

Volunteer Vacancy



Trustee x 2

Deptford, London, SE8 3JY

Closing date – Friday 11th September, 2026.



About The Ahoy Centre

The Ahoy Centre is here to provide opportunities for the local community to be involved in a variety of water sports on the River Thames.

We are particularly focussed on the attracting those under-resourced individuals and groups, who may otherwise not have the opportunity to undertake sailing, rowing or powerboating.

We believe that by providing these opportunities, we can broaden horizons for participants, help them acquire new skills and encourage them to develop their personal resilience. These can be life-enhancing in many ways.

Equally important we want to provide opportunities for local people to recreate on The River Thames, have fun and at the same time build new friendships.

As a provider of quality sport, we are confident that we can contribute to peoples mental and physical health. We also see our provision as unique in the sporting offer in southeast London.

We want to be an essential community asset for Deptford and the surrounding London Boroughs. We encourage local people to volunteer with us because we believe in the strength of the local community, but also in the power of volunteering to help people give something back to society, while developing themselves as individuals.

We operate as a charity and rely on donations and external funders. All income is used to operate the centre, invest in our site and equipment and deliver quality water sports, in a safe environment.

We work in partnership with many groups, schools and organisations and we strive to be a good partner by being open, honest and dependable..

We sit on the border between the boroughs of Greenwich and Lewisham, and we are only a 15-minute walk from Deptford and Greenwich town centres.

We are looking for new volunteer trustees to help guide the charity's future, strengthen our governance, and support the safe and sustainable delivery of our work.

For more information visit www.ahoy.org.uk

Why we are recruiting trustees

We especially welcome people with experience in:

- charity governance
- finance
- fundraising
- legal or compliance matters
- safeguarding
- watersports, coaching, or outdoor activity delivery
- community engagement
- marketing or communications
- property, facilities, or equipment management

You do not need previous trustee experience. We will support you.

The role of a trustee

Trustees are responsible for the overall direction and oversight of the charity.

Working together as a board, trustees help ensure that the charity:

- delivers its aims and public benefit
- uses resources responsibly
- complies with charity law and other legal requirements
- manages risks properly
- protects staff, volunteers, participants, and beneficiaries
- remains financially healthy and well governed

Trustees are not expected to run day-to-day activities, but they should understand what is happening and provide constructive challenge and support.

What trustees will do

Trustees are expected to:

- attend board meetings and read papers in advance
- contribute their skills, experience, and judgement
- help set strategy and priorities
- monitor finances, performance, and risk
- support fundraising and stakeholder relationships where appropriate
- help promote the charity in the local community

- uphold the charity's values and policies
- act in the best interests of the charity at all times

Time commitment

We expect trustees to give around:

- 4 board meetings per year
- 1 to 2 hours preparation time per meeting
- occasional support between meetings, including attendance at specified sub-committees
- occasional attendance at events, sessions, or site visits if helpful

The role is voluntary and unpaid, although reasonable expenses may be reimbursed in line with our policy.

What we are looking for

We are looking for trustees who are:

- committed to our mission
- able to think strategically
- willing to work collaboratively
- honest, reliable, and well organised
- comfortable asking questions and offering challenge
- able to keep information confidential when needed
- enthusiastic about community watersports and inclusion

Useful experience may include:

- charity, voluntary sector, or community work
- finance, accounting, or budgeting
- law, HR, safeguarding, or governance
- watersports, coaching, safety, or outdoor education
- fundraising, communications, or partnerships
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Support we provide

We will provide:

- an induction to the charity and trustee duties

- copies of key policies and documents
- support from existing trustees and staff/volunteers
- access to training where appropriate
- a friendly and collaborative board environment

Key trustee responsibilities

Trustees must:

- act within the charity's governing document
- act in the charity's best interests
- manage the charity's resources responsibly
- act with reasonable care and skill
- ensure the charity is accountable
- identify and manage conflicts of interest
- comply with relevant law and regulation

Because we deliver watersports activities, trustees should also pay close attention to:

- health and safety
- safeguarding
- risk assessments
- incident reporting
- insurance
- equipment safety and maintenance
- venue and water-based activity permissions

What you will get from the role

Trustees often say the role is rewarding because it offers:

- the chance to make a real difference locally
- insight into charity leadership and governance
- experience working with a community organisation
- the opportunity to help grow inclusive watersports in Deptford and Southeast London
- a chance to use your skills for social good

Who can apply

You can apply if you are over 18 and eligible to act as a charity trustee.

You should not apply if you are disqualified from acting as a trustee under charity law.

How to apply

Please send:

- a short letter or email explaining why you are interested
- a CV or summary of your experience
- any relevant skills or experience you would like us to know about
- Email this to felix.banz@ahoy.org.uk

Selection process

Our process is:

1. expression of interest
2. informal discussion with trustees
3. shortlist and interview or meeting
4. reference and eligibility checks if needed
5. appointment by the board

Equal opportunities

We are committed to equality, diversity, and inclusion. We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and especially encourage applications from people currently underrepresented in charity leadership.

Trustee declaration

Before appointment, trustees will be asked to confirm that they:

- are eligible to serve as a trustee
- are not disqualified from acting as a trustee
- will follow the charity's governing document and policies
- will declare any actual or potential conflicts of interest