

PYC YOUTH SAILING PROGRAM COACH HOSTING PROGRAM

A great youth sailing program is a direct reflection of the talent of its coaching staff. The challenge is that attracting and retaining top-level sailing coaches for summer youth programs has never been more competitive. Economic and demographic changes over time have made it much more difficult to find qualified, local applicants, and in fact it has become more challenging simply to find *US citizens* to fill the roles we seek. One hiring difference-maker is *the ability to offer housing for our coaches*. Every year, PYC gets coaching applications from highly qualified adults who need housing. In most cases these applicants are not US citizens, so we also work to provide them a J-1 Visa.

HOUSING FOR VISITING COACHES

PYC seeks help billeting our coaches “from away.” This could really be a great opportunity both to contribute meaningfully to our program, and to have an enriching experience getting to know a new friend and mentor to our sailors.

COACH CANDIDATES

We work very hard to find applicants who are not only experienced sailors and teachers; even more importantly, we interview with them to make sure that they understand and share our mission, values, and vision, and possess the character traits we want to instill in our young sailing students. Hired coaches are given strict house rules that they must follow and respect from the Portland Yacht Club. We then collaborate with you beforehand on these rules, and have an in-person meeting together to begin the billeting term to ensure everyone is comfortable and expectations are clear.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Overall, the responsibilities of a host family include:

- Create beforehand a short-list of your rules and expectations for this experience.
- Private bedroom for the summer (9 weeks).
- Meals are optional, and generally the financial responsibility of the coach. Coach however should have the ability to cook and prepare her/his own food on premises.
- Delivery to and from PYC for summer sailing classes. In certain cases, PYC staff can, and will, provide rides as well. In any emergency or schedule conflict you may have, PYC staff will be able to assist with transportation.

REWARDS

- The incredible experience of sharing the summer with a talented coach who inevitably will bring new perspectives and experiences, and very likely a different cultural background.
- The knowledge that your generosity will have a profound positive impact on our young sailing students.
- Any rent remission/donation you make to this effort goes to a 501c3 organization and is therefore considered a charitable donation for tax purposes.
- Knowing that your guest coach will respect your home and follow your rules.
- PYC will contribute financially as needed for room/board expenses. This is done on a case-by-case basis.