

Sunday, December 20, 2015

To Whom it may concern,

I have known Ashley Perrin for 15 years. We met when she was working for America True an America's Cup Program in 2000. I know Ashley both personally and professionally as I have hired her several times as a First Mate and Relief Captain aboard both a Swan 60 and Jongert 27m that I have captained.

In 2014 we hired her as an Ice Pilot aboard the 27m Jongert for a cruise to the Antarctic Peninsula. Ashley came aboard in Ecuador and sailed on Vivid to 65S and back including passage in the Chilean Canals from Puerto Montt to Puerto Williams.

Ashley took care of all the permitting required under the Antarctic Treaty and also our vessel preparation and guest compliance with the treaty regulations. She also guided the guests ashore including lecturing them on the history, wildlife and geography of each site visited. Ashley's approach to landings and activities was flexible balancing the capabilities of Vivid as a vessel, the crew, the needs of the guests, the changeable weather and other vessels in the area.

Ashley lived and worked in Antarctic which gives her an in depth knowledge not many people possess, and as someone who has sailed over 100,000 miles she is able to provide a complete package as a guide in Antarctica. Seamanship, conservatism, integrity and trust are critical elements in a Captain or Mate. Ashley holds all of these skills and values.

Ashley has sailed over 10,000 miles with me. Their is not another person that I feel more comfortable to be with at sea when the conditions separate the "men from the boys". For example in Jan 2014 we rounded Cape Horn and crossed the infamous Drake Passage together with the owner and guests aboard. For the first two days of the crossing to Antarctica the conditions and wind chill where extreme. So extreme that the auto pilot could not possibly be used and we blew up two sails. Ashley and I where the only capable helmsman aboard and we rotated every hour for two days. Their is NO WAY we would have made this passage safely with out Ashley aboard.

In my opinion Ashely is one of the best women's sailors in the world. She can easily rival any "Round the World" women's solo sailor.

Ashley is the complete package, her shipwright skills are invaluable in remote destinations. I recall on another Arctic passage years ago from Newfoundland to Greenland, we had an issue with the main halyard being caught at the top of the mast sheave. Before I could even communicate a plan Ashley was in the bosoms chair ready to go up and transfer the halyard to the topping lift.

I have brought Ashley in several times during various yard periods over the last 10 years as my relief. I do this each time with 100% confidence that the boat and crew will be looked after the same way as if I was present. She is hugely resourceful, competent responsible, reliable and trustworthy.

She poses excellent leadership, communication, problem solving and general management skills. I can sleep without worry when Ashley is on watch knowing the yacht is being run with the same focus and diligence as if I were at the helm.

Sincerely

Tim Forderer

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