



NEW ZEALAND ICE HOCKEY FEDERATION

National U16 Development Team Coach

Position Description

LENGTH OF APPOINTMENT

The appointment will be for two years (negotiable) reviewed annually, beginning 1st May - ending 31st April.

The two-year period is designed to provide continuity for the players and the Coach unless otherwise stated in the terms of the Contract.

The appointment period may be shortened, but only under exceptional circumstances. (see Termination of Appointment).

PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

Program and performance evaluations will be handled between the coach and the President or his/her designate on an annual basis after the U16 Development Team Tour competition.

Event results, annual player evaluations, and ongoing feedback will be used as components of the performance evaluation.

FUNCTIONS

In accordance with the policies and procedures of NZIHF the primary functions of the National U16 Team Coach are as follows:

- To Coach the appointed National U16 Team.
- To plan, develop, and coordinate a National U16 Team program in conjunction with the NZIHF / National Coaching Coordinator (NCC). The NCC will provide a template.
- To be involved in skill development, planning, coordinating and achieving common direction with other National Teams and Development Camps, with a training program that fits within the framework provided by the NZIHF / NCC.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The National Team Coach is accountable to the NZIHF through their NZIHF Portfolio Holder (PH).

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

(a) Planning & Administration:

All planning and administration shall be done in conjunction with the NZIHF / NCC / PH and with the Team Manager and other Team Staff.

1. Selection:

Identify potential players; be in contact with them in regard to team plans for competitions, availability and possible selection for the team. This should be done before and during the previous National Championships.

Formulate a selection criteria, including dates, squad size, dates for squad reduction and final team announcement in line with NZIHF policy. Include this policy into the training plan, which is to be provided to the NCC as requested.

2. Training Planning:

Design a training plan (including dates) sufficient to prepare the Team for their expected competitions 6 months prior to the U16 Development Team Tour competition.

Provide that plan to the Team Managers and assist the Team Manager with the preparation of budgets to achieve those goals 6 months prior to the U16 Development Team Tour competition as well as a copy to the NCC.

Provide the NZIHF through your PH with a completed copy of this plan and attached budgets 5 months prior to the U16 Development Team Tour competition.

National Team Coaches will have a direct responsibility to the National Coaching Coordinator for the content of their training programs. **See appendix #1**

3. Player Development:

Pre-Competition- Obtain each athlete's personal goals and expectations for being involved in the National Team Program.

Liaise with each team member's personal coach / personal trainer to provide an optimum training environment if required.

Establish a process of regular one on one, coach / player interviews.

Post-Competition- Provide every athlete with written feedback of their individual performance evaluation, areas for skill development, strategies and techniques, quantitative measures, expectations, and subjective remarks annually. This is part of the Coach's Report. A template is available from the NCC. Copy of completed Coach's Report to PH and NCC.

4. Team Development:

All players will sign individual Player Contracts. All players are to be made aware of the content and consequences of that contract.

Delegate and clarify responsibilities and duties to Assistant Coach (s).

With Team Manager establish and evaluate Team goals and objectives on an annual basis.

Help develop potential National Team players by working within the Regional Team Coaches within National Team player development guidelines. Establish norms or expectations and player evaluations for: individual player skills, aerobic fitness, strength, mental understanding and general discipline as necessary to provide the direction required along side NCC.

(b) Competitions & Training Camps:

Identify and select athletes for the National Squad / Team before and during National Championships.

Monitor the delegation of responsibilities to Assistant Coach(es) and liaise with the Manager on non-coaching responsibilities.

With Team Manager arrange and supervise guest / specialist coaches where appropriate at training camps.

With Team Manager provide necessary information for organization of training camps to NCC / PH

Assist Team Manager with responsibilities for the management of athletes, Assistant Coaches, therapists, and any other National Team member when representing New Zealand.

Regularly liaise with Manager on financial and budgeting targets, making amendments if required.

With Team Manager responsible for implementing disciplinary action as required, as well as disciplinary reviews.

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

Represent the Team in a professional manner at all times.

Project an exemplary model of conduct and sportsmanship to all athletes and staff.

Demonstrate sensitivity to athlete's mental and physical well being.

Develop teamwork, morale, sportsmanship, courtesy, fair play, and strict adherence to rules of training and conduct.

Treat all athletes with respect, communicating in a positive and constructive manner.

Guarantee a safe, equitable, positive, and encouraging environment for all athletes to excel.

Attend and lead all Training Camps wherever possible.

Attend Coaching Clinics and other professional development coaching sessions, to improve personal coaching skills.

Attend and lead the particular New Zealand U16 Ice Hockey Team to identified international competitions and championships.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge and understanding the required direction for the Team.

