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Photo by John Lonacker



Robin Bordow is a passionate, talented drummer who

currently plays in four different bands. In spring of 2014, Robin took a trip to the mountains to go skiing. While coming down the mountain, Robin took a nasty fall causing severe damage to the ulnar collateral ligament in her right thumb. Fittingly, this type of injury is often referred to as ‘Skier’s thumb.’ The injury disabled Robin’s thumb, making it impossible for her to play drums. Robin’s general practitioner referred Robin to Dr. Dominic Mintalucci at Santa Rosa Orthopaedics (SRO) for treatment.

Dr. Mintalucci has shown Robin Bordow what thousands of other patients have discovered over the years: Santa Rosa Orthopaedic Physicians care and pride themselves on getting you back to the activities you love most.

After my injury,

my thumb looked mangled and the pain was excruciating. It was a challenge for me to keep faith that I would ever have full function of my hand again. I’m right-handed, but without the use of my thumb to grip objects I had to learn to do everything with my left. When I came to SRO, Dr. Mintalucci assured me that not only would I regain function of my right hand, but also that my thumb would have close to perfect strength and mobility after recovering from surgery.

Dr. Mintalucci performed ulnar collateral ligament repair surgery on my thumb in May of 2014, and just three months later I was able to play drums again. My bandmates refused to replace me, and I couldn’t have been more thrilled when I was able to play music with them again. I really owe that joy to Dr. Mintalucci and my occupational therapists at SRO. I currently have about 90% of my strength and mobility in my right thumb, which is more than enough to use my right hand again, and I should eventually be back to 100%!

~ Robin Bordow



Dr. Dominic Mintalucci