. She is a member of the Australian Sailing Team campaigning for the Olympic Games.

**LAURA HARDING**

Hometown: Mornington Peninsula (VIC), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 01 October 1999  
 Instagram: @\_lauraharding\_

# 08

## BRIDGING THE GAP

# WOMEN IN THE AMERICA'S CUP

A look at the history of women's participation in the America's Cup can be seen back as early as 1886 when Susan Henn, the wife of Lieutenant William Henn sailed aboard the Irish Challenger 'Galatea.' Legend has it that Susan insisted that her pet monkey 'Peggy' and her pet racoon came onboard as she kept the race timing.

In 1893, the Honourable Enid Wyndham-Quinn, the daughter of Lord Dunraven, sailed aboard the Valkyrie II as a valued and popular member of the crew whilst Edith Hope Goddard Iselin was a pioneer in yachting as the first American woman to have raced in the America's Cup. She made history by winning the Cup twice as a member of the afterguard aboard Defender (1895) and Columbia (1899), and also sailed on the Cup candidate Constitution (1901). No detail was too small for her. She oversaw everything from the selection of silk panels in the yacht's saloon to supervising the selection and preparation of the crew's meals.

Hope's winning efforts continued with Columbia in 1899. She convinced her husband, the yacht's owner-manager, to hire Charlie Barr as skipper. Barr would go on to become the greatest skipper of his generation in the United States and he helped defend the Cup three times for the New York Yacht Club. Hope also sailed on Columbia during almost all the races that season. While onboard, she often sat in the companionway and occasionally served as the peacemaker, which she observed, required "coolness, a good sense of humour, and a fund of funny stories." In addition to occasionally boosting morale aboard the yacht, Hope skilfully captured candid

photographs of the afterguard and crew during practice sails and races using a portable camera.

Elizabeth 'Sis' Hovey was the first woman ever to win an international sailing event. The daughter of famous yacht owner Chandler Hovey, and an accomplished helm in her own right, in 1934 she sailed on board the winning J-Class yacht 'Rainbow' as the Americans sailed to a 4-2 victory over Sir T.O.M. Sopwith's 'Endeavour' that also featured a woman in the America's Cup Match in the form of Sopwith's wife, Phyllis Sopwith.

Gertrude Vanderbilt is one of very few women to have raced aboard an America's Cup yacht during an actual defence. She took an active role in the afterguard alongside her husband, Harold S. Vanderbilt, when he skippered Enterprise (1930), Rainbow (1934) and Ranger (1937) through the J Class era, often referred to as the 'Golden Era' of the America's Cup. Harold Vanderbilt was the first to develop the timed start, forever known as the Vanderbilt start but it was Gertrude Vanderbilt who kept time for those starts, using analytical techniques developed by her husband. She was also a trusted observer and advisor concerning the conduct of the races.

In the modern America's Cup, the legendary American sailor Dawn Riley has arguably done more for gender equality than any other. In 1992, she sailed aboard Bill Koch's America 3 programme in the Defender Series and by 1995 was team captain leading the defeated 'Mighty Mary' IACC campaign, again backed by Koch, in what was a ground-breaking

moment for female athletes in the America's Cup.

Leslie Egnot, the Olympic silver medallist was appointed as helm with Annie Nelson, fifty-time championship winner doing tactics and the 'Might Mary' syndicate went deep into the competition taking multiple race wins off Dennis Conner's Stars'n'Stripes and Kevin Mahaney's 'Young America.' Throughout the boat, Dawn Riley had appointed athletes of the highest calibre bring in Olympic rowers like Amy Baltzell, Marci Porter and Stephanie Maxwell-Pierson, world renowned weight-lifters such as Stephanie Armitage-Johnson and body builders like Shelley Beattie. JJ Isler, Olympic sailing bronze medallist and twice World Sailor of the Year came in alongside veterans of Riley's round the world campaign in 1993/94 such as Merritt Carey.

This was a blueprint being set that proved beyond any doubt that women could compete against the best in the world – and remember these were the days of coffee-grinders and simply enormous rope loads. The female athletes took it all on, won races and smashed the glass ceiling of the America's Cup with sponsors 'proud to be a part of the changing face of sailing' – one even using that exact phrase in their advertising.

However, the lack of commitment to go again with an all-female crew after defeat in the Defender trials of 1995 saw Dawn Riley come back to the America's Cup in 2000 in a management role to lead the 'America True' campaign, and in 2007 was the General Manager of the French 'Areva Challenge' in Valencia.

