

# AMERICAN ★ SAILOR



News and Information for US Sailing Members

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## US Sailing names Marcus Lynch as High Performance Director

US Sailing today announced Marcus Lynch, an accomplished professional sailor athlete, coach, and Olympic performance manager, as US Sailing's High Performance Director. Lynch will lead the US Sailing Team and all its associated high-performance programs, including the US Olympic Sailing Team, the Pan American Sailing Team, and the Olympic Development Sailing Program, for US Sailing, the sport's national governing body.

*"We are thrilled to welcome Marcus to the US Sailing family," said Alan Ostfield, CEO of US Sailing. "Marcus brings a wealth of experiences and successes from highly regarded international sailing programs where he successfully designed, implemented, and managed cultural, procedural, and practical changes within Olympic programs. US Sailing has made strong organizational strides over the past few years, and Marcus is well-positioned to drive the level of success in this critical area that we all would naturally expect."*

Lynch, who has been involved in professional sailing since 2000, served as a full-time athlete for the British Sailing Team in the Tornado Class from 2000-2008, then as a consultant from 2008 to 2016, where he coordinated the British Sailing Teams Paralympic training



and preparation activities in Rio ahead of the 2016 Paralympic Games where the British Sailing Team secured a Bronze Medal in both the 2.4 and Skud. After the Rio 2016 Games, Lynch joined the German Sailing Team as the Olympic Performance Coach for the Nacra 17, securing the Bronze Medal at the Tokyo Olympics 2021. In 2019, Lynch became the Olympic Performance Manager, and in 2021 the German Sailing Team had their most successful Olympic Performance in over two decades, securing the Silver Medal in the Fx, the Bronze Medal in the 49er, and the Bronze Medal in the Nacra 17 at the Tokyo 2021 Games. In addition to his Olympic and Paralympic Roles, Lynch has a wealth of coaching experience in professional sailing circuits such as SailGP and the former extreme sailing series, giving a broad and unique perspective across sailboat racing.



*"I am thrilled to join US Sailing in this important role and at this critical time," said Lynch. "The US Sailing Team has a solid foundation with great passion and drive. I am excited to bring my two decades of experiences in other successful programs to support the US Sailing Team to achieve its full potential as a World Class Sailing Team on the Olympic stage in Paris 2024, at the home Games in Los Angeles 2028, and beyond."*

Lynch will join US Sailing following an extensive global search. A diverse committee comprised of current athletes, US Sailing Association board members, US Sailing Foundation board members, Olympians, staff, a USOPC representative, and world champions conducted the search for this next leader of the US Olympic Sailing Team. The Olympic Team Leadership search committee received dozens of applications from many qualified candidates, conducted first and second interviews with select groups of candidates, and ultimately selected Lynch to fill the role.

*"On behalf of the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee, I offer congratulations to Marcus on being named High Performance Director at US Sailing," said Finbarr Kirwan, Senior Vice President, Chief of Olympic Sport, USOPC. "With his breadth of experience in managing successful performance programs,*

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*Marcus will bring an innovative approach to the US Sailing Team that will prove valuable for both the athletes competing on the global stage today, and for the next generation of aspiring Team USA athletes as well."*

Lynch will develop and lead coaches and staff to support world-class athletes in achieving their highest level of performance and success in international competitions. With his extensive experience as a manager, athlete, and coach on both the British and German sailing teams, Lynch is poised to provide the support

needed by athletes and create the infrastructure necessary for success on the podium in Paris 2024 and beyond.

*"Marcus will be a tremendous asset to the US Olympic Sailing Team," said Stephen Park CBE, 2001-17 Olympic Manager for the British Sailing Team and Team GB's most successful Olympic team manager. "Marcus is bringing with him tremendous success and experience from his work with both the British and German sailing programs, and I am confident in his abilities to set up the U.S. for success."*

US Sailing is grateful to Sarah Lihan and Henry Brauer who have overseen the team during this interim period, the many athletes, staff, and volunteers who contributed to the search process, and the steadfast Olympic staff and coaches for their commitment to the athletes. Lynch will begin his work with US Sailing in early January after which he can be reached at [marcuslynch@ussailing.org](mailto:marcuslynch@ussailing.org).

## Nathaniel G. Herreshoff Trophy: Nominations NOW OPEN!

The Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy is US Sailing's most prestigious award. It was donated in 1957 by the National Marine Manufacturer's Association, and is awarded annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing in this country in any associated activity.

<https://www.ussailing.org/competition/awards-trophies/nathanael-g-herreshoff-trophy/>



## US Sailing Announces Mariners Learning System as Educational Partner

US Sailing is pleased to announce a new partnership with Mariners Learning System to provide US Sailing members with access to U.S. Coast Guard Approved Captain's Licensing Courses and Exams Online, Virtual FCC Tests, and a variety of other industry-leading maritime training programs. This partnership aims to facilitate knowledge-sharing and networking

opportunities within the maritime community, fostering growth and collaboration among industry professionals.

Through this collaboration, US Sailing members will receive a 10% discount on registration in Mariners Learning System's educational resources and training opportunities. Log in My US Sailing to access your benefit!



## NSPS Keynote Admiral Sandy Stosz



Admiral Sandy Stosz retired in 2018 after serving for 36 years in the US Coast Guard. Her assignment as Superintendent (president) of the US Coast Guard Academy made her the first woman to lead one of the US armed forces service academies. She finished her career as the first woman assigned as Deputy Commandant for Mission Support, directing one of the Coast Guard's largest enterprises.

Register today to lock in Standard Registration pricing. Registration increases January 1, so be sure to register before December 31!

<https://nsps.ussailing.org/>



## Q&A With Phil Muller

Zig Sailing Insider had the chance to meet with Phil Muller, the newly appointed Youth Performance Manager and Team Leader for the US Youth Team heading to the Youth Worlds in Buzios, Brazil. Phil shares some insights into his objectives in the new role with US Sailing and talks about the US Youth Worlds Team.

<https://www.zig-travel.com/questions-phil-muller/>



## MEMBER Tell Tales



Sailing Stories from US Sailing Members

Do you have any fond memories of holidays spent on your boat? We would love to hear about them! If you have story of a favorite moment spent sailing or boating with family over the holiday season and would like to share, be sure to tell us about it by clicking the link below.

Your submission automatically enters you for the chance to win a \$25 gift certificate to the US Sailing Store, as well as a highlight in an upcoming Weekly Lift!

<https://ussailing.jotform.com/231304654141849>



## Upcoming US Sailing Courses

### Small Boat Instructor Level 1:

Dec. 27-29: US Sailing Center of Martin County (FL)  
Jan. 3-5: St Croix Yacht Club (VI)  
Jan. 13: San Francisco YC (CA)

### Small Boat Instructor Level 2:

Jan. 6-7: Venice Youth Boating Association (FL)

### Small Boat Level 3 Head Instructor:

Jan. 5: Online Only

### Reach (STEM) Educator:

Jan. 31: Savannah (GA), prior to NSPS!

<https://www.ussailing.org/education/resources/course-calendars/>

## Unwrap Adventure

This Holiday Season with Gill

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