

# DON WILSON



**Don Wilson founded the Chicago Match Race Center in 2009 to bring world-class match race sailing to the shores of Lake Michigan.**



Chicago quickly became one of the world's top training and competition centers for up-and-coming match racing and Olympic sailing talent. With a strong foundation for stadium sailing in place, the Windy City caught the attention of America's Cup organizers. As chairman of the Louis Vuitton Louis Vuitton America's Cup World Series Chicago, Wilson was instrumental in bringing an America's Cup qualifying event to the city's Navy Pier in June 2016 – the first freshwater venue in America's Cup history. The event further raises the profile of competitive sailing in Chicago and leaves a legacy through Endeavour Chicago, a community boating and educational initiative for the city's youth.

An avid sailor himself, Wilson has earned prestigious match race victories, including the 2010 & 2011 Richardson Trophy and 2010 Canada's Cup. Wilson and his Convexity Racing Team have applied these skills in fleet racing as well, winning many local contests and two national championships. Wilson was born in Washington, D.C., and raised in St. Louis. His family moved to Switzerland when he was 11 where he developed an interest in sailing and financial markets. He started sailing as a youngster at his grandparents' home in Maine, and

is ranked No. 25 in match racing. While his Swedish-designed M32 catamaran can often be seen skimming Lake Michigan, he has sailed all over the world.

Wilson is a longtime Chicago business owner and influential leader in the financial futures industry. He is founder and CEO of DRW, a principal trading and real estate development firm with more than 700 employees in Chicago, London, Montreal, New York, San Francisco and Singapore. He is also co-founder and board member of two other innovative companies in the financial industry, Eris Exchange and Digital Asset Holdings.

Wilson holds an undergraduate degree in economics from the University of Chicago, where he is now a trustee. He also sits on the board of the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago Foundation. He lives with his four children in Chicago.