Ability to foster a cooperative work environment.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Strong interpersonal and communication skills and the ability to work effectively with a wide range of constituencies in a diverse community.

Demonstrate sound knowledge of the current rules and regulations, ie IIHF & NZIHF.

Knowledge of athletic recruitment and retention methods and techniques.

Knowledge of NZIHF regulations and guidelines governing the recruitment and qualification criteria of athletes.

Ability to read, understand, follow, and enforce safety procedures.

An understanding of budget preparation and management.

Ability to make administrative / procedural decisions and judgments.

Monitor the necessary training programs of National Team members.

Record and chart individual performances as required. Make these performance records available to the players and NZIHF portfolio holder annually.

Complete a performance review on the Assistant Coach /s and submit to the NZIHF PH and NCC as part of your Annual Report.

COMMUNICATION & LIASION

Ensure through the Team Manager that each athlete is aware of the time and place of the events both in training and during actual competition.

Copy all correspondence related to the particular National Team to NZIHF through your Portfolio Holder.

REPORTING STRUCTURE

The NZIHF Coaching Staff is directly accountable to the NZIHF Portfolio Holder and NCC.

The Head Coach is responsible for delegation of coaching tasks to the Assistant Coach(es).

The accountability to the NZIHF Portfolio Holder and NCC includes the return of regularly scheduled reports and ongoing input into long term athlete and coach development.

Submit an completed Coach's Report of the U16 Team's activities for the Annual General Meeting of the NZIHF through the Portfolio Holder. A copy is also to be sent to the NCC.

Submit a Summary Report to the President at the conclusion of each competition or event attended in an official capacity (within 60 days). When competitions are scheduled within two weeks of each other, or when the team does not return to New Zealand between competitions, the coach may include two or more competitions in one report. This should be agreed upon by the coach and the President prior to the beginning of the annual plan/schedule.

DEVELOPMENT

Contribute to the NZIHF National Coaching Accreditation Program and long-term athlete development plan.

The job description listed is meant as a guideline and, in absence of specific direction, the Coaching Staff understands that they must make responsible decisions and must act on those decisions to ensure that NZIHF goals are met.

REPRESENTATION

Act as an ambassador for the NZIHF on technical matters relating to your particular National Ice Hockey Team.

Represent the NZIHF where possible at National Championships, coaching seminars, and other promotional functions upon reasonable request.

Act at all times in a manner that will enhance the reputation, image, character and presence of NZIHF and the team/s.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate for a New Zealand National Ice Hockey Team Head Coach will be eligible to work in New Zealand and have the following credentials.

- Coaching education and Certification proof
- Playing experience preferable
- Coaching experience
- Able to travel outside of New Zealand
- CV to be supplied

Other skills

- Strong team work skills
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills

TERMINATION OF APPOINTMENT

If for any reason the terms of the contract are not able to be fulfilled, either party may terminate it by giving one months notice to the other in writing.

The NZIHF will reserve the right to shorten the term should circumstances require.

In exceptional circumstances, an appointed Team Official may resign early after only one year by written notice to the NZIHF Coaching Coordinator, prior to May 31st of the second year of term. This is to allow time for the position to be advertised and filled for the following year.

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## **APPENDIX #1**

### **NATIONAL TEAM COACHES RESPONSIBILITIES**

National Team Coaches are required to submit to the National Coaching Coordinator the content of their training programs. A template will be provided by the NCC.

The NCC will then help create and evolve a connection between Regional Rep Teams/Coaches and National U16 Development Team. The goal of this is to have each level of players, being prepared towards their ultimate step into the Ice Blacks should they get the opportunity. The individual flair and talents of NT coaches need not be limited by this arrangement.

The National U16 coaching staff will have a direct responsibility to the NCC and therefore, Regional Rep Team coaches, to “set the path” required. This pathway may include improvement of certain basic skills, offensive options, defensive systems, breakouts, fore-checks and regroupings. It may also include off-ice fitness and strength improvement expectations, personal habit and behavioral expectations and development of leadership qualities.

To achieve this, all National Team Coaches and their staff, will produce a written plan of what they will be doing with their team for the NCC. As stated above, a template will be provided by the NCC to help achieve this.

The plan will include:

- A Year Plan showing training dates and venues
- a plan of their anticipated on-ice training program (including timeline) including general and specific objectives
- team fitness expectations and how this will be achieved
- individual fitness expectations
- dry-land and off-ice team activities
- theory topics and delivery program
- team goals and expectations
- squad selection and reduction dates
- final team selection date
- budget plan to be completed by the Team Manager