



Seasonal Sailing Coach – Job Description (2026 Season)

Overview

Chester Yacht Club (CYC) is located in the beautiful Mahone Bay area of the South Shore of Nova Scotia and has a long history of passionately delivering a sail training program that is committed to supporting sailors of all interests and abilities. Our mission is to foster a lifelong love of sailing through engaging our sailors in safe and fun on-water experiences. CYC delivers the CANSail program, from Wetfeet to CANSail 6, with programming throughout July and August. Coaches are required to begin mid-June for full-time preparation. CYC also offers a race program in Optimists, 420s and ILCA classes.

Position Summary

CYC is seeking enthusiastic, dedicated, and positive individuals who are passionate about youth development. Successful candidates will demonstrate strong leadership, communication, and organizational skills, and serve as exemplary role models for junior sailors.

Terms of Employment

- **Term:**
 - Mid-June: Full-time pre-season preparation
 - July & August: Full-time coaching
- **Salary:** Commensurate with experience and qualifications, in accordance with Sail Nova Scotia wage guidelines. We encourage applications from Indigenous Persons & Newcomers to Canada.

Qualifications

- Positive, organized, and confident problem-solver
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Proven role model for junior sailors
- CANSail training (level required varies by program)
- Knowledge of 420s, Optimists, Lasers, coach boats, and maintenance
- Ability to operate coach boats safely and appropriately
- VHF / ROC(M) certification
- Fully insured with Sail Canada
- Valid PCOC (Pleasure Craft Operator Card)
- First Aid certification (approved by CANSail Insurance Policy)
- Successful Police Background Check & Vulnerable Sector Screening
- Safe Sport Canada

Key Responsibilities

- Provide a safe, fun, and engaging space for sailors to learn
- Prepare and deliver CANSail programming, including on-water and dryland lessons, and activities
- Supervise junior sailing activities, ensuring safety and a positive learning environment
- Instill responsibility for equipment, personal belongings, and the well-being of others
- Provide written progress reports and evaluations for each student, sharing feedback with students and parents
- Promote and participate in CYC Sailing Club events
- For racing coaches: collaborate with the Head Coach and Racing Committee on logistics and coaching at regattas
- Potential for some evening and weekend work

Specific Duties

- Communicate regularly and effectively with youth participants, parents, Head Coach, LTS Director, and stakeholders
- Prepare and deliver sailing lessons in accordance with the CANSail curriculum
- Engage with students on and off the water, ensuring supervision at all times, including lunch breaks
- Track and record student progress; communicate updates to students and parents
- Assist in event planning (e.g., Opti Jam, junior sailing fundraiser, closing awards ceremony)
- Implement and monitor safety plans and policies; ensure strict adherence to the Emergency Action Plan and provide first aid as needed
- Maintain cleanliness of all areas used by coaches and program sailors
- Participate in equipment repairs and maintenance throughout the contract and in the pre-season
- Assist with regatta logistics and planning
- Attend all CYC-sponsored events (e.g., Junior Fundraiser, Junior Dance, Closing Awards)
- Perform additional duties as assigned

Application Deadline

- **5th February 2026**
- To apply please email your résumé and short cover Letter to learntosail.cyc@gmail.com. All inquiries to be submitted to the same email address.
- Interviews will be held on an ongoing basis, and no later than 15th February 2026.
- All offers will be contingent upon a successful Police Background Check (Vulnerable Sector Screening).

We thank all applicants, however only those considered for an interview will be contacted.