



University Club of Chicago | Chicago, Illinois

Director of Athletics and Wellness

About the Club

A Legacy of Excellence

Founded in 1887 by visionary university graduates, the University Club of Chicago has long been a hub for literature, arts, and intellectual exchange. Today, it brings together artists, entrepreneurs, civic leaders, and professionals, fostering connections, lifelong friendships, and a culture of excellence.

Located in downtown Chicago, the Club offers a sophisticated yet welcoming atmosphere for work, leisure, and social engagement. Members enjoy dynamic programming spanning arts, culture, education, and wellness, along with four distinctive dining options and expansive banquet spaces.

A Premier Destination for Wellness & Athletics

Spanning 20,000+ square feet, the Club's state-of-the-art fitness and wellness facilities keep members performing at their best. Offerings include:

- **Athletics:** Six squash singles courts, a doubles court, Full Swing golf simulators, and a comprehensive Strength Center.
- **Fitness & Wellness:** A 2,000 sq. ft. Mind-Body Studio, Peloton bikes, and group exercise classes.
- **Rejuvenation:** A 1,500 sq. ft. pool, specialized massage and physical therapy, and spacious locker rooms.

Whether training, unwinding, or socializing, members have access to top-tier amenities designed to nurture both body and mind.

Unmatched Urban Lifestyle

Set in the heart of Chicago, the Club provides seamless access to the city's vibrant culture, renowned architecture, and 18-mile Lakefront Trail. With public transit steps away, it's the perfect place to balance business, wellness, and leisure in one of the world's greatest cities.

About the Director of Athletics and Wellness Position

The Director of Athletics and Wellness reports to the General Manager/COO and leads all aspects of the Club's athletic and wellness programs. This role drives operational success, team leadership, and member engagement to deliver a premier experience.

What You'll Do:

- **Lead with Excellence:** Oversee strategy, operations, and financial performance of athletics and wellness, working closely with the COO to optimize programs and budgets.
- **Deliver Premier Programs:** Manage top-tier athletic offerings, including squash, swimming, golf, and fitness, ensuring exceptional member experiences.
- **Champion Wellness:** Develop robust wellness programs, expert-led workshops, and community initiatives to promote a balanced lifestyle.
- **Enhance Member Engagement:** Build strong relationships with members, offering personalized support to help them achieve their goals.
- **Develop Talent:** Recruit, mentor, and lead a high-performing team, fostering a service-driven culture.



- **Execute Signature Events:** Plan and oversee tournaments, competitions, and wellness events, collaborating across departments.
- **Drive Retail Success:** Manage profitable retail operation aligned with member preferences.
- **Represent the Club:** Act as a leader in athletics and wellness, building partnerships and elevating the Club's reputation.

This role is an opportunity to shape the future of wellness at the University Club of Chicago, delivering excellence, fostering relationships, and making a lasting impact.

What You Bring:

- **Education & Experience:** Bachelor's degree in athletics or business; five+ years in athletics/wellness management, with at least four in a leadership role at a premier club.
- **Expertise:** Proven success in player development, squash, and athletic programming.
- **Leadership:** A strategic, member-focused leader who inspires teams and drives innovation.
- **Operational Strength:** Skilled in budgeting, forecasting, and managing all aspects of athletic operations.
- **Communication:** Exceptional at engaging with members, staff, and committees to enhance the Club experience.
- **Passion & Adaptability:** Committed to fitness, wellness, and fostering participation across all levels.

This is a rare opportunity for a driven leader to elevate the University Club of Chicago's athletic and wellness programs to new heights.

Apply for This Position

Interested candidates should complete the online candidate profile form and submit a compelling cover letter and resume for consideration to DENEHY Club Thinking Partners at <http://denehyctp.com/apply-for-a-position/>. If you have any questions or to recommend a candidate, please contact Patrick Finlen at patrck@denehyctp.com.