



NEW ZEALAND ICE HOCKEY FEDERATION

National Team Physiotherapist

Position Description

LENGTH OF APPOINTMENT

The appointment will normally will be for 2 year, but may be shorter or longer depending on the needs of the NZIHF.

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 Physiotherapist and the Team Manager or his/her designate on an annual basis after the World Championship.

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 Physiotherapist are as follows:

- To put in place procedures to assist players to achieve to their potential through assisting with their fitness, strength, agility, injury prevention and recovery.
- To provide medical support for the team during selection, training camps, world championships and other team events.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Physiotherapist is accountable to the NZIHF through the Manager.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Availability/Commitment

The Physiotherapist should understand that treatment and consulting times are most likely to be either before, between or after a particular days ice sessions. i.e. when players are on free time.

Must be available at all games, as well as practice/ice sessions unless otherwise agreed with Team Manager.

Accessible and available for consultation by players for duration of all team camps, travelling and staying with the team except where permission has been granted by the Team Manager for any exceptional circumstances.

Professional Services

To provide physiotherapy assessment, treatment and management to all members of the team within Professional scope of practice as outlined by the New Zealand Physiotherapy Board. Services may include but are not limited to detailed baseline screening and musculoskeletal function assessment, joint mobilization, soft tissue techniques, muscle & joint strapping, first aid assistance, fitness testing and rehabilitation management protocols.

To communicate effectively to players (and management) ensuring clear understanding of the role of physiotherapy. Particularly with regard to what type of conditions/injuries should be assessed and treated and to outline areas of specialty.

When presenting complaints fall outside the scope of physiotherapy management, or fail to resolve within an acceptable timeframe, to liaise with the Team Manager to organize appropriate referral. Referrals should all be coordinated with and/or reported to the Team Manager in due course.

To co-manage injury management any other practitioners working with the team or individuals concerned.

To establish networks with specialists, emergency services etc. For example local doctor, hospital, dentist etc when on tour, and local physiotherapists and specialists in players' local areas when in New Zealand.

Liase with management and coaches and where needed provide input on reasonable training targets for players for event preparation and modification of standard training programs for individuals specifically for any problems players may be having. Inform management and coaches of any injuries or conditions players present with which may affect their ability to compete/train.

Keep accurate records of all consults and treatments provided to players, which can be used to build a statistical database which may be used for research articles and/or feedback to management.

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 clinics and other professional development sessions, to improve personal skills.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Medical skills suitable for supporting a sports team competing in a fast-paced physical game.

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.

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

REPORTING STRUCTURE

The Team Physiotherapist is directly accountable to the Team Manager.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate for the position will be eligible to work in New Zealand and have the following credentials.

- Medical education and an appropriate qualification.
- Experience supporting athletes with sporting injuries.
- Able to travel outside of New Zealand
- CV to be supplied
- Must reside in New Zealand for at least 9 months of the year

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 Team Manager, 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.

