

Bio: Junior Sailing Director Billy Zlotocha

Billy grew up sailing on a small Inland lake in Wisconsin. Fortunate to be part of the first Midwestern Opti fleet, introduced to the ILYA in 1988, Billy raced in all of the local regattas. As an Opti sailor Billy competed against many young athletes, who later built successful Olympic campaigns as adults. After sailing the Opti for several years, Billy began sailing an X-boat with his younger sister Jenny. The pair sailed together for several years, eventually concluding their reign of terror, placing third in The ILYA X-Boat Championships on Lake Geneva just outside of Chicago.

After spending several years racing X-Boats in the Midwest Billy began racing Lasers with a group of athletes comprised of the top Jr. Sailors in the region. The Laser provided Billy a world of possibilities as he began traveling throughout the country competing in some of the top Laser Regattas throughout the country. Billy eventually concluded his Jr. Laser Sailing Campaign after competing in two Smythe National Championships, two Cressy National Championships and the High School National Championship. When Billy wasn't sailing competitively he would work as a coach. As the head instructor at the North Lake Sailing School Billy spent several years managing five employees and seventy five students ranging in age from seven to sixteen.

As a fierce competitor and High School athlete Billy was nationally ranked in both Downhill Ski Racing and Sailing. After graduating with honors, Billy went on to study English Literature and Renaissance Culture at The Colorado College. As a college student, Billy spending his free time working as a Whitewater Kayaking Instructor, teaching people of all ages the sport of whitewater kayaking while insuring their safety in and around the water. After College Billy decided to build on his experience coaching and become a teacher. As a High School English and Social Studies Teacher for a small private boarding school in Crested Butte Colorado, Billy excelled at developing young minds by building confidence and self reliance in a comfortable and safe learning environment. Billy has spent the past ten years developing the coaching and teaching techniques required to insure a safe and fun learning environment for all of Encinal Yacht Club's Junior Sailing Students.

After working as both a teacher and coach for the Crested Butte Academy, Billy went on to develop his interest in Business. After some deliberation, Billy opted to move to Vancouver British Columbia to attend the University of British Columbia, as an MBA student at the Sauder School of Business. After specializing in Corporate Strategy and Sustainable Business, Billy eventually went on to co-found a start-up entrepreneurial business venture Snap-Gallery LLC. Visit us online at: www.snap-gallery.com.

No longer landlocked at 10,000 feet, Billy took full advantage of the fantastic sailing offered in Vancouver. As captain of the UBC MBA sailing team Billy had the sole responsibility of coaching a crew of fifteen classmates in preparation for international competition. After much preparation Billy's MBA Sailing Team traveled to Italy in September for the SDA Bacconi's MBA's Cup. The team placed tenth out of twenty five of the top MBA schools in the World.

Billy loves working at Encinal because it reminds him of all the great years he spent sailing his Laser. Some of Billy's fondest memories growing up include the times spent with his Dad traveling all over the country going to Sailing Regattas in the summer and Ski Races in the winter. When Billy is not working at Encinal you may find him backcountry skiing up in Lake Tahoe, kayaking a steep creek in Humboldt, surfing in Bolinas, or playing tennis in the city. Billy is delighted to be at Encinal and is extremely motivated to share his years of experience as an athlete and a coach with all of you. Billy's door is always open. Come by the yacht Club and introduce yourself to Encinal's newest Jr. Sailing Director.