

Junior Development Program Coach (Seasonal)

St. Catharines Rowing Club (SCRC)

Position Type: Seasonal, Part-Time

Position Summary

The Junior Development (JD) Program at the St. Catharines Rowing Club provides a fun, active, and supportive environment for athletes aged 10–16 who have previous rowing experience and are looking to further develop their skills and enjoyment of the sport. The program focuses on building fundamental rowing skills, confidence, fitness, and independence, enabling athletes to row safely and effectively in a variety of boats, crews, and conditions.

The JD Program serves both as a pathway to the Club's competitive rowing program and as a recreational option for athletes who participate in multiple sports and activities.

The Junior Development Program Coach works as a member of the coaching team to deliver safe, engaging, and developmentally appropriate rowing instruction both on and off the water. The successful candidate will create a positive learning environment that fosters athlete skill development, confidence, sportsmanship, and enjoyment of rowing while ensuring the highest standards of safety and participant supervision.

The JD Coach reports directly through the Club's coaching and program management structure as determined by the Club and contributes to the planning, delivery, and continuous improvement of program activities and athlete experiences. Coaches are expected to be positive role models who support the Club's values of safety, respect, inclusion, teamwork, and athlete development.

Program Details

Fall Session (September/October)

The Junior Development Program operates during September and October in month-long sessions. Programs run **Monday, Wednesday, Friday** from **4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**, Depending on enrollment, program demand, and staffing requirements, additional sessions may be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Key Responsibilities

Pre-Season Planning

- Assist with planning and preparation for the Junior Development Program.
- Participate in staff orientation, training, and program planning sessions.
- Complete all onboarding, safety, and certification requirements.

In-Season Program Delivery

- Work as a member of the coaching team to provide safe, engaging, and high-quality rowing instruction in a fun and supportive environment.

- Plan and deliver on-water and land-based activities that are developmentally appropriate for athletes aged 12–16 with varying levels of rowing experience and ability.
- Supervise athletes at all times and ensure compliance with club safety policies, procedures, and Safe Sport expectations.
- Foster a positive, inclusive, and welcoming environment that promotes skill development, sportsmanship, confidence, and enjoyment of the sport.
- Monitor athlete participation and progress, providing encouragement, feedback, and support to help athletes achieve their individual development goals.
- Assist with the setup, inspection, maintenance, and storage of rowing equipment and program areas, and promptly report safety concerns, incidents, or equipment issues to the Junior Development Head Coach.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will possess the following qualifications and competencies:

Required

- Compliance with Rowing Canada Aviron's **Every Coach Certified** policy. Candidates must complete:
 - NCCP Coach Initiation in Sport
 - RCA Rowing Essentials
 - Making Ethical Decisions (MED)

prior to the start of employment. Costs associated with achieving compliance will be subsidized by SCRC.

- Demonstrated knowledge of rowing techniques, equipment, and safety practices.
- Strong leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work effectively as part of a coaching team.
- Ability to assess situations and make sound, reasonable decisions.
- Excellent awareness of safety and risk management.
- Patience, maturity, and enthusiasm when working with children and youth.
- Pleasure Craft Operator Card (BoatSmart) prior to the start of employment.
- Current Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening.
- Ability to serve as a positive role model for youth athletes.
- Strong swimming ability.

Preferred

- RCA Learn to Row Coach certification and/or RCA Coach certification.
- Standard First Aid and CPR certification.
- Experience coaching, instructing, teaching, or leading youth recreation or sport programs.
- Post-secondary education (completed or in progress) in kinesiology, child and youth studies, recreation, sport management, education, or a related field.
- Current SCRC athletes in good standing with the Club may be given preference.

Position Details

Fall Session (September/October)

Term of Employment: September 14 - October 17th

Hours of Work:

- Monday, Wednesday, Friday
- 4:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.
 - Additional Tuesday and Thursday hours may be available depending on program enrollment and operational requirements
- Additional hours may be required for staff training, meetings, or special events.

Compensation:

- \$18.50 per hour

Working Conditions and Physical Requirements

- Work is performed primarily outdoors in a variety of weather conditions, including sun, wind, heat, and rain.
- Must be comfortable working near and on the water for extended periods.
- Strong swimming ability is required.
- Position requires lifting, carrying, and moving rowing shells, oars, boat motors, safety equipment, and docks as part of a team.
- Must be physically capable of assisting rowers during emergencies on the water.
- Requires standing, walking, bending, and performing other physical tasks associated with program delivery and facility upkeep.
- Coaches are expected to always maintain a safe environment and model safe practices.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit a résumé and brief cover letter outlining their qualifications and interest in the position.

Application Deadline: Sept 6, 2026

The St. Catharines Rowing Club is committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive, and respectful environment for all participants, coaches, volunteers, and staff. We encourage applications from individuals of diverse backgrounds and experiences.