SAIL CAMP KEELBOAT INSTRUCTORS – Summer 2027

Toronto Harbour Nautical Centre (THNC) is seeking qualified, enthusiastic, and experienced Keelboat Sailing Instructors to join our 2027 Junior Sail Camp team. With over 28 years of successful sailing programming, THNC has introduced thousands of students to the sport of sailing, helping them develop practical boating skills, confidence, and a lifelong appreciation for being on the water.

Conveniently located in downtown Toronto, immediately south of the Rogers Centre and CN Tower, our established Sailing & Powerboating School operates a diverse fleet of over 60 sail and power craft, including a range of keelboats, dinghies, and powerboats.

Our Junior Seadogs and Senior Seafarers programs introduce young sailors to keelboat sailing throughout the summer months of July + August, offering a fun, hands-on learning experience while developing seamanship, teamwork, and confidence on the water.

- Junior Seadogs (ages 7–10): A one-week introduction to keelboat sailing programs, with an emphasis on fun, teamwork, water safety, and basic sailing skills.
- Senior Seafarers (ages 11–15): A one-week keelboat sailing programs following the Sail Canada Basic Cruising syllabus, introducing more advanced sailing skills, seamanship, and crew responsibilities.

We're looking for instructors who can combine strong practical sailing skills with patience, enthusiasm, and a genuine enjoyment of working with children and youth.

POSITION OVERVIEW

Keelboat Sailing Instructors are responsible for delivering safe, engaging, and age-appropriate instruction, including:

- Planning and delivering structured keelboat sailing lessons for Junior Seadogs and/or Senior Seafarers.
- Teaching fundamental sailing skills, including steering, sail trim, points of sail, tacking, gybing, and basic boat handling.

- Introducing essential seamanship skills, including docking, crew communication, boat preparation, and safe onboard procedures.
- Teaching age-appropriate navigation, weather awareness, and boating safety.
- Developing teamwork and communication through practical crew-based activities.
- Introducing Senior Seafarers to skills and knowledge drawn from the Sail Canada Basic Cruising syllabus.
- Encouraging confidence, independence, and responsible decision-making on the water.
- Assessing student progress and providing constructive feedback.
- Maintaining boats, safety equipment, and instructional materials.
- Supervising campers and ensuring appropriate safety standards are maintained at all times.
- Working collaboratively with the Head Instructor, Camp Counsellors, and other sailing instructors.
- Creating an enjoyable, inclusive, and memorable sailing experience.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR

- Available June 21 – August 27, 2027.
- At least 16 years old by June 29, 2027.
- Instructor registration in good standing with Sail Canada.
- Strong keelboat sailing and practical boat-handling experience.
- Previous experience teaching or working with children and youth.
- Confidence skippering keelboats and managing crew safety.
- Strong communication, leadership, and organizational skills.
- Current First Aid and CPR certification.
- Pleasure Craft Operator Card (PCOC), VHF-DSC/ROC-M, and Toronto Harbour Licence, as applicable to assigned duties (THNC can assist).
- Police Check and Vulnerable Sector Screening (THNC can assist).
- Additional cruising, navigation, racing, and powerboat experience are assets.
- International applicants must hold, or be in the process of obtaining, valid Canadian work authorization**.**

KEY COMPETENCIES

- Teamwork: Builds positive relationships and encourages effective crew communication and cooperation.
- Initiative: Takes responsibility for lesson delivery, boat preparation, and student development.
- Service Excellence: Creates engaging, memorable, and confidence-building sailing experiences.
- Commitment to Youth: Encourages personal growth, independence, teamwork, and practical seamanship.
- Safety Awareness: Demonstrates sound judgment, strong vessel-handling skills, and a commitment to safe boating.

WHY WORK WITH US?

- $20.00–$23.00 per hour, with paid lunch breaks.
- Reimbursement of Sail Canada Annual Instructor Fees.
- Training and subsidy opportunities for eligible instructors.
- Work with a diverse keelboat fleet in Toronto Harbour.
- Potential additional income teaching adult cruising courses, including evenings and weekends.
- Comprehensive training, including VHF radio operation, safety procedures, and operational practices.
- Develop transferable skills in leadership, communication, seamanship, and instruction.
- Join a supportive and experienced sailing team on Toronto's waterfront.

THNC

EQUITY & ACCESSIBILITY
Toronto Harbour Nautical Centre is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to providing an inclusive workplace and will accommodate applicants in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Applicants requiring accommodation during the recruitment or interview process are encouraged to contact the General Manager directly.

HOW TO APPLY
If you enjoy teaching sailing and want to help young sailors discover the excitement of keelboat sailing, we'd love to hear from you.

Please submit your resume and brief cover letter, including your current sailing instructor qualifications, to:

Emma Wright, General Manager
ewright@torontoharbournauticalcentre.com

Website: THNC WEBSITE LINK

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