



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



UNICREDIT YOUTH AMERICA'S CUP

# PRESS KIT



UNICREDIT  
YOUTH  
AMERICA'S CUP  
BARCELONA



PRESS KIT

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# 01

NEXT AT THE HELM

## INTRODUCTION

The UniCredit Youth America's Cup and the inaugural Puig Women's America's Cup are two events of the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup Barcelona schedule that promise to deliver some of the most competitive and compelling racing whilst lighting an exciting pathway for the next generation of foiling sailing stars. Combining both fleet racing and one-on-one match-racing to decide the winners in each category, the organisers have scheduled the Final races to ensure maximum publicity.

The UniCredit Youth America's Cup Final will see the top two boats race between races of the Louis Vuitton Cup Final on the 26th September 2024 where the cream of Youth sailors from all around the world will race in fully equalised AC40s which, since launch in late 2022, have been a sensation. Named as World Sailing's 'Boat of the Year' in 2023, its pedigree shone at the first two America's Cup Preliminary Regattas in Vilanova i la Geltrú, Spain, and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. What was delivered by the 'works' teams of the America's Cup was some of the closest and most dynamic racing ever seen in the world of sailing with eye-watering closing and outright speeds.

However, the main reason for the introduction of the AC40 has been to provide a pathway for both Women and Youth (under 25) into the America's Cup and the yachts will be used for both the re-introduced UniCredit Youth America's Cup and the inaugural Puig Women's

America's Cup. The format for these events will feature twelve teams, split into separate six-boat fleets for an initial series to decide the top four in each fleet to progress to a match-race semi-final before the top two boats duke it out with the media spotlight firmly on them in the respective Finals.

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# 02

TITLE SPONSOR

## ABOUT UNICREDIT [↗](#)

UniCredit is making its sailing debut with its support for the third edition of the Youth America's Cup and the naming partner announcement of the UniCredit Youth America's Cup Regatta.

The UniCredit Youth America's Cup will take place from 17th–26th September in Barcelona and is open to young people aged between 18 and 25. Racing can be watched from the beach and the entire Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup is free for spectators to attend. The event is also globally live on free to air broadcast channels and online. The UniCredit Youth America's Cup will showcase the world's best young sailors from 12 countries and be a test of team spirit, intuition, leadership, and aptitude as teams fight for the ultimate in yacht racing glory. UniCredit is committed to unlocking young people's potential and this race will seek to promote the next generation of talent on a global stage.

UniCredit is also proud to sponsor the America's Cup itself—one of the most prestigious sporting events in the world—as a Global Partner and Global Banking Partner. Sustainability and promotion of sustainable economic and social development are at the core of the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup, in line with UniCredit's own commitments.

The UniCredit Youth America's Cup will be one of the highlights of the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup in Barcelona, attracting and giving a platform to the next generation of elite professional sailors.



"I am proud to see that younger generations are approaching a sport which is founded on team spirit, intuition and determined pursuit of a common goal," said Andrea Orcel, UniCredit Group CEO. "We are proud to be partnering with an event that showcases talent and prioritises environmental and sustainable practices. This is fully aligned with UniCredit's own strategy."

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**UniCredit is a pan-European Commercial Bank** with a unique service offering in **Italy, Germany, Central and Eastern Europe**. Our purpose is to empower communities to progress, delivering the best-in-class for all stakeholders, unlocking the potential of our clients and our people across Europe.

We serve over **15 million customers** worldwide. They are at the heart of what we do in all our markets. UniCredit is organized in four core regions and three product factories, Corporate, Individual and Group Payments Solutions. This allows us to be close to our clients and use the scale of the entire Group for developing and offering the best products across all our markets.

Digitalisation and our commitment to ESG principles are key enablers for our service. They help us deliver excellence to our stakeholders and creating a sustainable future for our clients, our communities and our people.

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© Andrea Cerchi



# 02

## A STRONG BOND

# UNICREDIT YOUTH AMERICA'S CUP TROPHY

The partnership between the Youth America's Cup and UniCredit Bank is encapsulated as a bowline knot, a fundamental part of a young person's education in the sport, and the essence of which can be seen in the creation of the brand identity, and the Y of Youth.

The metaphor of a knot as a symbol of unity and learning condenses the essence of how diverse elements can come together to form a stronger whole and how the process of learning and development of young people across Europe involves interconnected steps and mutual support to thrive.

This knot, renowned for its strength and reliability, mirrors the secure and unwavering commitment UniCredit provides to young people in education across Europe. It also represents the strong bond formed through this collaboration with the America's Cup where each twist and loop symbolises the interconnected efforts of both UniCredit and this famous sailing institution to promote education and development in the sport.

Just as a bowline knot holds firm under pressure, this partnership encapsulates the shared beliefs of both organisations, those of team spirit, caring and willingness to grant education in all its forms for the benefit of tomorrow's society, ensuring that young people have the support they need to navigate their educational journey and excel in all their endeavours.



# 03

TIMELINE

## WHEN: SEPTEMBER TO OCTOBER 2024

The format for both the UniCredit Youth America's Cup and the Puig Women's America's Cup is intense with up to five days of on-water race training before the fleet race series starts in each division. The fleet of twelve teams is split between the invited teams and the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup teams.

The Qualification Series sees a total of eight races completed for both groups. 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:

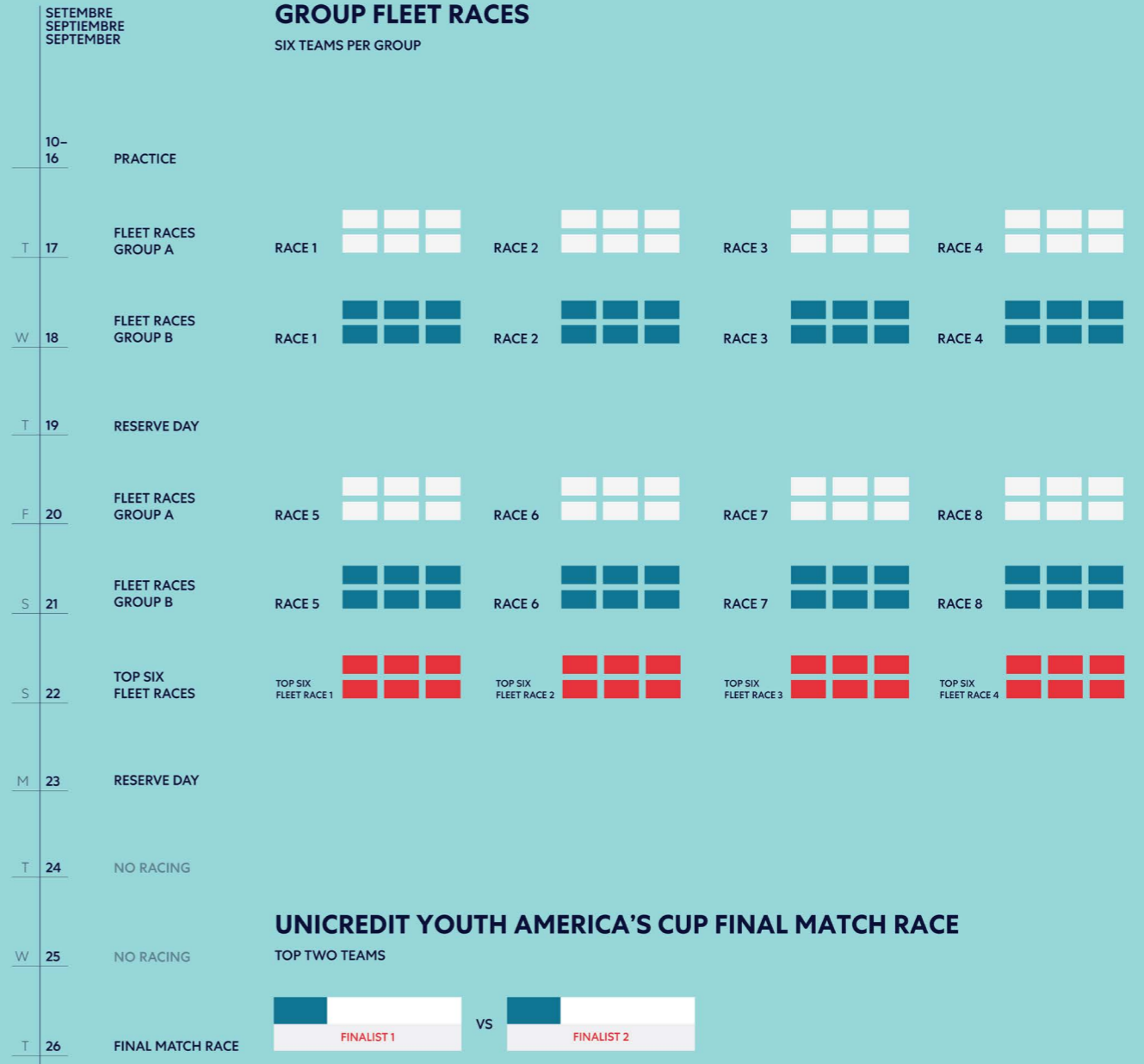
- . 17-21 September 2024: Qualification Series
- . 22 September 2024: Final Series
- . 26 September 2024: Match-Race Final



### UNICREDIT YOUTH AMERICA'S CUP

**GROUP FLEET RACES**

SIX TEAMS PER GROUP



# 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 UNICREDIT YOUTH AMERICA'S CUP

# EVENT FORMAT

The UniCredit Youth America's Cup is scheduled to run from the 10th to the 26th September with a total of six scheduled days of practice that run from the 10th to the 16th September so that all the teams can get vital time on the water in a racing capacity.

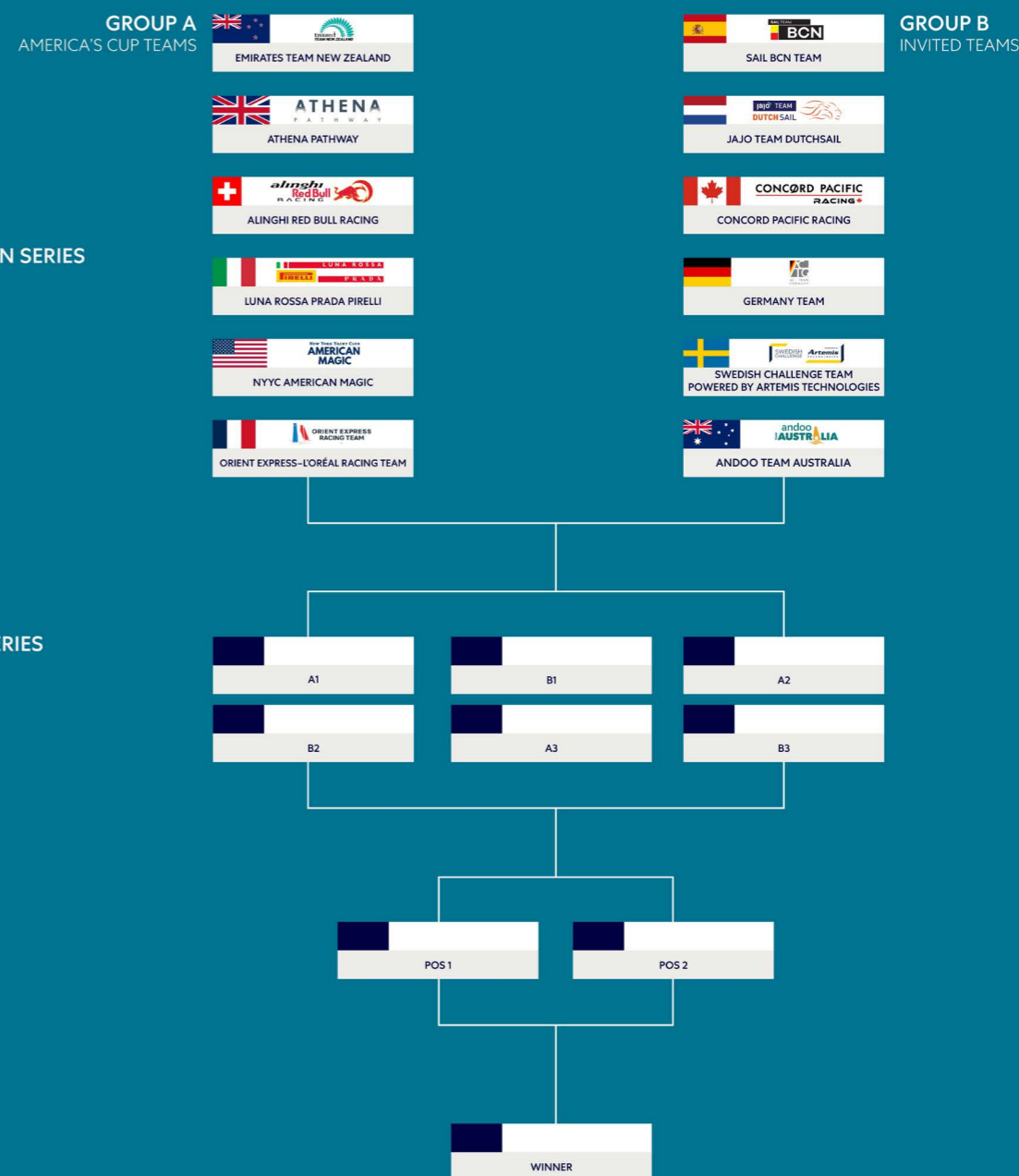
The fleet of twelve teams will be split between the Invited Teams and the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup Teams with the competition starting in earnest on the 17th September. Eight fleet races are scheduled for each group to determine the top three rankings that will then move forward to the Semi-Final stage of the UniCredit Youth America's Cup.

The Semi-Final, scheduled for Sunday 22nd September is where the pressure comes on with just one day of intense fleet racing amongst the top six teams. 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 on the opening day of the Louis Vuitton Cup Final series. For that one race, it is certainly the highest pressure any of the young athletes will ever have faced, with a winner-takes-all race with no margin for error and all under the most intense publicity with the race being screened free-to-air around the world.

The winner of the UniCredit Youth 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 young foiling athletes on the planet with the winner claiming the fabulous, bespoke, UniCredit Youth America's Cup

Trophy that resembles a bowline knot. The stars of the future, those that will write their names in the history of the America's Cup, will all be on display. Don't miss it.

- 



# 06

THE WORLD'S COOLEST NEW FOILING BOAT

## THE BOAT: AC40 [↗](#)

The AC40 is the designated boat for the UniCredit Youth 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 Youth sailors 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 UniCredit Youth America's Cup with incredible coverage of the Final match-race in between races for the Louis Vuitton Cup in September."

