



## **Sarah Renz bio**

Sarah Renz is serving as Chairman of the 2019 Chicago Yacht Club Race to Mackinac presented by Wintrust.

This is Sarah's second year leading the effort to put on the Mac Race, one of the most prestigious sailboat races in the world. As chair, she leads a team of over 100 volunteers and yacht club staff in organizing the race and the myriad of onshore and community outreach events put on each year in relation to the Mac. In addition to chairing the Mac,

Sarah serves on the Chicago Yacht Club Board of Directors and has chaired or served on numerous other committees at the club.

Sarah started sailing sunfish on Lake Michigan with her family. She brought her passion with her to the College of Charleston where she was nominated to the Women's All American ICYRA Team. She expanded her interests to the regatta management side of the sport. She has been extensively involved with the Bermuda Gold Cup and the World Match Race Tour. She helped run the America's Cup World Series Chicago event in 2016. An active offshore and inshore racer, she campaigns her J/70 one design "Goodwill" with her husband, Mark (also an active racing sailor). She races on numerous boats, big and small, around the country. As a skipper, Sarah has won the Great Lakes Match Race Championship, the Richardson Cup; the U.S. Women's Championship in J/24s; the Sundance Cup; the Women's Lightning North Americans; the Corinthian title at/Davis Island J/70 Winter Series; the Verve Cup; the Colors Regatta; and the Farr 40 section in the Mac Race. Sarah's and Mark's children are following them into the sport. On many weekends they can be found supporting Opti regattas around the Midwest.

One of Sarah's proudest accomplishments arose out of the ACWS Chicago event. She helped ensure that the assets from that event were left behind to launch Endeavour Chicago, a STEM + Sailing educational partnership that engages 1,500 City of Chicago 5th - 8th graders per year. Sarah is the managing director for Endeavour Chicago. In that role she works in partnership with the Chicago Park District and the Chicago Parks Foundation to bring new boaters to Lake Michigan for a free, hands-on experience with certified instructors and scientists each summer. Sarah hopes to share her passion for sailing and sail racing with many kids who otherwise would not have the opportunity to be exposed to our great sport.

Sarah is thrilled to meet new faces at the Midwest Women's Sailing Conference and join them in passionate discussions around safety education, management, teamwork, strategy, and the growth of the sport.