

Bryce Merrill – SHYC Assistant Race Coach & Instructor



- **Name:** Bryce Merrill
- **Age:** 18
- **Contact info (cell/email):** Phone: (860) 966-1660 E-mail: brycemerrill99@gmail.com
- **School:** I attended Methacton High School in Eagleville, PA. I am now a freshman at the University of Pittsburgh, pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering
- **Where you grew-up sailing:** I grew up sailing on the bay at Long Beach Island, NJ. I took daily sailing lessons at Haven Beach Club, NJ on a Sunfish, and later a 420.
- **About your youth sailing/racing experiences:** At HBC I raced my Sunfish at casual Saturday races and participated in weekly interclub regattas. As an instructor I participated in weekly Lightning races. I've also crewed on a Merit 22 and a Friendship Sloop in regattas, and recreationally sailed a Turn About, a J/24, a Hunter 170, and various Hobie Catamarans.
- **About your college sailing/racing:** I am the Quartermaster and the A-Fleet skipper for the University of Pittsburgh sailing team where I race FJs and teach/coach other students.
- **Past coaching experience:** I have worked as a sailing instructor at Surf City Yacht Club, NJ for the last 2 summers. At SCYC I worked with beginner Opti sailors in the mornings, and then coached Sunfish racers in the afternoons. Before working at SCYC I worked at Barnegate Light Yacht Club, NJ instructing beginner Opti sailors and assistanting in Opti race practices. I have also taught private lessons to a wide range of sailors on various kinds of sailboats.
- **Certifications (US Sailing Level I, II, III, STEM/REACH, CPR/First Aid, EMT, etc):** I obtained my Level I instructor in July 2016, and have current CPR/First Aid certification. I am planning to obtain my Level II certification before this summer.
- **What you like best about coaching kids:** The thing I like best about coaching kids is getting to watch them learn and progress. Seeing students grasp a new concept for the first time, apply it, and then begin to master it is rewarding for both me and the students as they improve.
- **Other favorite interests & activities:** I enjoy mountain biking, boating, surfing, skiing, rock climbing, and spending time outdoors. I also spend my time during the school year working on PITT's formula race car in preparation for an annual competition against other colleges.
- **Anything else you want to add:** I am very excited to instruct at Sachem's Head Yacht Club and look forward to what this summer has in store!