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 Louis Vuitton 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 UniCredit Youth 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 youth athletes win.

### IN NUMBERS

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



### 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 helms 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>.

# 07

TWELVE TEAMS – ONE CHAMPION

## WHO IS RACING

For the UniCredit Youth and Puig Women's America's Cup, aside from the six confirmed entries from the America's Cup competitors, yacht clubs from around the world were invited to form teams with strong and experienced women and youth athlete divisions eyeing these AC40 events as the ultimate pathway to the apex of sailing—the America's Cup. In addition to Youth and Women's teams from the confirmed America's Cup entrants (GROUP A), the following entries were also received from:

- Real Club Náutico de Barcelona
- Royal Netherlands Yacht Club & Royal Maas Yacht Club
- Royal Vancouver Yacht Club
- Kieler Yacht Club 3.V, Norddeutscher Regatta Verein, Bayrischer Yachtclub & Verein Seglerhaus am Wannsee
- Royal Gothenburg Yacht Club & Royal Swedish Yacht Club (KSSS)
- Cruising Yacht Club of Australia

Situated at the Port Olímpic, with easy access for the public to come and see and be a part of the action, the UniCredit Youth and Puig Women's America's Cup events promise to be a highlight of the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup in Barcelona.

They have already attracted the next generation, the foiling generation, and teams are busy practising on specially built simulators and programmes, readying themselves for what promises to be some of the closest fought battles of the summer in 2024. For certain, future winners, and legends of the America's Cup will announce themselves to the world at the UniCredit Youth and Puig Women's America's Cup. •

### GROUP A: AMERICA'S CUP TEAMS



**NEW ZEALAND**  
Emirates Team New Zealand Youth Team



**ITALY**  
Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli Youth Team



**UNITED KINGDOM**  
Athena Pathway



**USA**  
NYYC American Magic Youth Team



**SWITZERLAND**  
Alinghi Red Bull Racing Youth Team



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

### GROUP B: INVITED TEAMS



**SPAIN**  
SAIL TEAM BCN



**GERMANY**  
Youth 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 UniCredit Youth America's Cup crew revealing a world class and exciting line-up of the best of New Zealand youth sailors 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 UniCredit Youth 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.

## TEAM COACH

Aaron McIntosh

## WOMEN'S & YOUTH TEAM MANAGER

Polly Powrie

## COMMUNICATIONS

Hamish Hooper | hamish.hooper@emiratesteamnz.com

James Somerset | james.somerset@emiratesteamnz.com





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

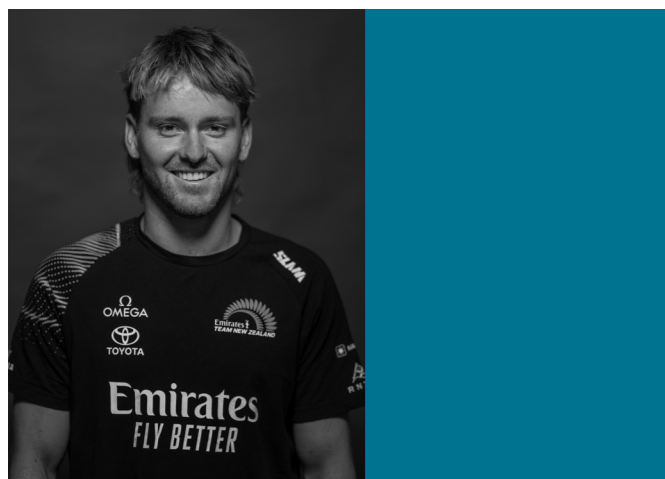
- . 2018: Open World Championships – 1st ●
- . 2019: 420 Open World Championships – 2nd ●
- . 2019: 420 Youth World Championships – 1st ●
- . 2022: 29er Europeans Championships – 1st ●
- . 2022: 29er Youth World Championships – 3rd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Seb is the youngest of the youth team at just 19 years of age but has a history of strong results through junior and youth classes.

**SEB MENZIES**

Hometown: Auckland, NZL  
 Date of Birth: 02 November 2004  
 Instagram: @sebmenzies



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

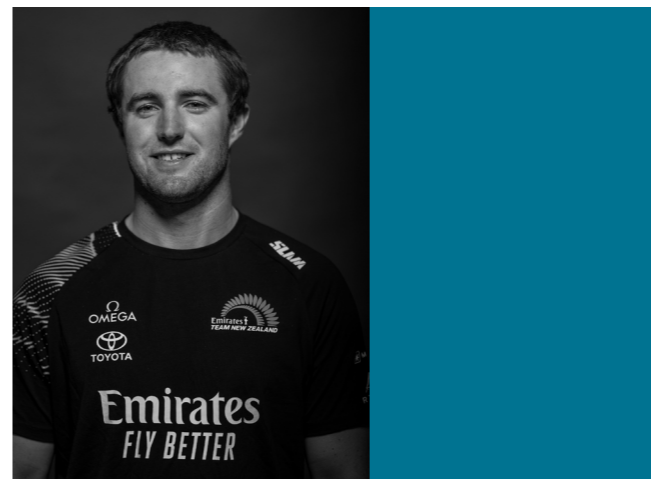
- . 2019: Kiel Week – 1st (49er) ●
- . 2023: Princess Sofia Regatta – 1st (49er) ●
- . 4x top ten 49er World Championship (7,5,6,7)
- . 2x World Cup Silver Medals (Enoshima, Hyeres) ● ●
- . 5x 49er National Champion ● ● ● ● ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Oscar paved his way in the 29er class during his youth, and progressed to the 49er class sailing with Logan Dunning-Beck with notable results.

**OSCAR GUNN**

Hometown: Auckland, NZL  
 Date of Birth: 05 April 1999  
 Instagram: @\_oscardgunn



**JOSH ARMIT**

Hometown: Murrays Bay, NZL  
 Date of Birth: 05 December 2001  
 Instagram: @josharmit



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: IQ Worlds 2023 – 7th
- . 2023: IQ Foil Princess Sofia Regatta Palma – 4th
- . 2018: Laser Radial Youth World Championships – 1st ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 4th (Windsurfing)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Josh was one of the most talked-about youth sailors in the country when he won the boys Laser Radial (now ILCA 6) at the 2018 Youth World Championships but decided to take a break from the sport after struggling with the transition to the ILCA 7. His hiatus didn't last long. Josh discovered windfoiling in late 2020 and soon established himself as New Zealand's top male competitor. His growing list of accolades includes several national titles, as well as top 10s in 2023 at the Princess Sofia Regatta in Spain, the European championships in Greece, the Olympic test event in France and the combined sailing world champs in the Netherlands in August.



**VEERLE TEN HAVE**

Hometown: Heemstede, NED  
 Date of Birth: 24 December 2000  
 Instagram: @veerle.th

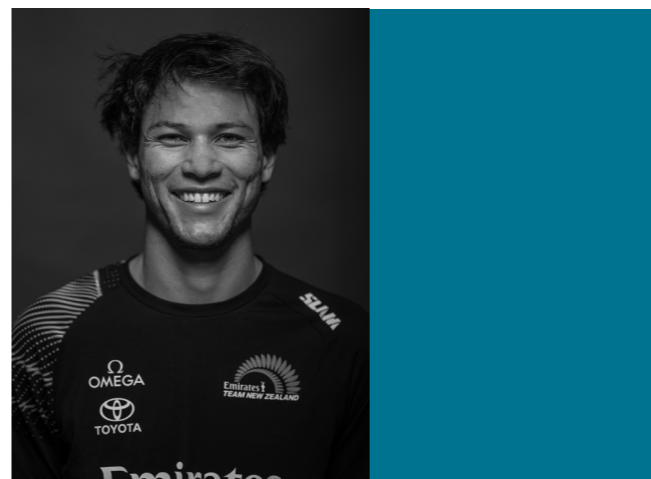


**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: Princess Sofia Regatta – 3rd ●
- . 2018: Youth World Championships – 2nd ●
- . 2022: PWA – 10th
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 10th (Windsurfing)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Veerle is a Youth Olympic Games athlete and has been the country's top prospect in women's windfoiling since making the switch from the non-foiling RS:X in late 2021. Since then, she has dominated the local scene and made rapid progress internationally—claiming several impressive results in 2022, in her first season against the best iQFOILers on the planet. She continued her upward trajectory the following year, with Bronze at the Princess Sofia Regatta in Palma de Mallorca, and sixth place at the Olympic test event in Marseille.



**LEO TAKAHASKI**

Hometown: Auckland, NZL  
 Date of Birth: 18 December 1998  
 Instagram: @adventuresoflen

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 11th (49er)
- . 1st person to compete in two Youth America's Cup
- . Flight controller US SailGP Team, Season 1 & 2 – 2nd ● ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born in Japan, Leo moved to New Zealand aged seven. He participated in the Youth America's Cup in 2017 with Japan, before being selected in 2021 and 2024 with New Zealand. A member of the RNZYS Youth Training Programme, Leo has sailed in SailGP for both the Japanese and United States teams.



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 AC40s. The selected twelve, 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

## YOUTH SKIPPER

Nick Robins

## COMMUNICATIONS

Kimberleigh Readman | [kimberleigh.readman@athenapathway.com](mailto:kimberleigh.readman@athenapathway.com)

Annabel Stagg | [annabel.stagg@ineosbritannia.com](mailto:annabel.stagg@ineosbritannia.com)



# ATHENA

P A T H W A Y



## NICK ROBINS | HELM & SKIPPER

Hometown: Hayling Island, GBR  
 Date of Birth: 12 February 1999  
 Instagram: [@\\_nick\\_robins\\_](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2017: National Championships – 1st (29er) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Nick started sailing at a very young age and enjoyed any way of getting on the water, before getting into racing he learnt to sail at Hayling Island Sailing club. After catching the racing bug and trying it out in the Optimist he decided to sail a two-handed class and joined the RYA pathway sailing RS Feva and then 29ers. In the 29er he enjoyed some success, winning the National Championships in 2017 and representing Great Britain at the Youth Sailing World Championships. Nick moved into the 49er class while beginning to study Aeronautics and Astronautics Engineering. As part of the British Sailing Team, he finished 3rd at the Junior Europeans in his first year. After finishing his studies, he became fully focused on selection for the Olympics in the 49er. Notable regattas included 13th at the Europeans in 2021 and 10th in Palma Arenal Regatta in 2023. The America's Cup is a great inspiration to Nick and so the chance to compete in the Youth America's Cup was an exciting new path. Since October Nick has been working at INEOS Britannia as a Data Analyst helping find sailing performance, all the while learning lots about AC40s.



## 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 Championship – 1st (29er) ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 16th (49erFX)

### BIOGRAPHY

Freya Black, a formidable presence in the 49erFX 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 Olympics alongside her accomplished sailing partner, Saskia Tidey. Beyond Olympic aspirations, Freya eagerly embraces a new challenge—sailing the AC40 with the Athena Pathway. This venture marks a significant step in her journey, providing an exciting opportunity to push her learning and contribute to the Puig Women's and UniCredit Youth America's Cup.



## MATT BECK | TRIMMER

Hometown: Ledbury, GBR  
 Date of Birth: 19 May 2001  
 Instagram: [@mattbeck\\_foiling](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2021: globally ranked #1 in Waszp class
- . 2021: European Championship – 1st (Wasp) ●
- . 2017: Laser 4.7 Worlds – 8th overall
- . 2016/17: UKLA Laser 4.7 Nationals
- . 2015: Optimist Worlds team

### BIOGRAPHY

After a successful stint in the RYA Youth Sailing Programme, navigating the waters in Optimist and Laser classes, Matt seamlessly transitioned to the Waszp class and the exhilarating world of foiling in late 2019. His swift progress in the class culminated in a stellar 2021, where he clinched the European Championships title and secured the prestigious #1 rank globally among Waszp sailors. Driven by a passion for advancing Waszp sailing, Matt collaborated with the Class Association to create a series of technique video tutorials, released on Waszp TV and YouTube in early 2022. Matt joined the RYA Kite for Gold programme in 2021, racing on the Olympic circuit for a year. However, he later shifted gears to support the men's kite squad in the British Sailing Team, demonstrating his commitment to both personal growth and the development of fellow athletes.



## HARRIET "HATTIE" ROGERS | TRIMMER

Hometown: Lymmington, GBR  
 Date of Birth: 30 May 2000  
 Instagram: [@hats.sailing](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . International Moth Female National Champion ●
- . World WASPZP Female Champion ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Hattie Rogers currently holds the titles of National, European, and World WASPZP Female Champion. Globally, she takes the #1 spot among female competitors and also boasts the current International Moth Female National Champion title. With a tally of seven National titles, Hattie earned the esteemed YJA Yachtsman of the Year trophy in recognition of her 2022 season. A first-class Masters graduate from the University of Southampton in the Ship Science Engineering course, she brings a profound engineering background and a technical mindset to the intricacies of AC40 racing.

# ATHENA

P A T H W A Y



## JAMES GRUMMETT | HELM

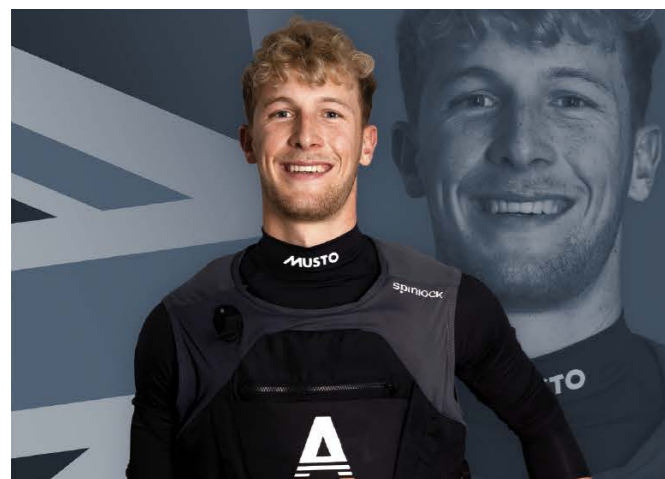
Hometown: Clitheroe, GBR  
 Date of Birth: 05 January 1999  
 Instagram: [@jamesgrummett](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2019: Junior Worlds Championships – 2nd (49er) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

James has dedicated the last five years to campaigning within the 49er British Sailing Team, driven by the ambition of winning a Gold Medal at the Olympics. In addition to this, he actively participated in various keelboat programs from Cape 31s to Sb20s. This experience broadened his understanding of different yacht sailing fundamentals and honed his ability to collaborate within teams of different sizes. At the onset of 2023, James seized the opportunity to join the Athena Pathway Program, sailing the ETF26 foiling Catamaran and engaging in competitive events on the circuit. Recently, he embarked on a new partnership campaign for the 2028 Olympics in the 49er class. Presently, preparations are underway for the upcoming Worlds and Europeans early this year, with a subsequent shift in focus towards delivering a stellar performance at the UniCredit Youth America's Cup in September.



