



2017 RVYC Junior Training Program Instructor Bios

Emma Lewis:

Emma has been coaching for over 13 years and is a specialist in coaching the Optimist class and sailors ages 6-14. Emma was born in England and began coaching at her local club as a teenager. She moved to Canada in 2012 and continued her passion for coaching at WVYC as their Sailing Director and Opti Race Team Coach. Emma joined RVYC in 2016 as our Junior Opti Team development coach and our Head Opti Instructor. In addition to her sizeable coaching experience, Emma is also a Learning Facilitator and Evaluator for BC Sailing, which makes her an excellent role model for our instructors. Emma continues to sail her Europe dinghy out of the Jericho Sailing Centre.

Natalia Montemayer:

Natalia is a first year instructor but not new to coaching or sailing. Natalia participated on the RVYC race team for 9 years and is a very accomplished laser sailor. She won the Midwinters West Championships in 2011 in Los Angeles and has attended three Youth World Championships, with her top result being 15th in Dublin Bay, Ireland in 2012. She recently graduated from UBC with a Bachelor in Kinesiology and a minor in Psychology. She works part-time as personal trainer at the YMCA and was a volunteer student-coach at UBC Varsity Fitness and Conditioning. She is also strength and conditioning coach for our Junior Race Team during the winter months. Natalia is excited to be our Summer Race Team Laser coach this summer and share her expertise in both sailing and fitness with our sailors.

Eric Lyall:

Eric is a second year instructor and hired as our expert Summer Race Team 29er Coach. Eric has a long racing history at RVYC, having sailed first on the Optimist team and then the 29er team. Eric is an incredibly achieved youth sailor. Not including his success in the optimist class, he has attended two Youth World Championships in the 29er in 2015 and 2016 and won 29er North American's in 2016 and 29er Midwinters West Championships in 2017. He will be attending the 29er World Championships in late July with the goal of sailing in Gold Fleet. Eric will be entering the UBC Bioengineering program this fall, as well as joining the UBC Collegiate Sailing Team. Eric is looking forward to sharing his skiff knowledge with the Summer Race Team Sailors.

Andrew Moreno:

Andrew is a second year instructor and is one of our CANSail Advanced Coaches. Andrew raced on the Opti team for many years and continues to race competitively on the 29er team. Andrew is an excellent skiff racer and attended the 2014 Youth Worlds in Malaysia. Andrew races with Eric and he will also be attending the 29er World Championships in late July with the same goal of sailing in Gold Fleet. Andrew is studying engineering at UBC and hopes to begin participating on the UBC Collegiate Sailing Team this fall. Andrew is excited to coach the new RS Feva's this summer and teach sailors how to fly an asymmetrical spinnaker.

Richard Minielly:

Richie is a third year instructor at RVYC and is our CANSail Advanced Coach. Richie raced on the 420 team for four years and achieved many top results in the BC Circuit. He was inspired to pick up keel boating and match racing by the clubs Match Racing Monday Program. Richie attended the New Zealand Youth Match Racing Championships and quickly became a regular keelboat racer at RVYC. Richie is an active sailor on the Far 30 Idiopathic and has attended three Canadians, one North American and one World Championships. Richie is taking International Economics at UBC and is an active member on the UBC Collegiate Sailing Team. He recently won the EDHEC Sailing Cup in Brittany, France. Richie is an excellent role model for the clubs sailing youth who want to start racing in keelboats.

**Stephanie Stearman:**

Stephanie is a third year instructor and our specialist CANSail Basic instructor. Stephanie excels at teaching the 11-14 year age range the fundamentals of sailing and racing. Stephanie recently completed an honours History degree from UBC and retired from four years as an active racer on the UBC Collegiate Sailing Team. Throughout university Stephanie also became an active member in the 6mr class here at RVYC. Stephanie has been training hard with her team on the 6mr, Starwagon, to prepare for the 2017 6mr World Championships to be held at RVYC this fall. Stephanie's future sailing goals are to race abroad in Europe and complete the UKSA offshore sailing course. Stephanie is excited to be coaching CANSail Basic in the new RS Feva's this summer.

Calum Macdonald:

Calum is a second year instructor and will be coaching our opti and club life programs. Calum has a wide variety of sailing and racing skills. He sailed on both the 420 and 29er team throughout high school and, like Richie, became passionate in keelboat racing through our Match Racing Monday's program. He also attended the Youth World Match Racing Championships in New Zealand and races actively on the Far 30 Idiopathic. Calum also occasionally sails on larger keelboats, such as the OD48 Aqua. He is studying Engineering at UBC this year and is an active sailor on the UBC Collegiate Sailing Team. Calum has developed into quite a multi-dimensional sailor and is a great role model to encourage our youth sailors to develop a wide variety of sailing and racing experiences.

Kyle Gerrard:

Kyle is a third year instructor and an expert Opti coach. Kyle enjoys coaching all levels of sailor, from beginner to learn-to-race. Kyle was a long time racer at RVYC as both an alumni of our Opti and Laser race teams, and he continues to be apart of the racing scene as a regular mark setter on the one-design course of the RVYC Wednesday Night Racing Series. Kyle will be going into his second year in UBC Engineering this fall. At UBC, Kyle found a new outlet for his competitive nature and is an active member on the UBC Collegiate Rowing Team. His two year goal is to make the UBC Varsity Rowing Team. Kyle is looking forward to coaching another summer at RVYC.

Annaka Hoelk:

This is Annaka's second year working at the club. Annaka was on the 420 team for four years and achieved excellent results with second place in the BC Circuit in 2014 and first place female 420 team in the BC Summer Games in 2014. In 2015 she transitioned to the 29er team and continues to race competitively for RVYC. Annaka is also involved in keelboat racing and has completed two circumnavigations of Vancouver Island in the Van Isle 360 International Yacht Race in 2015 and 2017. One of her future sailing goals is to compete in the Vic-Maui Race. Annaka will be graduating next year from Sentinel Secondary School.

Elle Mackenzie:

Elle is a second year instructor at RVYC and coaches our beginner Opti and RS Feva sailing courses. Elle raced on the 420 team for four years. She achieved top results in the BC Circuit and travelled to the east coast in 2014 and 2015 to compete in a variety of US 420 class events with her sailing partner. Elle is studying life sciences at Queens and races on the Queens Collegiate Sailing Team. Elle is looking forward to coaching the Opti Fun class this summer.

Lewis Arnold:

Lewis is a second year instructor at RVYC and coaches our beginner Opti and RS Feva sailing courses. Lewis grew up learning to sail and race at Hollyburn Sailing Club, achieving his CANSail 6 and Spinner-Trapeze 2 sailing levels. In 2015 he joined the RVYC 29er race team began racing competitively in the BC Circuit. Lewis' goals are to continue developing his skills as both a racer and coach, and to start keelboat racing this summer. One day he hopes to compete in the Vic-Maui Race. Lewis is entering his final year at Hansworth Secondary in North Vancouver and plans to study engineering at university.