As the end of the IACC era came to a close after the Valencia America's Cup in 2007, the pinnacle of the sailing world changed with the arrival of catamarans after the Deed of Gift Challenge in 2010. Almost immediately, by 2013, the boats were flying on foils and again the loadings went up and the gender balance went down.

Shoreside there were still plenty of positions for women but with 50% of the audience for the America's Cup being female, the kernel of change started to be formed at the 2021 regatta where the awesome power of the AC75 was released. After the dominant victory of Emirates Team New Zealand in that regatta, Grant Dalton and his management team recognised the gap that was emerging and so, with the advent of a new design in the AC40 class which offers no physical impairment or disadvantage owing to its use of stored-power, the opportunity presented itself to create something very special for Barcelona in 2024.

For the first time in the 173-year history of the America's Cup, there will be a stand-alone Women's event, the Puig Women's America's Cup, that is open to all female athletes regardless of age. Alongside the established America's Cup teams from New Zealand, Great Britain, Switzerland, Italy, USA and France (who will all field a Women's Team), a further six yacht clubs have entered Women's Teams including: Sweden, Spain, Denmark, Holland, Germany and Australia.

This ultimate pathway event is aimed at bridging the experience-gap in America's Cup regattas going



forward and allows female athletes to upskill on the vagaries of modern foiling monohulls both in dedicated off-water simulators and on the water in the AC40 class yachts. The challenge to bridge the gap has been taken up with aplomb all around the world by the very best female athletes and with extensive trials either going on right now, or having been concluded, the talent that is coming through is immense. Highly prized are the foiling and high-performance Olympic classes and looking across the teams the talent is immense. Emirates Team New Zealand have the likes of Gold & Silver medallist Jo Aleh, and silver medallist Molly Meech. INEOS Britannia is spearheaded by the double gold and single silver medallist Hannah Mills, silver medallist Anna Burnet and gold medallist Saskia Clark whilst in the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli Team, the likes of three-time Olympian Giulia Conti and two-time Olympian Giovanna Micoli have been appointed.

The Olympic Games however is not the only pathway into the teams and we're seeing new talent emerging through the dedicated foiling classes, which is an interesting and new dynamic to reaching the pinnacle of the sport. Current world Waszp and International Moth world champion Hattie Rogers has made the Youth Team for INEOS Britannia whilst Olivia Mackay, the World Champion Red Bull Foiling Generation has made the Emirates Team New Zealand Women's squad. Talent, wherever it comes from, is being courted and pushed through at pace.

Furthermore today, within the teams there are numerous high-profile women in a wide number of key shoreside and design roles and to pick just a few,

we have Aurore Kerr for Alinghi Red Bull Racing being a key Structural Engineer working on the foil packages, Elise Beavis appointed as Performance Engineer and Data Analyst for Emirates Team New Zealand and Sophie Heritage one of the key boat captains for INEOS Britannia. And that's the tip of a very large iceberg where women are in key roles all through the 37th America's Cup.

The pathway is lit for female athletes to take their rightful place at the very apex of world sailing with the Puig Women's America's Cup Match-race Final taking place in the glare of the global media spotlight in-between races of the 37th America's Cup Match. We will see the future and the finest female athletes going head-to-head in a winner takes all race that will propel female participation to the next level.

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# 09

WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER & SOCIAL MEDIA

## HOW TO FOLLOW

The America's Cup Race Village is where you want to be in the middle of the action and experience the buzz of the event off the water. The Village is FREE throughout all America's Cup events and it will be located in the Port Vell along Moll de la Fusta connecting people to boats, team bases and event. The beaches between Port Vell and Port Olímpic will allow FREE race viewing for everyone.

Sign up to the **NEWSLETTER** to be notified of more event related information as it comes to hand, as well as the **MEDIA PRESS RELEASES** here. The overall 37th America's Cup **PRESS KIT** can be found on the website.

High quality coverage (live, highlights, clips and news) of the 37th America's Cup Barcelona will be distributed on the broadest possible basis to maximise the audience for the event. This will include distribution on free to air TV, online and on mobile through partnerships with broadcasters as well as via the **AMERICA'S CUP WEBSITE**, the **MEDIA CLOUD**, and its official social channels.

It is the intention that the 37th America's Cup Barcelona, the UniCredit Youth America's Cup and the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup will be the most open and accessible event ever in its long history. By opening up access to all and inviting the world to come and view the racing and the off-water spectacle of this magnificent event, it is anticipated that a new generation of America's Cup followers and fans will be introduced to the sport.