## ALEX HUGHES | TRIMMER

Hometown: Birmingham, GBR  
 Date of Birth: 02 July 2000  
 Instagram: [@hughes\\_alex](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2021: 470 European Championships – top 5
- . 470 Mixed National Champion ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Alex started sailing at a young age at Sutton SC in the Midlands, where his talent quickly earned him a spot on the regional squad at just 9 years old. Progressing through the squad system into youth levels, he transitioned into the 420, proudly representing Great Britain on the international stage at World and European Championships. After youth level Alex made the jump to the seniors in the 470 becoming one of the early adopters of the new mixed format where he found success winning the mixed national championships and the mixed category at several international regattas. With the Tokyo Olympic Games delayed until 2021 Alex took the opportunity to join forces with Martin Wrigley as training partners for the Olympic representatives in the lead up to the Games. During this period, they achieved a top 5 result at the 2021 European Championships. Since then Alex has spent time sailing the 49er in several partnerships, briefly teaming up with fellow Athena Pathway sailor Nick Robbins before stepping away from Olympic sailing at the end of 2023.



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 Youth Team for the UniCredit Youth America's Cup.

Coraline Jonet, project manager for the Alinghi Red Bull Racing Youth and 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

Coraline Jonet

## TEAM COACH

Matias Bühler

## YOUTH SKIPPER

Jann Schüpbach

## COMMUNICATIONS

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





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

. wide range of experience across different classes.

**BIOGRAPHY**

69F, Moth, Waszp... Jann sails on many foiling boats. After starting his sailing career on the Optimist in 2008, he then moved to 420 and 470s. He led an Olympic campaign from 2016 to 2021, before focusing on different foiling boats in parallel with Match Race regattas. Jann is part of the Shore & Tech Pathway Alinghi Red Bull Racing provides to young sailors, where he joins the electronics team as an apprentice.

**JANN SCHÜPBACH | SKIPPER & TRIMMER**

Hometown: Thun, SUI  
Date of Birth: 04 December 2000  
Instagram: @jann\_sailing



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

. 2023: World Championships – 2nd (49er) ●  
. 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 8th (49er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Silver medallist at the 2023 49er Worlds, he has qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympics. Arno was the first Youth sailor qualified for the final team, receiving the Boarding Pass during the final qualifier in Barcelona in October 2023. Successful 49er crew, he has also sailed on SailGP and Flying Phantom.

**ARNO DE PLANTA | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Pully, SUI  
Date of Birth: 12 March 1999  
Instagram: @arnodpl



**ANDREA ASCHIERI | HELM**

Hometown: Gland, SUI  
Date of Birth: 30 November 2003  
Instagram: @flying.andrea

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

. 2019: World Championships – 2nd (Nacra15) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Andrea started sailing with the Optimist in his hometown Nyon at the age of 9. He moved to the Nacra15 finishing 2nd at Nacra15 Worlds in 2019 before fully committing to a Nacra17 Olympic campaign in 2022.



**ARNAUD GRANGE | HELM**

Hometown: Anières, SUI  
Date of Birth: 21 September 2002  
Instagram: @arnaud\_grange

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

. 2016 & 2017: World Championships (Optimist)  
. 2018: European Championships – 3rd (Nacra15) ●  
. 2018: Bol d'Or Mirabaud on a Decision 35 – 2nd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Arnaud started sailing on Lake Geneva on the Optimist before moving to the Nacra15. He then jumped on bigger boats and was the youngest helmsman ever to reach the famous Bol d'Or Mirabaud Podium finishing 2nd on a Decision 35 in 2018. He's very active in the 69F since 2021.



**MORGAN LAUBER | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Ballens, SUI  
Date of Birth: 01 December 1999  
Instagram: @morgan\_laubr

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

. wide range of experience across different classes, including offshore racing.

**BIOGRAPHY**

Morgan is the administrator of the Centre d'Entraînement à la Régate de Genève, the structure that enabled many Swiss sailors to start their offshore and professional sailing careers. He sails the 69F, m2, GC32, J/70, Flying Phantom and takes part in offshore races as well. Morgan is a boat building apprentice as part of the Shore & Tech Pathway Alinghi Red Bull Racing provides to young sailors.



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: U19 World Champions – 1st (Nacra15) ●

**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 | HELM & TRIMMER**



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



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 3x World Championship participation (Optimist)

**BIOGRAPHY**

After qualifying three times for the Optimist World Championships, Joshua moved to the Laser 4.7, then Radial and finally switched to the 49er. He started an Olympic campaign as 49er helm aimed at the 2024 Games. Alongside, he's following part-time training to become a professional helicopter pilot.

**JOSHUA RICHNER | HELM**

Hometown: Courgevaux, SUI  
 Date of Birth: 05 April 2002  
 Instagram: @joshua.richner



**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 | TRIMMER**



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



**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 | HELM**



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

LUNA ROSSA

PIRELLI PRADA

ITALY

# LUNA ROSSA PRADA PIRELLI

CIRCOLO DELLA VELA SICILIA (CVS) 

The final selection for the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli Youth and 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 crews we will focus on training and on the regatta format so that our sailors can approach the events 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 | [press.office@lunarossachallenge.com](mailto:press.office@lunarossachallenge.com)

Bianca Ascenti | Press Officer | [press.office@lunarossachallenge.com](mailto:press.office@lunarossachallenge.com)





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2017/18/19: World Championship – 1st (Optimist) ●●●
- . 2021: Youth World Championship – 1st (470mixed) ●
- . 2021: Youth European Championship – 1st (470mixed) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

A scientific high school graduate, Marco made his debut in the Optimist at the age of 10, winning–first sailor in history–the Class World Championship three times in a row (2017, 2018, 2019); this extraordinary result earned him the Rolex World Sailor of the Year Award, which he received in 2019 at the age of 15 (the youngest winner ever). After a brief stint on 29ers, in 2021 he shifted to the helm of the Olympic Class 470 Mixed, paired with Alessandra Dubbini. on which he confirmed his outstanding skills, winning the World Championship and the Junior European Championship. A lover of 'tactica' sailing and of the sea at 360°, which he loves all year round, he has always cultivated the dream of the America's Cup, which came true when he joined the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli team in 2022. The 2024 America's Cup in Barcelona will be his first. His hobbies are surfing and wing-foiling. If he were not a professional sailor, he would be a long-distance captain or a naval officer, but he has never really wanted to do anything else.

**MARCO GRADONI | HELM**

Hometown: Rome, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 27 April 2004  
 Instagram: @marcogradoni



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

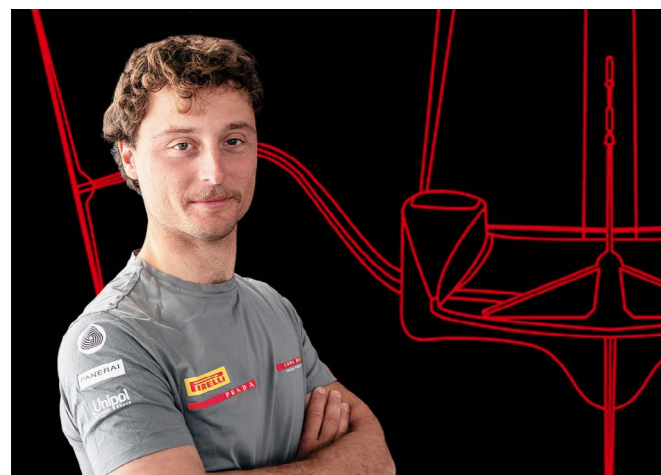
- . 2015: U16 World Championship – 1st (Laser 4.7) ●
- . 2015: World Championship – 3rd (Laser 4.7) ●
- . 2015: European Championship – 1st (Laser 4.7) ●
- . 2018: World Championship – 1st (Laser Radial) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born in Desenzano on Lake Garda, Guido grew up following the classic sailing career, going from sailing in the Optimist class to the Laser 4.7 and Radial, classes in which he won a World and two European titles, as well as four Italian Championships in a row. After a stint in Star, where he sailed alongside the most celebrated champions of this class, he switched to 49ers (fifth at CICO 2019) and at the same time enrolled in university to study medicine. After closing with the Olympic sailing campaign, Guido joined the Dutch youth team to participate in the 2021 Youth America's Cup, which was then cancelled. This experience was very useful for him as he entered the 69F circuit where he raced with the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli team. In 2023 he joined the Luna Rossa youth group to compete in the 2024 UniCredit Youth America's Cup in Barcelona.

**GUIDO GALLINARO | HELM**

Hometown: Brescia, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 20 December 2000  
 Instagram: @guidogallinaro



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021/22: World Championship – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●●
- . 2018/19/21: U24 World Championship – 1st (Nacra 17) ●●●
- . 2022/23: European Championship – 3rd (Nacra 17) ●●
- . 2023: Paris Test Event – 1st (Nacra 17) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

With a degree in Design, "Gigi" took up sailing at the age of 5 in the Optimist class. In 2017, after graduating from a science high school, he took the Olympic path in Nacra 17, where he achieved several successes paired with Maria Giubilei: two-time vice World Champion (2021 and 2022), three-time U24 World Champion (2018, 2019, and 2021), a silver and 2 bronze medals at the European Championships (2022 and 2023), and gold at the Paris 2024 Test Event. Gigi is very passionate about sports, and everything related to design, but there is nothing at the moment he would like to do besides sailing. In 2024 he joins the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli team for the UniCredit Youth America's Cup in Barcelona.

**GIANLUIGI "GIGI" UGOLINI | HELM**

Hometown: Rome, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 18 September 1998  
 Instagram: @gigi.ug



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . U19 World Championship – 2x 1st (Finn) ●●
- . Italian Championship – 2x 1st (Finn) ●●
- . 2019: Match Race European Championship – 2nd ●
- . World Championship Swan – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born in Gaeta and enrolled in a Sports Management degree program, Federico is a multi-disciplinary sailor who boasts numerous successes in several boat classes (Melges 24, Star, Match Race, J70, Orc, Melges 32, and SB20). He began sailing on Optimists as a child, following in the footsteps of his father Nando (Olympic athlete in Sydney 2000). Once he outgrew the Youth classes he moved onto the Finn class, with which he won two U19 World Championships and two Italian Championships. With a bronze medal for Athletic Valor and a European Match Race Vice-Champion title (2019). He also won the Swan 50 World Championship in 2022 and the Italian Dragon Class Championship. Passionate about foiling, he has successfully raced on the 69F circuit, also under the Luna Rossa insignia. In 2023 he joined Luna Rossa in the youth group to compete in the 2024 UniCredit Youth America's Cup in Barcelona.

**FEDERICO COLANINNO | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Gaeta, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 06 August 1999  
 Instagram: @fedecolaninno



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

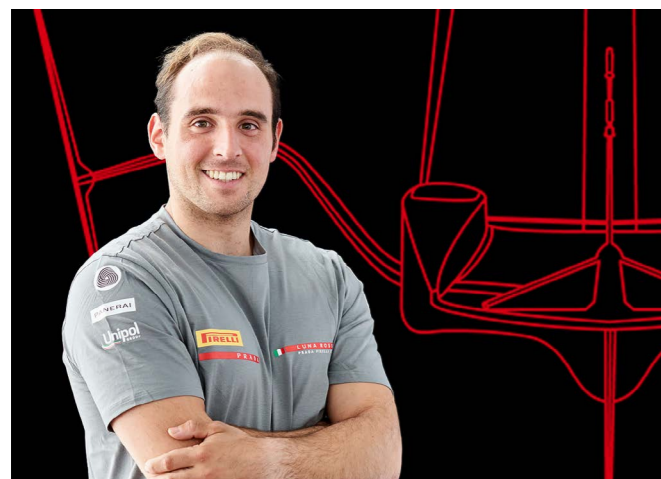
- . Youth Foiling Gold Cup (69F)
- . 3x Atlantic crossings

**BIOGRAPHY**

Born in Antigua with dual Italian and Antiguan-Barbudan citizenship, Rocco is an “all-around” sailor, with extensive experience on different types of racing boats, ranging from Optimist to Laser, 29ers, Dragons, Big Boats, One Design Classes, and vintage and classic boats. He also has several offshore regattas and three Atlantic crossings to his name. After three years spent in Canada pursuing a university course in Economics, he returned to Europe and participated in various international regatta circuits, such as the Youth Foiling Gold Cup dedicated to 69Fs, where he achieved excellent results. In 2024 he joins the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli youth group in view of the UniCredit Youth America’s Cup in Barcelona. In his spare time, he enjoys wing foiling, fishing and boating with friends and family.

**ROCCO ALEKOS FALCONE | HELM/TRIMMER**

Hometown: Antigua, ANT  
 Date of Birth: 27 December 2000  
 Instagram: @roccofal



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Youth World Championship – 2nd (Nacra 17) ●
- . Italian Championship – 1st (Nacra 17) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

With a degree in Business Administration and Law from the University of Trento, Stefano put foot on his first Optimist at the age of 10. From there began his competitive path, which would take him to the 29er and 49er classes, and then to the Nacra 17. In this class, paired with Margherita Porro, he won second place at the U24 Worlds (2022) and the Kieler Woche (2023). In his free time Stefano loves hiking in the mountains and cooking. In 2024 he joins the Luna Rossa Prada Pirelli team ahead of the UniCredit Youth America’s Cup.

**STEFANO DEZULIAN | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Trento, ITA  
 Date of Birth: 07 July 1999  
 Instagram: @stefano\_dezu



USA



# NYYC AMERICAN MAGIC

NEW YORK YACHT CLUB (NYYC)

In July, New York Yacht Club American Magic announced their Youth Team that will represent the United States at the UniCredit Youth America's Cup. The lineup features some of the best sailing talent in the country.

