



WATCH HILL YACHT CLUB – Watch Hill, RI – General Manager Wanted

The Watch Hill Yacht Club is seeking a General Manager to oversee all operations of the Club, and succeed its current Club Manager, who after 20 years of outstanding service has elected to retire when a replacement is found. The Watch Hill Yacht Club is located on Little Narraganset Bay, in Watch Hill, Rhode Island, on the Rhode Island/Connecticut Border. It is a seasonal club.

The Club was founded in 1913, and has grown to 450 members; becoming one of the premier yacht clubs in the Northeast. It maintains a three-story clubhouse, with a 54-seat dining room, bar, and gourmet kitchen.

Amenities at this private, member-owned club include moorings for 70+ boats, launch service, an active instructional Junior Sailing program, and excellent dining facilities for both lunch and dinner as well as private functions. Our Club maintains a fleet of Opti and Club 420s sailboats, as well as numerous power boats. The Club provides both informal and formal dining options, private event space, adult and junior sailing programs, and a lively social and racing calendar.

The Club has a unique One-Design Racing program featuring WH-15's dating back to their original Herreshoff design from the 1920's. Races are held Saturdays and Wednesday nights. Club members also participate in the Annual Club Cruise and informal cruises for both power and sail boats.

The WHYC is open from May through November, with dining options offering lunch and dinner 5 days per week during the busy season, and bar service every day.

About the Position

The General Manager oversees all aspects of the Club's day-to-day operations and maintenance. Responsibilities include hiring, training, and supervising all staff to ensure members and their guests have a consistently superior experience. Staff are comprised of restaurant, bar, Junior Sailing, launch, parking, and office employees totaling 38. Additionally, the General Manager works closely with all committee chairs to help develop the Club Calendar and budgets for all events. The General Manager attends monthly Board Meetings and reports on all House Committee issues, and, most importantly, leads by example and maintains a can-do attitude when working with staff, members, and guests.

As noted, the Club is open May through November, with several events in December. The high season is June through Labor Day. The General Manager is expected to be present at the Club March 15 through December 15, and available by phone for Club business during the off season (December 15 through March 15). The General Manager is expected to be on premises six days a week during the high season, and to maintain a presence in the restaurant in the evening. The restaurant is open Tuesday through Sunday, with a pot luck Wednesday nights.

Compensation:

The WHYC offers a competitive year-round compensation plan, along with standard benefits.

Qualifications

The successful candidate must possess exceptional hospitality skills. Waterfront and/or yacht club management experience is very desirable, though not strictly a requirement. Five or more years in the hospitality profession at a managerial or assistant managerial level would be indicative of a commitment to the industry. Outstanding membership relations and communications skills, both written and verbal, are required and would be critical to the candidate's success. The General Manager must be visible throughout the clubhouse at appropriate times and maintain a diplomatic, professional appearance at all times.

The General Manager must be computer savvy to maintain systems of communication with both members and staff as well as managing expenses and driving revenues. Financial acumen is a must for budgeting, cost controls, and pricing of products as well as events. PC proficiency with club software, particularly Jonas systems, is a plus, as is knowledge of Microsoft Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.

Educational Requirements:

At least a bachelor's degree is preferred, especially with a focus on Hospitality Management and/or Finance. Professional certifications, such as CCM, or similar professional development achievements are highly desired.

Application:

Please send cover letter and resume with references to Vice Commodore John B. Daukas, jdaukas@goodwinlaw.com.