# 10

ENQUIRIES

## CONTACTS



### EVENT AND ORGANISERS

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**BARCELONA/  
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**PUIG | TITLE SPONSOR  
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### TEAMS

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# 11

## AMERICA'S CUP TERMINOLOGY

# GLOSSARY

### BOAT TERMINOLOGY

**HELM** Two onboard either side of the AC40, steer the boat.

**FLIGHT CONTROLLERS/TRIMMERS** Two onboard the AC40—control the ride height of the boat out of the water and the trim of the mainsail and jib.

**FCS** The Foil Cant System is the electronic mechanism on the AC40 that lifts and raises the foil arms in and out of the water.

**FOILS** The wing-like structures at the end of the foil arms that allow the boat to lift out of the water and keep the hull 'flying' clear of the surface.

**MAST ROTATION** The AC40 has the ability to rotate the mast a few degrees either into or away from the wind direction for better aerodynamics.

**RUDDER** The fin at the back of the boat that the helmsman uses to change the direction of the boat. The rudder also has an 'elevator' wing at its base which gives the boat lift and stability in flight.

### RACING ABBREVIATIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

**DNC** Did Not Compete/Start

**DNS** Did Not Start

**OCS** On Course Side

**RET** Retired

**DSQ** Disqualified

**RDG** Redress Given

**TLE** Time Limit Expired

**CLASS AUTHORITY** The Rules Committee

**JURY** World Sailing International Jury or Arbitration

**RACE COMMITTEE** The Regatta Director and any other person performing a race committee function.

**RACING RULE / RRS** The Racing Rules of Sailing. For the America's Cup, the Racing Rules are adapted for the specifics of the competition and make allowances and detailed rules for racing the AC40 class of boats.

**SAILING INSTRUCTIONS/SI** For the UniCredit Youth America's Cup and the Puig Women's America's Cup, Sailing Instructions are fully defined in the published **Protocol** and further clarified as 'Race Conditions'.

### DEFINITIONS

**ABANDON** To abandon a race means to stop racing and not score the race.

**BOUNDARY** The line that marks the limits of the racing area as designated via the Race Officer (RO) Comms.

**CAPSIZING** A boat is capsized when her masthead is in the water.

#### CLEAR ASTERN AND CLEAR AHEAD; OVERLAP

One boat is clear astern of another when her platform border is behind a line abeam from the aftermost point of the other boat's media post. The other boat is clear ahead. They overlap when neither is clear astern. However, they also overlap when a boat between them overlaps both.

**FINISH** A boat finishes when after being completely on the course side, any part of its platform border crosses the finishing line from the course side after completing any penalties.

**LEEWARD AND WINDWARD** A boat's leeward side is the side that is or, when she is head to wind, was away from the wind. The other side is her windward side. When two boats on the same tack overlap, the boat on the leeward side of the other is the leeward boat. The other is the windward boat.

**MARK** An object the sailing instructions require a boat to leave on a specified side, a race committee vessel surrounded by navigable water from which the starting or finishing line extends, and an object intentionally attached to the object or vessel. However, an anchor line is not part of the mark.

**MARK-ROOM** Room for a boat to sail no farther from the mark than needed to sail her proper course to round or pass the mark, and room to pass a finishing mark after finishing.

**OBSTRUCTION** An object that a boat could not pass without changing course substantially, if she were sailing directly towards it and one of her hull lengths from it. An object that can be safely passed on only one side, a boundary, and any object, area or line so designated by a rule are also obstructions.

**OCS** A boat is OCS when at her starting signal any part of her platform border is determined at that time to be on the course side of the starting line or one of its extensions.

**POSTPONE** A postponed race is a race delayed before its scheduled start but may be started or abandoned later.

**PROPER COURSE** A course a boat would choose in order to sail to the next mark, or finish, on the leg they believe they are on as soon as possible in the absence of the other boats referred to in the rule using the term. A boat has no proper course before her starting signal.

**PROTEST** An allegation made under rule 61.2 by a boat, the Regatta Director or the Jury that a boat has broken a rule.

**RACING** A boat is racing from her preparatory signal until she finishes and clears the finishing line and marks or retires, or until the race committee signals that racing is stopped.

**RO COMMS** The communication system(s) provided by race management for boats and race officials when on the water.

**TACK, STARBOARD OR PORT** A boat is on the tack, starboard or port, corresponding to her windward side.

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**W** PUIG WOMEN'S  
AMERICA'S CUP  
BARCELONA