"It's an incredible honour to be selected for the American Magic Youth Team and compete in the UniCredit Youth America's Cup," said Harry Melges, the 2021 US Rolex Yachtsman of the Year. "Competing in the UniCredit Youth America's Cup with such a talented group is a dream. Each teammate brings unique strengths, and together, we'll push our limits and strive for victory in Barcelona." Under the guidance and leadership of President of Sailing Operations Terry Hutchinson and Coaches Kinley Fowler and Charlie Ogletree, American Magic has assembled a versatile and skilled sailing team.

"We've formed a strong team to represent the United States and challenge at the Youth America's Cup," said Hutchinson. "NYYC

members Amy Ironmonger, Suzy Leech, and Peter McClennen have provided invaluable mentorship and guidance through a rigorous selection process." Based in Badalona for the next two months, the NYYC American Magic Youth Team has begun intensive training on the AC40.

NYYC American Magic's youth sailors are poised to make their mark at the upcoming UniCredit Youth America's Cup, thanks to the unwavering support of team principals Hap Fauth and Doug DeVos, the New York Yacht Club, donors, sponsors, and volunteers. "The seven talented sailors named to the youth team represent the future of American sailing, and I am very excited to see them perform in the UniCredit Youth America's Cup," said Commodore L. Jay Cross. The fact that five of the seven are members of the New York Yacht Club highlights our commitment to excellence in the sport."

## TEAM HEAD

Sara Stone

## TEAM COACHES

Charlie Ogletree, Kinley Fowler

## YOUTH SKIPPER

Harry Melges

## COMMUNICATIONS

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





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: World and European Championships – 1st (F18) ●●
- . 2021: E-Scow National Championship – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Severin Gramm, a talented sailor from Delray Beach, Florida, has swiftly made his mark in competitive sailing while pursuing his education. A recent Business graduate from Brown University, Gramm boasts impressive achievements on the water, including victories in the 2022 F18 World and European Championships and the 2021 E-Scow National Championship. His successes across various classes highlight his versatility. Since June 2023, he has been training with the NYYC American Magic America's Cup Team, honing his skills on the AC40 in Barcelona, Spain, as he prepares for the 2024 UniCredit Youth America's Cup.

**SEVERIN GRAMM**

Hometown: Delray Beach, FL, USA  
Instagram: [@severin\\_gramm](#)



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: TP52 Super Series (Quantum Racing) – 3rd ●
- . 2021: US Rolex Yachtsman of the Year
- . 8x National Championships

**BIOGRAPHY**

Harry Melges IV, from Fontana, Wisconsin, carries forward a rich sailing heritage with a steely determination. Starting at age six on Lake Geneva, Melges has honed his skills in various classes, from E Scows to the high-performance TP52. His recent accomplishments include a third-place finish in the 2023 TP52 Super Series with Quantum Racing, powered by American Magic. Named the 2021 US Rolex Yachtsman of the Year, Melges has secured eight national championships across different classes. Training with NYYC American Magic America's Cup Team since June 2023, he is now focused on the 2024 UniCredit Youth America's Cup as part of the youth team.

**HARRY MELGES | SKIPPER**

Hometown: Fontana, WI, USA  
Instagram: [@harrymelges\\_iv](#)



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

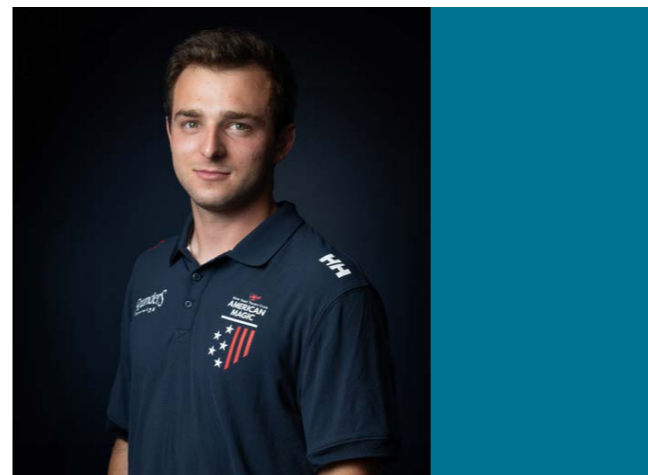
- . US and North American Championship – 1st (49er) ●●
- . 2021: World Championship – 6th (49er)
- . 2021: Red Bull Foiling Generation North America – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Ian MacDiarmid, from Miami Beach, Florida, embodies versatility and perseverance across various sailing classes. Starting his sailing journey at age four, MacDiarmid has excelled in Optimists, high-performance skiffs, and foiling boats. He is ranked third globally in the 49er class and holds U.S. and North American 49er championship titles. His accomplishments include a sixth-place finish at the 2021 49er World Championships in Oman and a victory at the Red Bull Foiling Generation North America. As a member of the US Sailing Team, MacDiarmid has represented his country in prestigious events like the Pan American Games. Now part of the NYYC American Magic youth team, he focuses on training for the 2024 UniCredit Youth America's Cup.

**IAN MACDIARMID**

Hometown: Miami Beach, FL, USA  
Instagram: [@ianmacdiarmid\\_](#)



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . E Scow National Championships – 1st ●
- . 2023: Nite Nationals Iceboat Regatta – 2nd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Kyle Navin, a determined sailor from Fontana, Wisconsin, began his sailing journey at age five on Geneva Lake. Navin has honed his skills across various disciplines, winning the E Scow Nationals and securing second place in the 2023 Nite Nationals Iceboat Regatta. Pausing his mechanical engineering studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Navin has been working with the NYYC American Magic America's Cup Team since June 2023, and is now training with the NYYC American Magic youth team in Badalona, Spain for the 2024 UniCredit Youth America's Cup. His aspirations extend to the America's Cup and further championships in scow sailing. Off the water, Navin enjoys skiing and cycling, reflecting his well-rounded approach.

**KYLE NAVIN**

Hometown: Fontana, WI, USA  
Instagram: [@kylenavin11](#)



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . U.S. Youth Championship (Nacra 15)
- . 2023: Moth French Nationals – 5th
- . 2022: Waszp US Nationals – 2nd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Ben Rosenberg, a promising sailor from East Greenwich, Rhode Island, embodies the spirit of American competitive sailing. Born into a nautical family, Rosenberg’s journey began on his parents’ boat when he was just three days old. A mechanical engineering graduate from the University of Rhode Island, he balances technical acumen with on-water prowess. His achievements include a U.S. Youth Championship in the Nacra 15 class, a fifth-place finish at the 2023 Moth French Nationals, and second overall in the 2022 Waszp US Nationals. Now training with the NYYC American Magic youth team in Badalona, Spain, for the 2024 UniCredit Youth America’s Cup, Rosenberg pursues dual ambitions: winning a Moth World Championship and an America’s Cup. Off the water, he maintains his competitive edge through recreational cycling and occasional races.

**BEN ROSENBERG**

Hometown: East Greenwich, RI, USA  
 Instagram: [@brosenbergssailing](#)



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . E Scow National Championship – 3x 1st ●●●
- . E Scow Inland Championship – 4x 1st ●●●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Finn Rowe, a native of Fontana, Wisconsin, brings a wealth of experience to the NYYC American Magic Youth team as he prepares for the 2024 UniCredit Youth America’s Cup. A three-time E Scow National Champion and a four-time E Scow Inland Champion, Rowe spent three years on the United States Sailing Team, competing in the 2020 US Olympic Trials. Currently pursuing majors in Finance and Real Estate at DePaul University’s Driehaus College of Business, Rowe is marked by his commitment to excellence on and off the water. His experience includes coaching high school sailing teams and competing internationally, positioning him as a formidable competitor and a promising talent.

**FINN ROWE**

Hometown: Fontana, WI, USA  
 Instagram: [@finnrowe](#)



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: World Championship – 2nd (Melges 24) ●
- . 2019: World Championship – 2nd (29er) ●
- . E Scow National Championship – 2x 1st ●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Ripley Shelley, from Miami, Florida, is a talented sailor on the NYYC American Magic Youth team, gearing up for the 2024 UniCredit Youth America’s Cup. Shelley’s impressive track record includes a second-place finish at the 2022 Melges 24 World Championship and the 2019 29er World Championship and being a two-time E Scow National Champion. Training on the AC40 in Badalona, Spain, Ripley continues to build experience and refine his skills, embodying the spirit teamwork essential for success in the sport.

**RIPLEY SHELLEY**

Hometown: Miami, FL, USA  
 Instagram: [@ripleyshelley5](#)



FRANCE



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

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

Orient Express Racing, the French Challenge for the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup announced their UniCredit Youth America's Cup squad at the end of December 2023. The list of six sailors includes several World, European, match-racing, 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 talented Guadeloupean sailor Enzo Balanger has been appointed skipper of France's UniCredit Youth America's Cup racing team. Enzo will take the helm of the Orient

Express – L'Oréal Racing Team's high-speed AC40 when the UniCredit Youth America's Cup gets underway in Barcelona from September 17. He will lead a mixed team of young sailors aged between 18 and 25 in competition against eleven other national race teams. Enzo said: "I'm extremely proud to have passed the selection stages and to have the confidence of the observation committee. With my mates, we're a great group. What an incredible opportunity for us all! We can't wait to get to grips with the AC40 and take on the others. We really want to bring this UniCredit Youth America's Cup trophy home!"

The team have been training hard on the simulator through the European winter conducting their training at the French National Sailing School in Bretagne. •

## TEAM HEAD

Bruno Dubois

## TEAM COACH

Fabrice Levet

## YOUTH SKIPPER

Enzo Balanger

## COMMUNICATIONS

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





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . World Senior Moth – 9th
- . World Championships – 3rd (420) ●
- . European Optimist Championships – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Enzo began his impressive racing career in his native Guadeloupe where he won four national Optimist Championships before becoming the Optimist European Champion after moving to France. Since then he has excelled in the 420 class—taking bronze in Under-17 420 Worlds in 2016—and in the Moth, taking 9th place at the Moth Worlds in 2022, and winning the class at Foiling Week 2023. Enzo will also helm the high-speed AC40 crewed by a mixed team of sailors aged between 18 and 25.

**ENZO BALANGER | HELM & SKIPPER**

Hometown: Les Abymes, Guadeloupe, FRA  
 Date of Birth: 08 October 2000  
 Instagram: @enzo\_balanger



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Open World Championships – 2nd (420) ●
- . European Championship – 1st (420) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Ange first made his mark in the 420 class where he excelled, winning the 2019 Under-17 European Championship and then the 2021 Junior European Championship, taking second place in the Open 420 Worlds in the same year. Since then his match racing skills have also become apparent, and he led his crew to victory in the 2023 Youth Match Racing World Championship held last December in Sydney.

**ANGE DELERCE**

Hometown: Antibes, FRA  
 Date of Birth: 06 January 2003  
 Instagram: @angedelerce



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Senior World Championship – 4th (470) ●
- . Youth World Championship – 1st (470) ●
- . European Championship – 1st (470) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

A three-time winner of the 470 Junior World Championship, including in 2022 and 2023 alongside Lucie de Gennes, Matisse is also a double 470 European Youth Champion. Earlier this year he took fourth place at the 470 European Championship.

**MATISSE PACAUD**

Hometown: Cannes, FRA  
 Date of Birth: 01 December 2001  
 Instagram: @matisse\_pacaud



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . ISAF World Championship – 1st (29er) ●
- . Youth World Championship – 4th (49er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Another youth sailor with a strong family connection to yacht racing, Théo switched from the Optimist to the 29er where he won his first major title, the 2017 World Youth Championship, followed by the 29er European Championship title the following year. Switching to the 49er he placed fourth in the Youth World Championship. During the selection process for the Youth America's Cup Théo met and teamed up with Gaultier Tallieu, with the two deciding to target the 2028 Olympics.

**THÉO REVIL**

Hometown: Mont Saint-Aignan, FRA  
 Date of Birth: 13 February 2000  
 Instagram: @theorevil



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

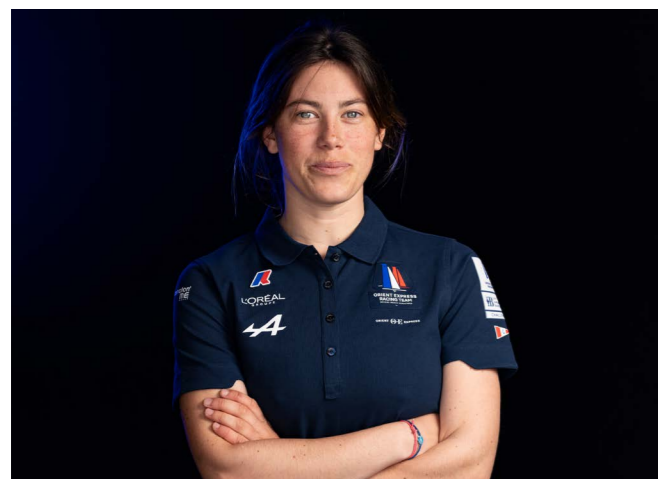
- . European Match Racing Championship – 1st ●

### BIOGRAPHY

A European Match Racing Champion, Gaultier's experience has seen him appointed as team coordinator. Growing up by the sea near La Rochelle, Gaultier first raced Optimists before teaming up in a 420 with Enzo Balanger which saw them finish runner-up in the French and European championships, and 4th in the ISAF Youth Worlds. After that he set up and ran successive Tour Voile projects in a dual role which he will now continue for the Youth team.

### GAULTIER TALLIEU

Hometown: La Rochelle, FRA  
Date of Birth: 03 January 2001  
Instagram: [@gaultier.tal](#)



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . World Championships – 1st (Nacra 15) ●
- . European Championship – 2nd (Nacra 15) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

One of the rising stars in French racing and from a family of high-achieving sailors, Lou won the Nacra 15 World Championship in 2022 having previously been European Vice-Champion in the same class. She has also raced in an all-female team on the ETF26 series as a flight controller, and last year won the 9th edition of the Martinique Cata Raid racing an F18.

### LOU MOURNIAC

Hometown: Vannes, FRA  
Date of Birth: 15 March 2003  
Instagram: [@lou\\_mourniac](#)



SPAIN



# SAIL TEAM BCN

REAL CLUB NÁUTICO DE BARCELONA (RCNB)

Sail Team BCN presented the crew members who will compete in the upcoming UniCredit Youth America's Cup on 10 April 2024. The team representing Spain, under the banner of the Real Club Náutico de Barcelona, will be formed by Albert Torres, Neus Ballester, Marcos Fernández, Martín Wizner, Conrad Konitzer, Nico Martin, Jaime Framis, and Antonio Torrado.

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.

