



RECREATION/JUNIOR PADDLING COACHES

(FOR KIDS 4-8 YEARS)

ABOUT ABENAKI

Abenaki Aquatic Club is nestled on beautiful little Bell Lake in Dartmouth, NS. Though we are located on a small lake at just 800m long, we have a very healthy membership with over 400 paddlers each season. Paddling programs start for kids as young as 3 and run all the way to seniors. We are proud to offer a balance between recreational and competitive paddling as well as swimming lessons and a number of other family friendly programs. Established in 1970, Abenaki serves communities in Dartmouth, Cole Harbour, Eastern Passage and beyond. We are a seasonal club that packs a lot of programs into an 8 week period!

OUR COACHES

Our coaches are expected to wear a multitude of hats. Not only will you be responsible to coach our recreation paddling groups but you may also play a vital role in our competitive programs. At Abenaki we believe in developing young coaches and providing them with experience. Young coaches can gain valuable experience in our recreation programs and advance into competitive coaching roles at the club. We are not just a results driven club. A successful season is judged on: fun, inclusivity, participation and teamwork. Paddling staff must work cohesively with our swim, property and canteen departments, and together our team creates a warm and welcoming atmosphere for all our members. It should be noted, we are different from many of the other clubs in our division in that we don't offer camps. Our parents are onsite and very involved in the success of our club and programs. Many of the children in our recreation programs are young first time paddlers. Creating a safe, fun and inclusive space is key in helping them develop the skills to be confident on the water. Our Active Kids program combines paddling with land based games and our Recreation Groups are offered to kids who want to get out on

the water with their friends without the structure of training and commitment to racing. Our recreation groups are equally as popular as our competitive program and our coaches make them fun and exciting. Encouraging, motivated and passionate coaches are critical in creating the paddling mindset that we expect from our athletes.

Coaching experience is not always required for recreational programs. We use these programs to help develop and train our coaches. To be successful as a recreation or junior coach you'll need a great attitude and creative approach. Each day looks different at Abenaki and as a rRecreation or Junior Coach you will need to be flexible and committed to supporting your team and helping where needed. The right fit for this role, loves working with kids, loves this sport and recognizes that we are committed to keeping our club accessible and affordable. We are striving to keep costs low and open doors for marginalized groups. We are committed to purchasing equipment to enrich these programs and make a significant investment each year.

Our club is consistently growing and has a keen interest in introducing para-programming, masters racing and competitive PaddleALL in the next 1-2 years. We've spent the last few years rebuilding and introducing a high level program that we believe will take us to the next level. If you are someone that has innovative ideas and wants a space to spread your wings, we want to meet you. We are a club that is ready to make an impact and our coaching team has a collective opportunity to work together to put Abenaki on the map.

What You'll Do:

- Practice planning as a team with fellow recreation coaches and mentors
- Attend and participate in staff meetings
- Inspect and Maintain equipment - reporting issues to the board so that repairs can be completed (experience in boat repair would be considered a major asset)
- Coaching paddling groups ranging in age from 4 yrs to 8 yrs.
- Assist in organizing and running Abenaki Race League
- Participation in fundraising events (ie. Paddle-a-thon etc)
- Provide regular feedback to athletes, parents and fellow coaches
- Participate in pre-season training

Qualifications:

- Valid Criminal and Background checks, First Aid/CPR, Safety Boat License
- Canoe Kids
 - Any additional trainings considered an asset
- Great verbal communication skills to maintain open dialogue with Management Team and Board of Directors

Skill Set:

- Reliable with good organizational and time management skills

- Coaching knowledge of canoe/kayak/war canoe
- Team player
- Excellent problem-solving skills
- Positive, friendly and professional attitude & ability to work well with other

What Else Should I Know?

Abenaki has a brand new facility. We completed the build in 2023 and now boast a spacious boat house and clubhouse. We do not have an onsite gym however have access to a state of the art facility (just a few blocks away). We have a full size basketball court, designated sandpit and a large spacious property for dryland activities. We are also nestled in a quiet neighborhood that is great for running.

Is there room for growth? YES - we give young coaches the opportunity to grow within their roles and advance to senior and head coach roles.

Can I work in the offseason? NO - this is a summer position only.

If we've peeked your interest and you'd like to discuss the recreation/junior coaching role further, please reach out.

We will contact candidates via email to advise if they are invited to interview and participate in next steps.

Candidates can send resumes to Jen Mosher (Club Commodore)::

aacommodore@gmail.com