



ROYAL VANCOUVER  
YACHT CLUB

## **RVYC Adult Sailing Instructor**

**Wage:** \$25.00–\$30.00 CAD per hour, depending on experience.  
**Start Date:** April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**End Date:** September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
**Report to:** Head Coach, and Sailing Programs Administrator

### **Club and Program Overview**

The Royal Vancouver Yacht Club (RVYC) is one of the world's premier yacht clubs with over 5,000 members dedicated to promoting yachting, seamanship, and a strong sense of community. Located at Jericho home port in Vancouver, RVYC's Adult Sailing Program provides sailing education for adults ages 19+ from April through to September.

Instructors are provided with a complimentary dinner following all Learn to Crew courses. For the Learn to Sail and Learn to Spinnaker courses, staff are provided with one complimentary breakfast and one complimentary brunch, courtesy of the Star and Dragon. Please note that housing is not provided. Our courses run every Wednesday from April 29<sup>th</sup> through September 9<sup>th</sup>, as well as on select weekends, and utilize RVYC's fleet of Elliott 6Ms

Instructors will have the chance to work on the beautiful Vancouver waterfront and gain valuable coaching experience while being part of a fun, professional, and supportive team.

### **Job Overview**

The Adult Sailing Instructor plays a versatile and vital role within RVYC's spring and summer programs, delivering high-quality instruction to adult



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YACHT CLUB

sailors in the Adult Sailing Program. This position requires a well-rounded coach who is confident teaching all roles aboard small keelboats such as RVYC's Elliott 6Ms and can adapt instruction to meet the needs of all students.

The ideal candidate brings strong technical sailing knowledge, clear and effective communication skills, and the ability to foster a safe, positive, and development-focused learning environment for participants of all ages.

### **Course Overview**

Adult Sailing Instructors lead a range of engaging programs designed to build skills, confidence, and connection to club life both on and off the water.

In the Learn to Crew course, instructors take participants directly into RVYC's Wednesday night racing scene, teaching key crew roles through race participation and joining them for a complimentary dinner after each day to introduce participants to the social side of club racing. RVYC's Wednesday Night Racing is well known in Vancouver for its strong sense of camaraderie, exciting competition against top sailors including former Olympians, and unforgettable summer sunset après.

In Learn to Sail: Brunch Edition, instructors teach the fundamentals of keelboat sailing while joining participants for lunch on Saturday and brunch on Sunday at the Star & Dragon, offering a true taste of the RVYC member experience. The concept is simple: learn to sail from the perspective of an RVYC member, with a focus on keeping the experience fun, social, and engaging.

Learn to Spinnaker: Brunch Edition, like its Learn to Sail counterpart, is designed as a fun and immersive weekend at the Yacht Club, offering a taste of the RVYC member experience. Instructors provide a more advanced program, coaching participants through safe and confident spinnaker



ROYAL VANCOUVER  
YACHT CLUB

handling. The group will also dine together, with lunch on Saturday and brunch on Sunday morning before heading out on the water.

In Learn to Race: One Design Edition, instructors skipper the boat in RVYC's One Design racing series while participants form the crew, gaining hands-on experience in real races. This format allows participants to learn the fundamentals of racing through direct involvement on the water. Boxed lunches are provided, with the expectation that they will be enjoyed on board, delivering an authentic RVYC regatta experience.

Across all courses, instructors are expected to create a welcoming and memorable experience that leaves participants excited to keep sailing at the Club.

## **Duties & Responsibilities**

### **1. Sailing Instruction**

- Teach CANSail-based curricula across Adult Sailing courses (Learn to Crew, Learn to Sail: Brunch Edition, Learn to Spinnaker: Brunch Edition, and Learn to Race: One Design), using RVYC's Elliott 6M Fleet, focusing on helm skills, sail trim, docking, crew coordination, and on-the-water communication.
- Introduce race-focused content to appropriate groups, including mark roundings, starts, tactics, and team coordination.
- Adjust instructional methods for different ages, learning styles, physical abilities, and experience levels.
- Create a welcoming, supportive environment for both new and returning sailors.

### **2. Supervision and Safety:**

- Ensure all participants are supervised safely on and off the water.
- Follow RVYC's safety procedures, emergency protocols, and equipment standards.
- Demonstrate proper lifejacket use, safe boat handling, and risk-aware decision-making.



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YACHT CLUB

- Monitor weather and water conditions and modify lesson plans as needed.
  - Report safety incidents, near misses, equipment issues, or behavioral concerns to the appropriate supervisor.
- 3. Skill Development:**
- Identify individual strengths and improvement areas for sailors across all ages.
  - Provide constructive, age-appropriate feedback that supports long-term development.
  - Design engaging drills and on-water scenarios to reinforce boat handling, confidence, and teamwork.
  - Help guide advanced or motivated sailors toward next-step opportunities (e.g. RVYC Membership, Wednesday Night Racing, Capri & Elliott rentals).
- 4. Team Collaboration:**
- Coordinate daily operations with the Head Coach, Sailing Programs Administrator and the Junior Training Program Summer Instructors, and Race Team leads.
  - Contribute to curriculum planning, program improvements, fleet maintenance and safe fleet operations.
  - Attend mandatory briefings, staff meetings, and debriefs.
- 5. Communication:**
- Communicate professionally with adult participants and RVYC members.
  - Provide updates on progress, answer questions, and direct administrative or program inquiries to the right department.
  - Update student's Sail Canada checklists and issue certificates upon completion of course.
  - Maintain clear communication with supervisors regarding scheduling, equipment needs, and safety considerations.
- 6. Equipment and Maintenance:**
- Assist with rigging, de-rigging, and routine upkeep of the Elliott 6M fleet.



ROYAL VANCOUVER  
YACHT CLUB

- Complete pre- and post-session equipment checks to ensure safe operation.
- Report maintenance issues promptly to the Head Coach.
- Complete daily tasks related to fleet cleanliness, storage, and overall readiness.

**7. Role Model:**

- Model professionalism, leadership, and respect for the marine environment.
- Encourage sportsmanship, teamwork, and positive engagement.
- Support a culture that reflects RVYC values and promotes lifelong involvement in the sport.

**Requirements & Qualifications**

- Recognized sailing instructor or coaching certification from a national authority (e.g., Sail Canada or equivalent).
- Strong Keelboat sailing experience; confidence teaching adults.
- Familiarity with Elliott 6Ms or similar keelboats; experience with symmetric spinnakers, or a willingness to learn
- Valid First Aid & CPR (Standard First Aid or equivalent).
- Successful completion of a Criminal Record Check (provided by the club).
- Valid Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC).
- Valid Social Insurance Number (SIN) for payroll and federal compliance.
- Completion of the CAC Safe Sport Training Module (may be completed after hiring and before start date).
- Ability to adapt instruction to varied ages, learning styles, and group dynamics.
- Strong communication, leadership, and teaching skills.
- Commitment to fostering an inclusive, safe, and positive learning environment.