## TEAM HEAD

Ross Daniel

## TEAM COACHES

Luis Brito, Mónica Azon

## COMMUNICATIONS

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



[OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PROFILE](#)



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

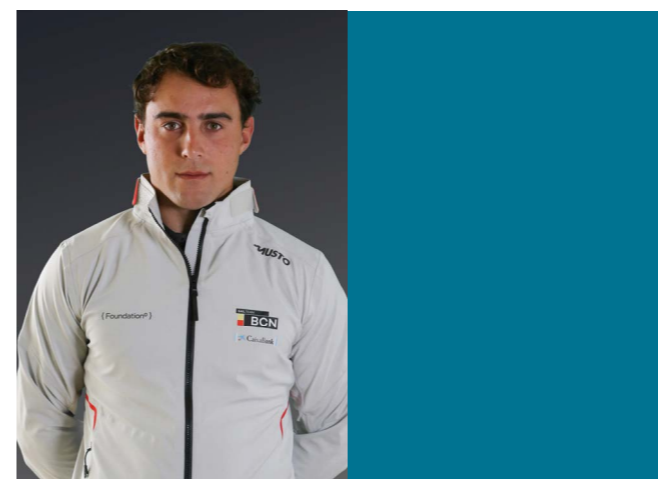
- . 2x World Championship – 1st (420) ●●
- . European Championship – 1st (420) ●
- . European Youth Championship – 1st (49er) ●
- . Trofeo Princesa Sofia – 7th (49er)
- . Olympic team member 2025-2026

**BIOGRAPHY**

Martin started sailing in his home town of Vigo and aged 16 sailed in the 420 class where he won the European and World Championships. He has since focused on sailing in the 49er class and now has his eyes set on an Olympic campaign for 2028. Martin also competes in both the Waszp and International Moth classes.

**MARTIN WIZNER | HELM**

Hometown: Vigo, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 01 January 2001  
 Instagram: @martinwizner



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

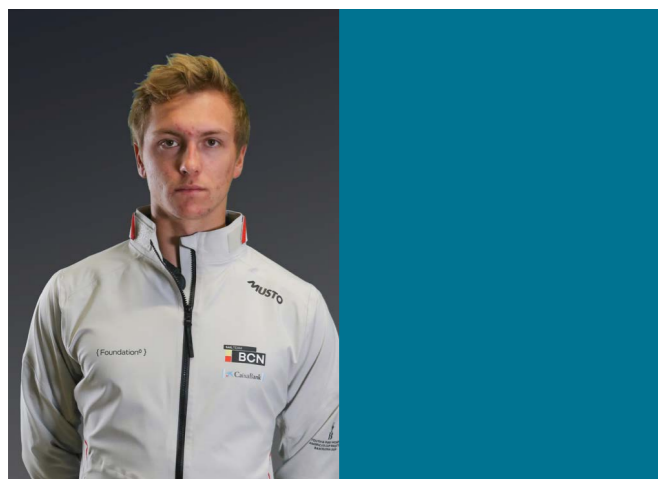
- . Optimist Spanish Champion – 1st ●
- . Optimist World Champion Team Racing – 3rd ●
- . World Championship – 2nd (420) ●
- . World Championship Team Racing – 1st (420) ●
- . Spanish Championship – 1st (420) ●
- . European Youth Championship – 3rd (420) ●
- . 2x Spanish Championships – 2nd (49er) ●●
- . Portugal Grand Prix – 2nd (49er) ●
- . Olympic team member 2025-2026

**BIOGRAPHY**

Albert won the Optimist National championship at 14 years old, and from there moved into the 420 class where he won the World Team Racing championship and became Spanish champion as well as placing 2nd in the Worlds. He teamed up with Elias Aretz in 49er and is currently an Olympic team member.

**ALBERT TORRES | HELM**

Hometown: Palma de Mallorca, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 12 June 1999  
 Instagram: @alberttorres8



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

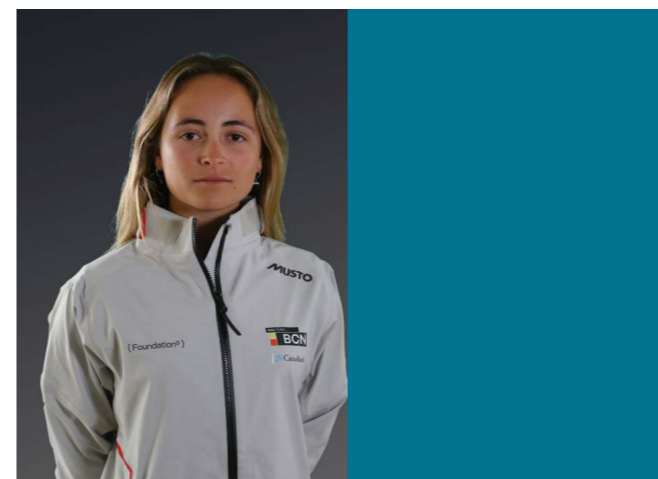
- . 2016: Spanish ranking Optimist Champion ●
- . 2019: Spanish Championship – 1st (420) ●
- . 2019: World Championship – 3rd (420) ●
- . 2019: European Championship – 1st (420) ●
- . Olympic team member 2025-2026

**BIOGRAPHY**

Conrad's passion for sailing came when he moved to Mallorca where he learned to sail in an Optimist and quickly progressed into the 420 class where he became Spanish and European Champion and 3rd in the World Championships. Conrad is currently competing in the 49er with fellow SailTeam BCN sailor Antonio Torrado and together they are focused on an Olympic campaign for 2028.

**CONRAD KONITZER | HELM**

Hometown: Palma de Mallorca, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 16 June 2001  
 Instagram: @conrad\_konitzer



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

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

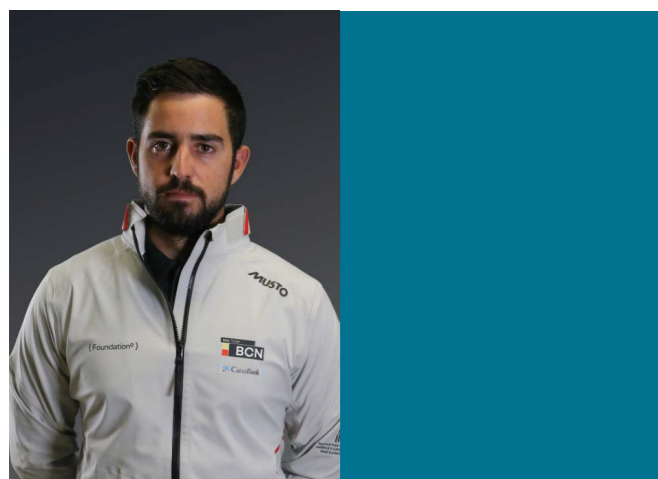
**BIOGRAPHY**

A 420 World Champion, Neus is also a member of the women's team and the only female sailor in the youth group. She highlighted that "together we make a team, including the sponsors; we believe that working as a team is the best way to achieve objectives and we have to learn a lot from everyone."

**NEUS BALLESTER | HELM**

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





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

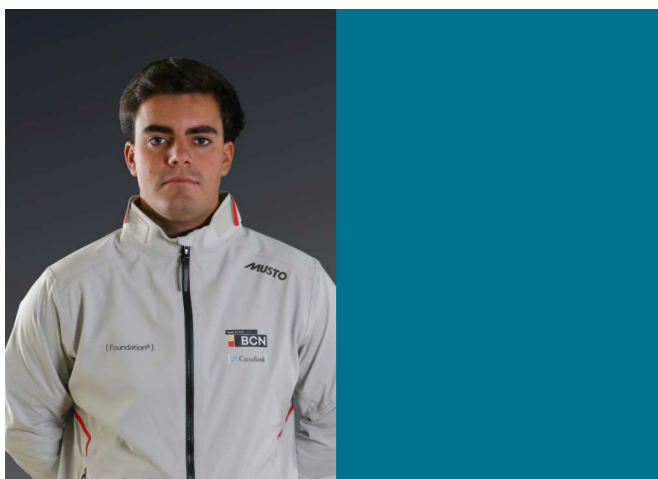
- . Spain Nationals – 1st (49er) ●
- . 3x U-25 Spain Nationals – 1st (49er) ●●●
- . U-25 World Championship – 5th (49er)
- . U-25 European Championship – 3rd (49er) ●
- . European Championship – 12th (49er)
- . Olympic team member 2021-2022
- . Olympic team member 2025-2026

**BIOGRAPHY**

Antonio sailed Optimists, Lasers, Europes, 29ers, and windsurfers, and aged 17 dedicated his sailing to the 49er class where he became National champion. He is currently sailing with SailTeamBCN teammate Conrad Konitzer and together they are members of the Olympic team for the 2025-2026 season and focused on a campaign for the 2028 Olympics.

**ANTONIO TORRADO | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Torrevieja, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 01 April 1999  
 Instagram: @anto.torrado



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

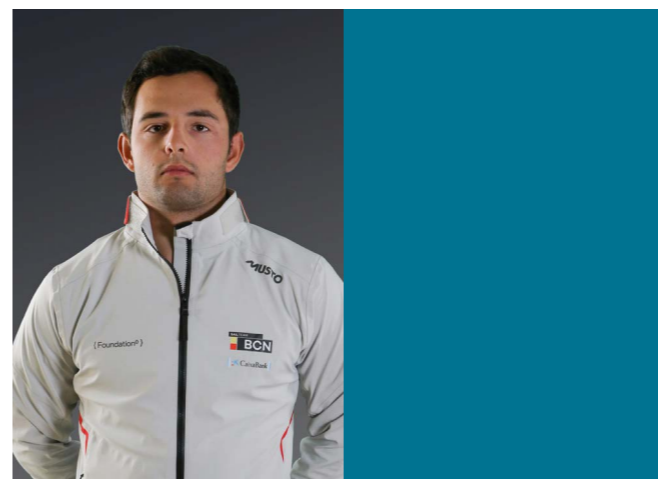
- . Spain Nationals – 2nd (J80) ●
- . SailGP Inspire Cadiz – 1st ●
- . SailGP Inspire San Francisco Grand Finale – 2nd ●
- . Waszp European Championship – 6th
- . Slalom Waszp World Championship – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Jaime started sailing Optimists at 5 years old, and progressed into 29er, 420, J80 and 49erFX classes. After winning the Waszp Slalom Worlds, Jaime has focused on sailing International Moths and will compete in the International Moth World Championships later this year.

**JAIME FRAMIS | TRIMMER**

Hometown: San Sebastian, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 05 September 2002  
 Instagram: @jaimeframis



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . U-16 National Championship – 2nd (420) ●
- . National Championship – 2nd (49erFX) ●
- . U-24 World Championship – 12th (Nacra 17)
- . U-24 World Championship – 3rd (Nacra 17) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Marcos started sailing in an Optimist and then in the 420 class, followed by the 49er. Marcos then started sailing Nacra 17 and finished 3rd in 2022 at the Nacra 17 Under-24 World Championship and 1st in the 69F Youth Gold Cup in Miami.

**MARCOS FERNÁNDEZ | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Santiago de Compostela, ESP  
 Date of Birth: 21 April 1999  
 Instagram: @marcosfdez



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. The Youth team is skippered by Bart Lambriex.

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#### TEAM HEAD

Sander van der Borch

#### TEAM COACHES

Pieter Jan Postma, Annemieke Bes, Cas van Dongen

#### YOUTH SKIPPER

Bart Lambriex

#### COMMUNICATIONS

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

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**BART LAMBRIEX | SKIPPER**

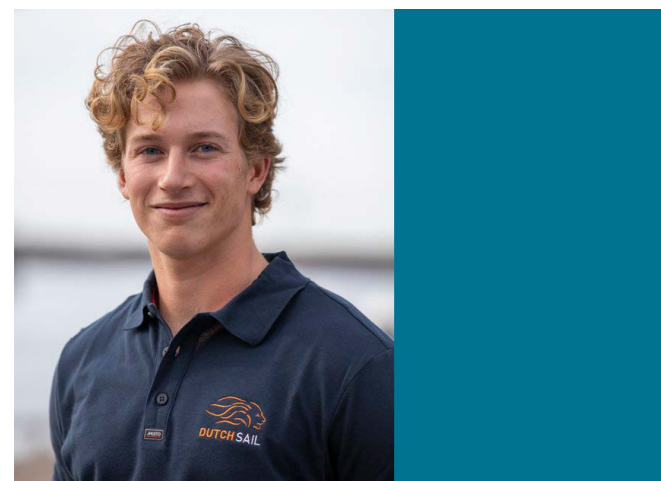
Hometown: Haarlem, NED  
Date of Birth: 03 October 1998  
Instagram: @bartlambriex



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: Tokyo Olympic Games – 6th (49er)
- . 2021: World Championship – 1st (49er) ●
- . 2022: World Championship – 1st (49er) ●
- . 2023: World Championship – 1st (49er) ●
- . 2024: World Championship – 2nd (49er) ●
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 6th (49er)

**BIOGRAPHY**  
Bart learned to sail in the North of the Netherlands: in Friesland. When he first qualified for the World Championship Optimist, he knew sailing was his passion. After the Optimist, Bart sailed for 4 years in the 420 and 49erFX. In the summer of 2017 Bart joined the top sailing academy of the Dutch Water Sport Association, sailing the 49er. Together with Pim van Vugt, Bart finished 6th at the Tokyo Olympic Games. Nowadays Bart is still sailing the 49er, together with Floris van de Werken they are three-time World Champions. The duo represents the Netherlands this summer at the Paris Olympic Games.



**PAUL HAMEETEMAN**

Hometown: Goes, NED  
Date of Birth: 18 September 2003  
Instagram: @paulhameeteman\_

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2020: European Championship U21 Laser Radial (ILCA6) – 1st ●
- . 2021: World Championship U19 Laser Standard (ILCA7) – 1st ●
- . 2022: European Championship U21 ILCA7 – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**  
Paul was seven years old when he started sailing in an Optimist at WV Zierikzee. By working hard and the necessary talent, Paul learned how to win competitions both nationally and internationally. After outgrowing the Optimist, he switched to the Laser 4.7 which he already swapped quickly for the Laser Radial. In 2020 Paul became European Champion U21 in the Laser Radial. A year later in 2021 he grabbed the World Championship title in the Laser Standard/ILCA7 U19.



