

MEET CHEF MATHEW POLANKA

Council Oak Steaks & Seafood Executive Chef



Chef Mathew Polanka's passion for cooking began as a child in his hometown of Oxford, OH, where he grew up cooking with his father and held his first notable culinary position at High Street Grill, where he would eventually work his way up to Chef de Cuisine. Since then, his career has taken him on a journey through some of Cincinnati's top restaurants, entering the world of fine dining in 2005 at Jag's Steak & Seafood in West Chester.

In 2010, Chef Polanka joined the culinary team at Boca Restaurant, where he learned the importance of ingredients and technique. He was quickly promoted to Sous Chef and went on to open the new downtown location of Boca, as well as its sister restaurant Sotto, in 2013, accepting the roll of Chef de Cuisine of Boca later that year.

Chef Polanka returned to Jag's Steak & Seafood in the summer of 2016 as the Food & Beverage Director, an opportunity for him to lean into his love of food and wine. But the kitchen kept calling him back. Chef Polanka rejoined the Boca Group in 2018 and led the team as Chef de Cuisine from 2019 through 2022. Later, Chef Polanka assisted in the launch of Domo at Home during the Covid-19 shutdowns and became Executive Chef of Domo from 2022 through 2024.



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