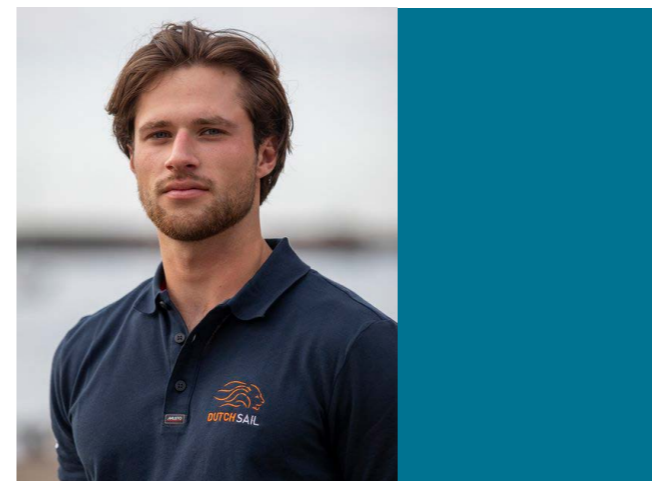
**ELLIOTT SAVELON**

Hometown: Etterbeek, BEL  
Date of Birth: 05 September 2001  
Instagram: @elliott\_sav

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: 69F Youth Foiling Gold Cup – 1st ●
- . 2019/20: WASZP European Slalom Championships – 1st ●●
- . 2017: World Championship – 1st (Nacra 15) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**  
Elliott is a recognised solo foil specialist, he won the WASZP European Slalom Championships in 2019–2020 and was the winner of SailGP Inspire in Saint Tropez in 2021. Elliott has also proven himself as part of a duo or a team. In 2017 Elliott became World Champion in the Nacra 15 with Bjarne Bouwer and in 2022 he was part of the Team JAJO DutchSail that won the Youth Foiling Gold Cup in the 69F.



**ALEKSANDR MOLIAKOV**

Hometown: Klaipeda, LIT  
Date of Birth: 09 June 2001  
Instagram: @aleksandr.moliakov

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: U23 World Championships – 13th (49er)
- . 2018: Youth World Championship Laser Radial (ILCA6) – 17th
- . 2023: Dutch Championship ORC2 – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**  
Aleksandr started sailing the Optimist at the age of 6, after which the ILCA 4 followed when he turned 13. After spending multiple years on the youth national team in both the ILCA 4 and ILCA 6, he made the switch to the ILCA 7 at the age of 17. Due to injury, he spent quite some time off the water that year, but never gave up. At the age of 18 Aleksandr started sailing the 49er but this campaign ended at the beginning of 2023. Aleksandr spent the next couple of months coaching the youth national teams of the Netherlands and trying many different disciplines: foiling, match racing and keelboat sailing. Mid-2023 Aleksandr shifted his focus towards becoming the best-prepared version of himself for the DutchSail selection for the UniCredit Youth America's Cup team.



**BJARNE BOUWER**

Hometown: Meppel, NED  
Date of Birth: 20 February 2003  
Instagram: @bjarne\_bouwer



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2018: Youth Olympic Games – 3rd (Nacra 15) ●
- . 2022: World Championship – 9th (Nacra 17)
- . 2023: World Championship – 4th (Nacra 17)
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 6th (Nacra 17)

**BIOGRAPHY**  
At the age of 5, Bjarne first got into an Optimist. From the first moment, losing was not an option. Bjarne sailed his first years in Thailand, where he then lived with his family. After moving back to the Netherlands, Bjarne already quickly joined the Youth Dutch Team in the Optimist. After outgrowing the Optimist, he made the step to the Nacra 15. Together with Elliott Savelon he became World Champion in 2017 and with Laila van der Meer, Bjarne took the Bronze medal at the Youth Olympic Games in 2018. The duo swapped the Nacra 15 for the Nacra 17 and will make their Olympic debut at the Paris Olympic Games this summer.

# CONCORD PACIFIC RACING

CANADA



# CONCORD PACIFIC RACING

ROYAL VANCOUVER YACHT CLUB (RVYC)

The Canadian Youth Team have been balancing their time between the AC40 Simulator and foiling on 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 UniCredit Youth 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.

## TEAM HEAD | YOUTH SKIPPER

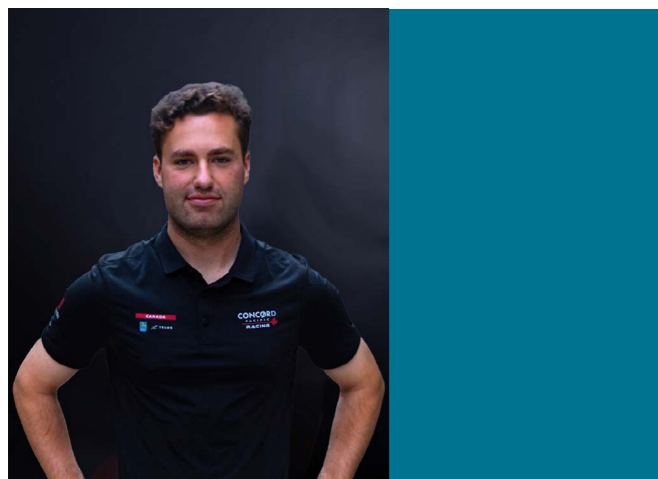
Adrew Wood

## COMMUNICATIONS

James Rigby | james@jrigby.co



# CONCORD PACIFIC RACING



## ANDREW WOOD | SKIPPER

Hometown: Vancouver (BC), CAN  
Date of Birth: 12 June 1999  
Instagram: [@andrewwood\\_\\_\\_](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

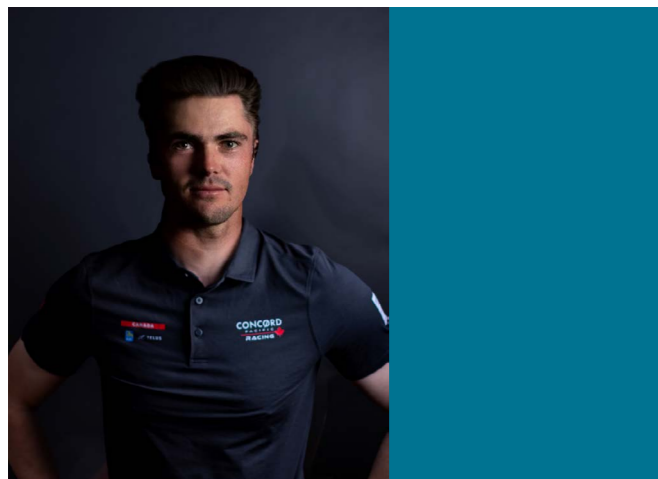
- . ISAF Youth World, 49er, and International Moth World Championship participations

### BIOGRAPHY

Introducing Andrew Wood, the team captain of Canada's Youth Squad. Andrew's sailing journey took a pivotal turn at thirteen when he transitioned to the 29er class with his brother, Ryan Wood. After enduring many cold training days on Vancouver's waters, their dedication paid off with impressive performances at two ISAF Youth World Championships in 2014 and 2016, and three 29er World Championships.

In 2016, Andrew and his brother made the leap to the 49erFX, debuting with a second-place finish at their first regatta. Next, the brothers moved into the 49er and competed at several 49er World Championships. In 2023, Andrew competed at the International Moth Championship in Weymouth.

With a strong competitive spirit and years of commitment, Andrew Wood is making his mark in the sailing world and embracing new adventures on the water.



## ANDRE VAN DAM

Hometown: Wellington, NZL  
Date of Birth: 23 January 2002  
Instagram: [@andre.van.dam](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

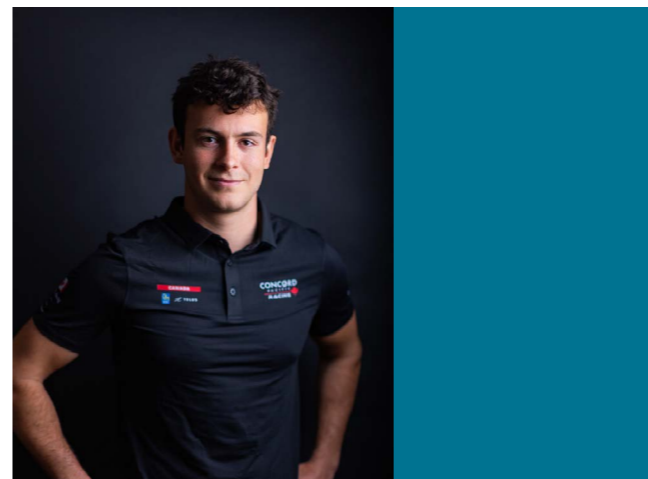
- . 2022: Youth European Championships – 3rd (470) ●
- . 2022: New Zealand Open Match Racing National Championship – 1st ●
- . 2022: World Match Racing Tour – 6th
- . 2023: Youth Foiling Gold Cup – 2nd (69F) ●

### BIOGRAPHY

Introducing Andre Van Dam, a young sailing talent with dual citizenship in New Zealand and Canada. Andre's competitive sailing journey includes being a reserve for the 470 Olympic team and a training partner for the Tokyo 2020 Olympians. In 2022, Andre took the bronze medal at the 470 Junior Europeans.

Other sailing achievements include champion at the New Zealand Open Match Racing National Championship in 2022, and finishing 6th at the World Match Racing Tour Finals in Sydney. In 2023, Andre's team secured second place at the Youth Foiling Gold Cup in the 69F in Miami.

Andre has also served as an ETF boat captain and currently works as a junior sailmaker at North Sails. He holds a New Zealand Level 3 qualification in electrical engineering. With his sights set on the 2028 Olympic Games, he's determined to leave a lasting mark on the international stage.



## JACK GOGAN

Hometown: Cape Breton (NS), CAN  
Date of Birth: 26 May 2004  
Instagram: [@jack.gogan](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . Canadian National Championship – 2x 1st (Optimist) ●●
- . Optimist, 420, and 49er World Championship participations

### BIOGRAPHY

By age nine, Jack Gogan had already competed in his first national regatta as part of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron Race Team, and by 10, he was representing Canada internationally.

Jack's impressive list of accomplishments includes being a two-time Canadian national Optimist Champion, two-time male single-handed sailor of the year at RNSYS, and two-time male sailor of the year in Nova Scotia. A past member of both the Nova Scotia Sailing Team and Canada's Youth Sailing Team, Jack is a passionate competitor who has proudly represented Canada at the Opti World Championships, the 420 World Championships, and the 49er World Championships.

Jack studies at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia. In his spare time, Jack is an avid foiler and keelboat racer, constantly pushing the limits of his abilities and embracing new challenges on the water.



## GALEN RICHARDSON

Hometown: Toronto (ON), CAN  
Date of Birth: 03 July 2001  
Instagram: [@galen\\_richardson](#)

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

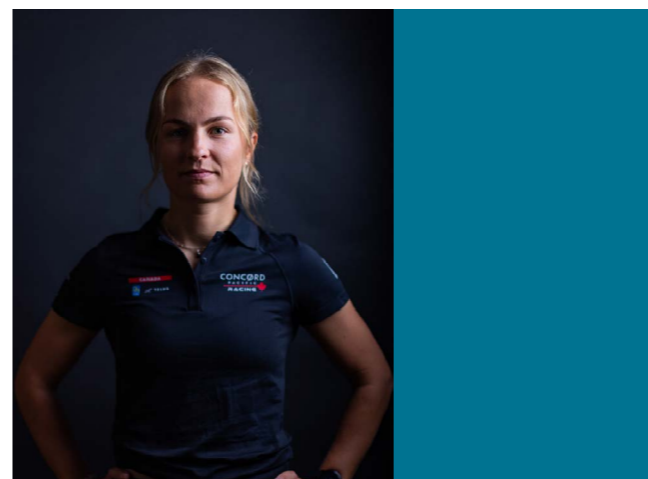
- . 2019: North American Championship – 4th (49er)
- . 2024: Nacra 17 World Championship participation

### BIOGRAPHY

Galen Richardson has been competing in high-performance dinghies since he was fourteen. Starting in the 29er before transitioning to the 49er, Galen competed at the 2018 29er World Championship in Hong Kong, and placed fourth at the 2019 49er North Americans Championship in Kingston.

In 2022, Galen teamed up with Madeline Gillis of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and transitioned to the Olympic foiling class, the Nacra 17. Galen and Madeline most recently competed at the 2024 Nacra 17 World Championship in France, with their sights set on representing Canada at the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles. Galen has worked for the SailGP Tech Team in the Electronics Department at several events, and for the Canadian SailGP team as a member of the Shore Team.

Galen holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Health Studies from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and is a Canadian Sailing Development Squad member.



## GEORGIA LEWIN-LAFRANCE

Hometown: Chester (NS), CAN  
Date of Birth: 01 December 1999  
Instagram: [@georgialewinlafrance](#)



### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- . 2021: European Championships – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2021: World Championships – 6th (49erFX)
- . 2022: Rolex Sailor of the Year
- . 2024: Paris Olympic Games – 11th (49erFX)

### BIOGRAPHY

As a youth sailor, Georgia Lewin-LaFrance competed in three consecutive ISAF Youth World Championships in the 420, including an impressive 6th place in 2017.

In 2018, Georgia teamed up with her sister, Antonia Lewin-LaFrance, and transitioned into the 49erFX. Together, the sisters took the bronze medal at the 2021 49erFX European Championships in Greece and finished 6th overall at the 2021 49erFX Sailing World Championships in Oman, achieving the best Canadian performance ever at this competition. Their outstanding achievements earned them the 2022 Rolex Sailors of the Year Award. Adding to her impressive resume, Georgia served as the strategist for Canada's SailGP team for seven events in the league's third season.

Georgia graduated from Queen's University with a degree in Civil Engineering. She and her sister, Antonia, will represent Canada in the 49erFX at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris.



GERMANY



# YOUTH AMERICA'S CUP TEAM GERMANY

**KIELER YACHT CLUB**

**NORDDEUTSCHER REGATTAVEREIN**

**VEREIN SEGLERHAUS AM WANNSEE**

**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 UniCredit Youth and Puig Women's America's Cup 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."

## TEAM HEADS

Paul Farien (Youth), Ole Sartori (GM), Oliver Schwall (GM)

## TEAM COACH

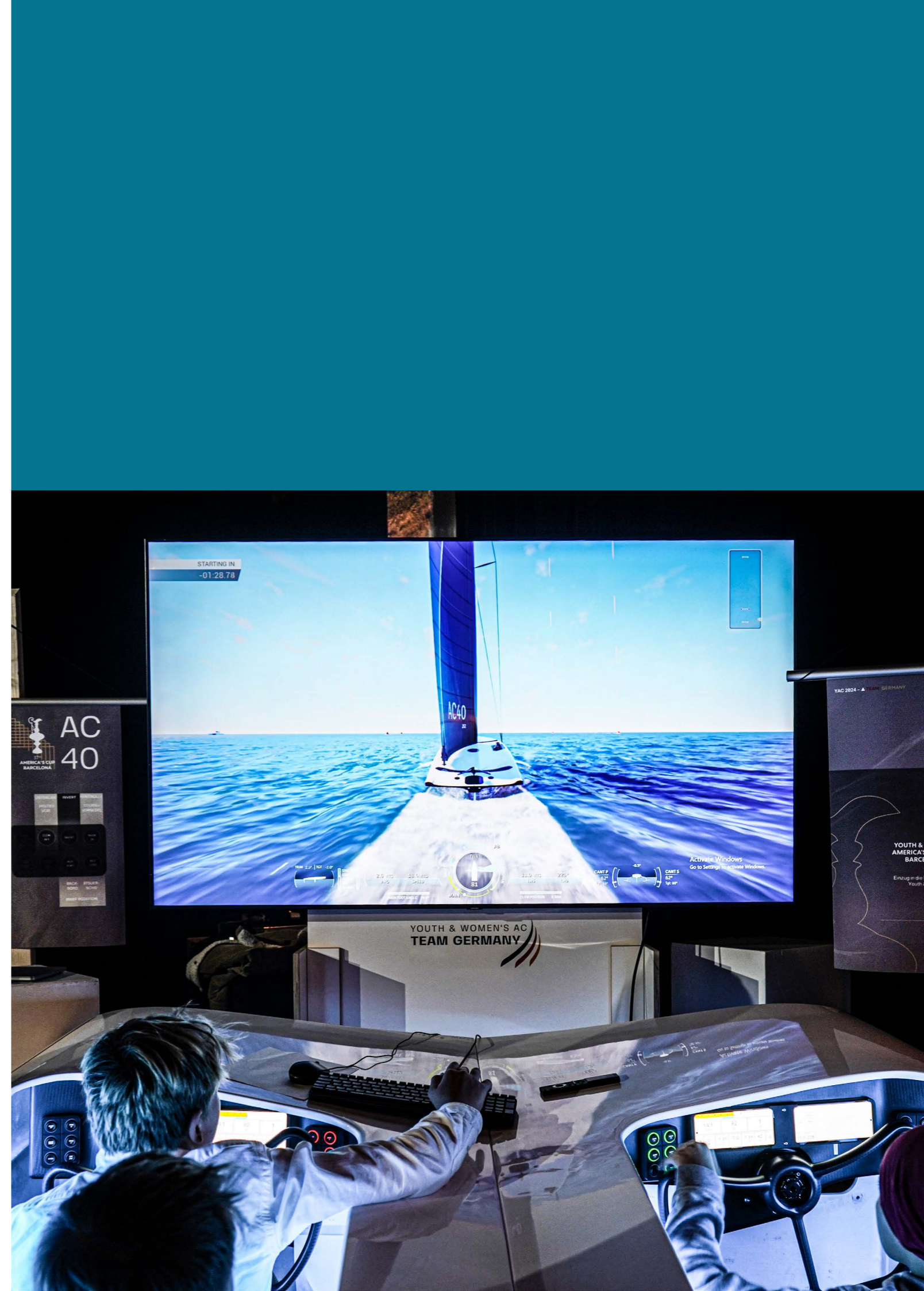
Marc Pickel

## YOUTH SKIPPER

Paul Farien

## COMMUNICATIONS

press@ac-team-germany.com





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2021: U21 European Championship – 1st (ILAC 7) ●
- . 2021: U21 World Championship – 3rd (ILAC 7) ●
- . 2022: U21 World Championship – 3rd (ILAC 7) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Julian's enthusiasm for sailing is evident in his passion for the sport and his eagerness to compete at the highest levels. His accolades include being U21 European Champion in ILCA 7 in 2021 and winning bronze medals at the U21 World Championships in ILCA 7 in 2021 and 2022.

**JULIAN HOFFMANN | HELM**

Hometown: Munich, Allgäu & Berlin, GER  
 Date of Birth: 25 December 2002  
 Instagram: @julian.hff



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: European Championship – 2nd (Waszp) ●
- . 2022: European Championship – 2nd (Waszp Slalom) ●
- . 2021/22: Waszp German Open – 1st ●●
- . 2022: Kiel Week – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Paul grew up with a passion for the sport. His achievements include being the Waszp Vice European Champion in 2022, Waszp Vice European Champion Slalom in 2022, and the Waszp German Open winner in 2021/22. Additionally, he secured victory at Kiel Week in 2022. As the team lead for the Youth team, we eagerly anticipate leveraging Paul's expertise and leadership in the upcoming challenge for the UniCredit Youth America's Cup.

**PAUL FARIEN | SKIPPER & HELM**

Hometown: Kiel, GER  
 Date of Birth: 03 July 1999  
 Instagram: @paul\_farien



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

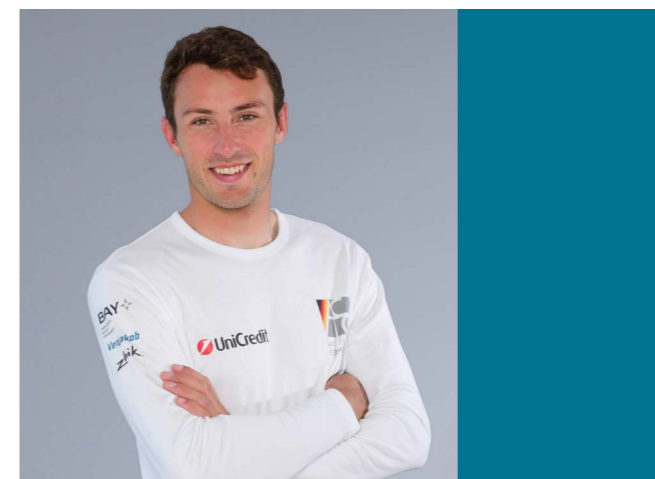
- . 2021: Worldcup Medemblik – 3rd (49erFX) ●
- . 2021: European Championships – 9th (49erFX)
- . 2018: Youth Sailing Worlds – 6th (29er)
- . 2017: Youth Sailing Worlds – 5th (29er)

**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 | HELM**

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



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2015: German Youth Championship – 1st (29er) ●
- . 2023: Kiel Week – 6th (49er)
- . 2023: European Championship – 22nd (49er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Tom's sailing achievements include winning the German Youth Championship in 2015 (29er), finishing 6th at Kiel Week in 2023 (49er), and placing 22nd at the European Championship in 2023 (49er). He sees the opportunity to compete in advanced boats against the world's best youth athletes as a fantastic challenge. Tom is looking forward to the task of quickly maximising performance from both his team and the yacht.

**TOM HEINRICH | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Kiel & Hamburg, GER  
 Date of Birth: 23 July 1999



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

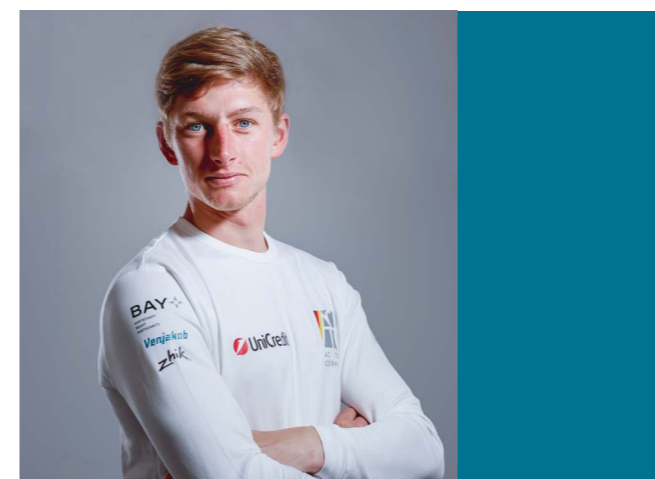
- . 2019: World Championships – 2nd (Nacra 15) ●
- . 2019: U21 World Championships – 1st (Nacra 15) ●
- . 2023: German Championship – 1st (F18) ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Jesse's achievements include being Vice World Champion in the Nacra 15 in 2019, U21 World Champion in the Nacra 15 in 2019, and German Champion in the F18 in 2023. For Jesse, it is a dream come true to experience the America's Cup and take part in the UniCredit Youth America's Cup.

**JESSE LINDSTÄDT | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Hamburg, GER  
 Date of Birth: 05 March 2001  
 Instagram: @jesse\_lindstaedt



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 4 years in the Olympic German Sailing Team
- . 2020: German Championships – 1st (49er) ●
- . 2022: 69F Youth Foiling Gold Cup – 2nd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Lukas spent four years in the Olympic German Sailing Team, was German Champion in the 49er in 2020, and a finalist at the 69F Youth Foiling Gold Cup in 2022. He views the UniCredit Youth America's Cup as a unique opportunity to compete against the world's best young sailors and showcase his skills on a global stage.

**LUKAS HESSE**

Hometown: Rosenburg, GER  
 Date of Birth: 09 May 1999  
 Instagram: @lu.kas.hesse



**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 | TRIMMER**

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



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2016: German Championship – 1st (29er) ●
- . 2019: Junior German Championship – 1st (49er) ●
- . 2020: U23 European Championship – 4th (49er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Linus became German Champion in the 29er in 2016 and Junior German Champion in the 49er in 2019, securing 4th place at the U23 European Championship in 2020. He views the UniCredit Youth America's Cup as a significant opportunity to represent his country, showcase his sailing talents, and compete on an international stage.

**LINUS VON OPPEN**

Hometown: Berlin, GER  
 Date of Birth: 23 September 1999  
 Instagram: @linus.oppen



SWEDEN



# SWEDISH CHALLENGE

## POWERED BY ARTEMIS TECHNOLOGIES

**ROYAL SWEDISH YACHT CLUB (KSSS)** 

**ROYAL GOTHENBURG YACHT CLUB (GKSS)** 

Swedish Challenge, powered by Artemis Technologies, selected seven sailors who form the Swedish Challenge Youth Team from the Artemis Academy. Among the selected youth sailors is Felicia Fernström, who has also been selected as part of the Swedish Challenge Women's Team: "I'm so excited to be a part of the teams. It's such a great opportunity to be around these great sailors in the AC40 but also being with Artemis in the RC44 have really made a big increase to my personal development. I love living this summer in Barcelona and we have really done a great work that hopefully will lead us towards the top of both podiums."

Alongside Fernström, the youth team includes: Oscar Engström, Rasmus Alnebeck, Ludvig Lindqvist, Hugo Christensson, Hanno Seifert and Oscar Andersson. Each of these talented sailors brings a unique set of skills and experience, united by their dedication to sailing and desire to reach the highest level in their sport. Oscar Engström, who is the skipper and helmsman for the team said: "It is both exhilarating and an honour to represent Sweden this fall in Barcelona. We are a strong group with fantastic support behind us and coaches who love to push us hard. I am more motivated than ever to make the most of this once in a lifetime opportunity!"

### TEAM HEAD

Sarah Gundersen

### TEAM COACHES

Kyle Langford, Fredrik Bergström

### YOUTH SKIPPER

Oscar Engström

### COMMUNICATIONS

Anna Östling | [anna.ostling@artemistechnologies.co.uk](mailto:anna.ostling@artemistechnologies.co.uk)

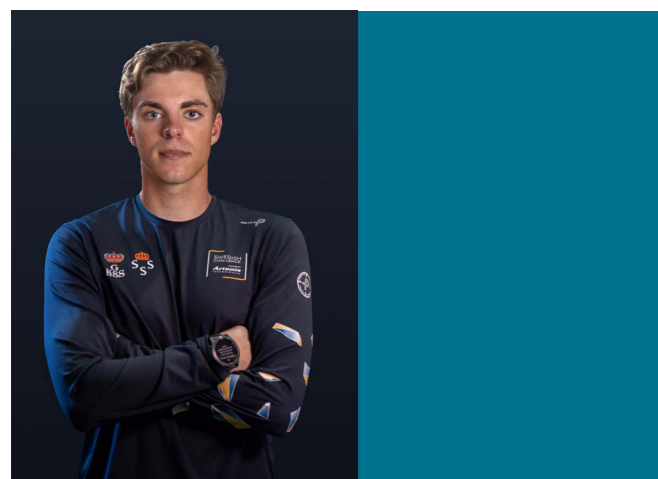


The final team has been selected from the Artemis Academy, which is dedicated to cultivating a strong foundation of top-level Swedish foiling athletes. Under the watchful eye of Head Coaches Fredrik Bergström and Kyle Langford, the academy focuses on developing and training both Swedish women and youth sailors, preparing them to compete at the pinnacle of the sport. The Academy started in Sweden in August 2023 and 29 sailors took part in the training camps with focus on smaller foiling boats and the AC40 simulator.

Emphasising the importance of youth development, Coach Langford said: "Our goal is to equip young sailors with the skills and experience they need to excel at the highest levels of competition. The Artemis Academy is more than just a training ground; it's a launchpad for the future stars of sailing."

The Swedish Challenge sailors have been training onboard their AC40 at Artemis Technologies' base in Belfast, with Belfast Lough providing the ideal spot to hone their skills. As a spin-off from the renowned Artemis Racing America's Cup team, Artemis Technologies uses its world leading technical expertise to support the team, resulting in a showcase that combines the finest sailing talent and cutting-edge technology. Artemis Technologies CEO, Dr Iain Percy OBE, said: "Our experience in high-performance sailing and maritime design is a significant advantage. Leveraging our technical prowess, operational expertise, and managerial skills we can provide our sailors with the best possible preparation—we know our teams are ready to compete at the highest level and push the boundaries of what is possible in sailing."





**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Youth World Championship Match Racing – 2nd ●
- . Youth World Championship – 2x 5th (29er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Oscar followed in the footsteps of his two older sisters when he immersed himself in the world of sailing. Growing up in Lake Aspen, he carved his craft during his time spent at sailing high school and sailing the Optimist. After years honing his skills in the 29er, Oscar stepped into the 49er. Sailing in a bigger team was a challenge that Oscar full embraced when he began sailing Match Racing. When the Swedish Challenge for the Youth America's Cup was announced Oscar, together with his friend Rasmus Alnebeck, put in the hard work to get make the youth team for the 37th America's Cup in Barcelona.

**OSCAR ENGSTRÖM | HELM & SKIPPER**

Hometown: Lerum, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 23 September 2000  
 Instagram: @Oscar.engst0m



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

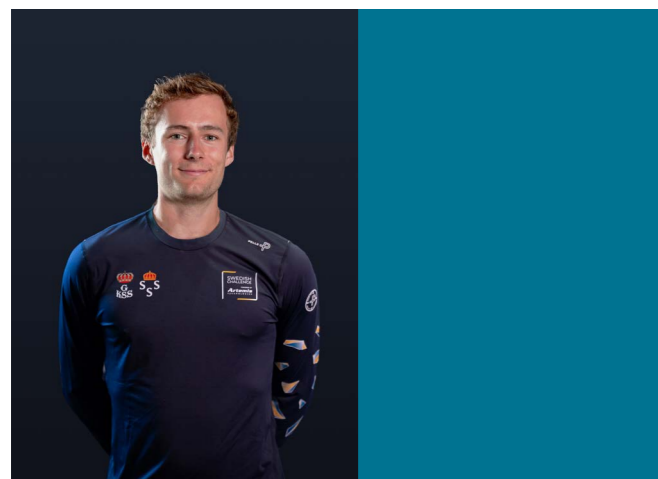
- . World Championship RS Feva – 3rd ●
- . Endeavour Americas Cup Bermuda – 2nd ●
- . 5x medalist at Swedish Championships

**BIOGRAPHY**

Oscar's incredibly accuracy trimming and flying his Moth at every opportunity he gets have helped him earned his place on the Swedish Challenge Youth team. He has been sailing all kinds of different dinghies and regularly been on the national podium during his youth career. His fierce work ethic coupled with his friendly and easy to work attitude has solidified his invaluable role within the team.

**OSCAR ANDERSSON | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Stenungssund, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 26 May 2002  
 Instagram: @seglaroscar



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

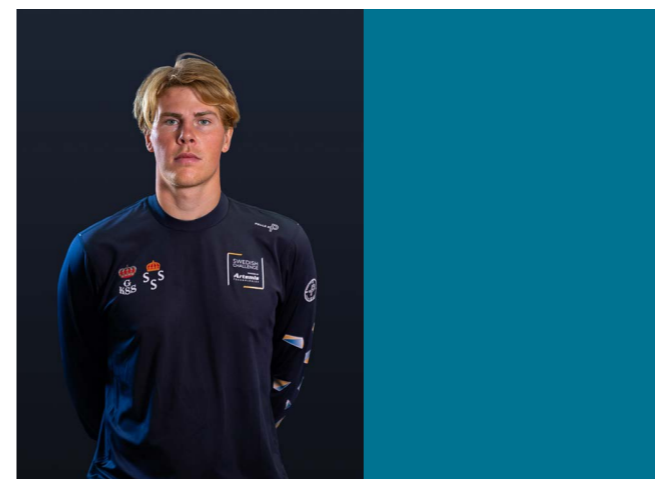
- . 2023: SailGP Inspire WASZP event St Tropez – 1st ●
- . 2023: WASZP Foiling Week – 4th
- . 2022: Norwegian WASZP Series – 1st ●
- . 2022: Kieler Woche – 3rd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Hanno broke the traditional mould when forging his path as a sailor, having not attended sailing high school. Demonstrating there are different paths to success, Hanno has quickly established himself one of the best WASZP sailors in Sweden. Having been part of the Norwegian foiling team for years, Hanno is now fully focused on the opportunity the Swedish Challenge has given him. His willingness to learn, curiosity and careful preparation are key drivers in his success story.

**HANNO SEIFERT | HELM**

Hometown: Jönköping, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 02 May  
 Instagram: @hanno\_seifert



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Youth World Championship – 3rd (470) ●
- . Redbull Foiling Generation World Final – 3rd ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Hugo's determination and focus to be a professional sailor is truly remarkable. He is the one always taking notes and preparing well in advance to ensure his best possible performance. With a wide ranging background in 49er, Nacra and offshore sailing, Hugo recently ended an Olympic campaign in the 470 mixed. Now he sails his Moth every day in the run up to the Youth America's Cup Challenge.

**HUGO CHRISTENSSON | TRIMMER**

Hometown: Stockholm, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 20 July 1999  
 Instagram: @hugo\_christensson



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

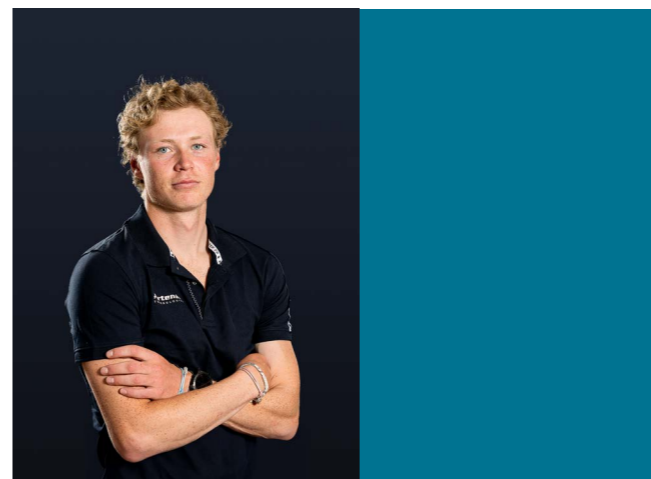
- . 2022: Youth Match Racing Swedish Championships – 2nd ●
- . 2021: Youth Match Racing Swedish Championships - 3rd ●
- . 2018: Nordic Championships – 2nd (1st Women's) (29er) ●

**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.

**FELICIA FERNSTRÖM | TRIMMER**

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



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . U21 Laser European Championships – 5th
- . 2x Swedish Championships - 1st (Laser) ●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Ludvig sails in the ILCA Class where he is part of the Swedish Youth National Team. His goal are the Los Angeles Olympic Games in 2028. He is bringing his racing skills into our youth team and embraces the challenge of a change to sail the fast AC40 as Ludvig has been racing slower boats of different types. He has always sailed for the Royal Swedish Yacht Club KSSS and he's a person who knows what he wants so we are sure we will see Ludde for many years to come in the Swedish Sailing community.

**LUDVIG LINDQVIST**

Hometown: Stockholm, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 16 April 2000  
 Instagram: @Ludde\_lindqvist



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: Match Racing World Championships – 4th

**BIOGRAPHY**

Rasmus has a Swedish "classic" youth sailing background. He went to one of the sailing high schools where studies are combined with sailing for 4-5 days a week on lake Aspen outside Gothenburg.

Inspired by their dad, both Rasmus and his older brother grew up in the sport of sailing. Rasmus is a doer and a learner. He takes every opportunity to network and sail and this is why we have seen him race on M32, RC44, Moth events, and sailing Match racing already at young age. Now he joins the UniCredit Youth America's Cup. Additionally to sailing the AC40 he has been the Junior Boat Captain in the team.

**RASMUS ALNEBECK**

Hometown: Gothenburg/Kungsbacka, SWE  
 Date of Birth: 30 September 2000  
 Instagram: @rasmusalnebeck



AUSTRALIA



# ANDOO TEAM AUSTRALIA

CRUISING YACHT CLUB OF AUSTRALIA

A squad of 13 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

## YOUTH SKIPPER

Cole Tapper

## COMMUNICATIONS

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



OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PROFILE



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2023: World Youth Match Racing Championships – 2nd ●
- . #1 ranked skipper in Youth Match Racing
- . New Zealand 420 Nationals – 1st ●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Cole’s sailing began in the Optimist with wins in the NSW and Australian Optimist Teams Racing Championships and several times in NSW won the Australian Schools Teams Racing Championships. He won the New Zealand 420 Nationals and 2018 U17 Junior European Championships plus podiums in the Nacra 15. In Match Racing in 2023 he won state and national titles as well as a 2nd at the 2023 World Youth Match Racing Championships. Cole is the current world number 1 ranked skipper in youth match racing and is currently completing a Bachelor of Economics/Bachelor of Advanced Studies degree at the University of Sydney.

**COLE TAPPER | SKIPPER**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 02 November 2001  
 Instagram: @coletapper



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . Junior World Championship – 1st ●
- . 5x National Champion title ●●●●●
- . 2021: Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron Yachtsman of the Year

**BIOGRAPHY**

Jack Ferguson is the youngest member of the Team Australia Challenge squad. He is the current 49er Junior World Champion and recently placed 6th at the Trofeo Princess Sofia Regatta. He placed 8th at the 2023 International Moth Pre-Worlds and raced as a member of the Enzedder 69F team. He has claimed 5 National Championships across various classes: in the Optimist in 2017, the International 420 with two different teammates in 2019/2020 and the Waszp in 2020/2021. He was also the Trans-Tasman eSailing Champion. In 2021 he was named Royal Sydney Yacht Squadron Yachtsman of the Year and held a NSW Institute of Sport Individual Performance scholarship 2019-2024.

**JACK FERGUSON**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 25 February 2003  
 Instagram: @jack.fergo



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: Rolex Sydney to Hobart – 2nd ●
- . 2022: Bluewater Youth Sailor of the Year

**BIOGRAPHY**

Starting out as a member of the NSW Youth sailing team, George developed through the Flying11 and 29er classes before transitioning to match racing where he won the Hardy Cup, Warren Jones and Etchells National Championships as well as competing in the World Match Racing Tour finals and Etchells Worlds. George received the Bluewater Youth Sailor of the Year after trimming on TP52 Gweilo as they finished second in the 2022 Rolex Sydney to Hobart. He is completing an engineering/commerce degree and works in a marine based defence company.

**GEORGE RICHARDSON**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 20 August 1999  
 Instagram: @georgericho789



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . current #2 World ranking (49er)
- . 2023: Trofeo Princess Sofia World Cup – 2nd (49er) ●
- . 2x Australian National Champion (29er) ●●

**BIOGRAPHY**

Max is a current member of the Australian Sailing Team and is currently placed 2nd in the World 49er rankings and is highly placed on the World Match Racing Rankings. In 2023 Max placed 2nd at the Trofeo Princess Sofia World Cup in the 49er and placed 6th in 2024 in that event. Max has also competed successfully in the Australian match racing circuit, placing 2nd twice at the Hardy Cup in 2022 and 2023, and 2nd at the 2022 Harken Youth International. Max is a two-time 29er Australian National Champion in 2018 and 2019, the same years he came 2nd in the 29er World Championships (2018) and 3rd in the World Sailing Youth World Championships (2019).

**MAX PAUL**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 14 February 2001  
 Instagram: @maxkpaul



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2017/18: Australian Youth National Championship – 1st (29er) ●●
- . 2018: Youth Worlds – 3rd ●
- . 2021: World Championships – 13th (49er)

**BIOGRAPHY**

Miles was twice named Australian youth national champion in the 29er class in 2017 and 2018, also competing at international events and being named Australian National Champion in the class in 2017. Notably attending 2 x Youth Worlds winning a bronze medal in 2018 in Texas Corpus Christi. In his more recent 49er campaign, he was third at Sail Sydney and competed in European and world championships and ranked highly at the Junior Worlds at Lake Como in 2022. He finished 13th at the 49er 2021 Worlds in Oman. He also races 18ft skiffs becoming the Super Cup winner in 2023 and finishing 8th at the JJ Gilman worlds in 2023 on Balmain Private.

**MILES DAVEY**

Hometown: Sydney (NSW), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 19 April 2001  
 Instagram: @miles\_davey1



**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

- . 2022: European Championships – 9th
- . 2020: World Championships – 15th
- . Winner of Sail Sydney and Sail Melbourne ●●
- . 2018: Queensland Youth Sailor of the Year

**BIOGRAPHY**

Tom is a member of the Australian Sailing Squad as a helm in the 49er class, a hydraulic engineer for SailGP, and is completing a Mechanical and Aerospace degree at the University of Queensland. He was named Queensland Youth Sailor of the Year in 2018, and Open Male Sailor of the Year in 2022. Tom secured 9th at the 2022 European Championships, 2nd at the Netherlands World Cup, 15th at the World Championships in 2020, 4th at the North American Championships, and has won Sail Sydney and Sail Melbourne. Tom is also currently completing his university thesis which focuses on the performance of supercavitating foils.

**TOM NEEDHAM**

Hometown: Brisbane (QLD), AUS  
 Date of Birth: 25 May 2000  
 Instagram: @tom\_needham



**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



# 08

## THE FUTURE STARS OF THE AMERICA'S CUP

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE YOUTH AMERICA'S CUP

Developing pathways into the America's Cup is a challenge that has been faced down since 2013 when the inaugural Red Bull Youth America's Cup was introduced in San Francisco and the winners of that regatta are today the leading names in our sport.

Peter Burling, today the skipper of the Defender of the Louis Vuitton 37th America's Cup, skippered the 'NZL Sailing Team with Emirates Team New Zealand' that featured stellar names like Blair Tuke, Andy Maloney and Sam Meech who are all involved with Emirates Team New Zealand in 2024. Other names in that regatta, which was then held in non-foiling AC45 catamarans, include Jason Saunders (now with Orient Express Racing Team), Lucien Cujean and Jason Waterhouse (both now with Alinghi Red Bull Racing).

Following the success of that inaugural regatta, the Red Bull Youth America's Cup returned in 2017 in the crystal waters of Bermuda with the upgraded AC45F foiling catamaran and this time it was the British 'GBR Land Rover BAR Academy' team that lifted the trophy. Onboard was Neil Hunter, the powerhouse cyclist who was quickly snapped up by the senior team and is now a key member of the INEOS Britannia squad.

Unfortunately, due to the global pandemic, the 2021 regatta didn't happen in Auckland but was revitalised by the sponsorship of UniCredit Bank to return in 2024 with the UniCredit Youth America's Cup in Barcelona. The regatta will take place from the 10th to the 26th September in fully-equalised AC40 foiling monohulls.

For certain the future stars of the America's Cup will be on display and the competition is set to be white-hot for the young guns hoping to make their mark on this fabulous event and begin their journey at the very apex of the sport.

Red Bull Youth America's Cup San Francisco.



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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

### 37TH AMERICA'S CUP GENERAL ENQUIRIES

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### UNICREDIT – GROUP MEDIA RELATIONS

mediarelations@unicredit.eu

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### AUSTRALIA: ANDOO TEAM AUSTRALIA CAROLYN GRANT

carolyn@teamaustraliachallenge.org

## 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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