

Olympic Head Coach

Role Description



Title:	Olympic Head Coach
Location:	National Curling Academy, The Peak, Forthside Way, Stirling – with requirement for domestic travel around UK & some international travel
Contract Type:	Full Time - Fixed term until September 2026
Salary:	Depending on experience
Responsible to:	Executive Performance Director
Direct Reports:	Up to 5 full time coaches

Role Summary

The Olympic Head Coach (OHC) is a senior member of British Curling staff, a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), and responsible for direct management and leadership to the Podium and Podium Potential team coaches. Playing a key role in setting and delivering strategy (within the framework agreed with stakeholders), the role encompasses overview of day-to-day training at the National Curling Academy (NCA), integration of support services supporting the coaching role, and leading performance at priority events – European and World Championships and Olympic Games.

Key Responsibilities

- In conjunction with SLT, develop & implement robust selection processes with regards to the British programme. These include entry into the British Curling programme and Scottish / British selection across Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles (consistent with selection policies agreed with Scottish Curling and British Olympic Association).
- Lead, maintain and develop the high-quality daily training environment at the NCA for British Curling supported teams and athletes. A key responsibility in this regard is contributing to the development of employed coaches to ensure that they are delivering leading, consistent and high-quality coaching services to teams and ensuring full utilisation of the NCA facilities and specialist support services to athletes.
- Working in close collaboration with the Head of Performance Support, ensure the delivery of fully integrated Sport Science and Medicine services to British programme teams and athletes and overall management and delivery of the "what it takes to win" approach and processes (e.g. athlete and team review processes).
- Together with the team coaches, agree the competition schedules and budget for the British Curling programme teams, seeking to ensure peak performances at World Championships (annual) and Olympic Games.
- Lead the preparation of teams and coaches/support staff for Scotland and Great Britain at European Championships, World Championships and Olympics.
- Be an active and positive member of the British Curling SLT, which is responsible for implementing the Olympic and Paralympic Performance Strategies and managing the organisation day to day.

- Work in close collaboration and support to the Pathway Manager (PF programme) to ensure continuity of approach, sharing of insights and clear cohesive athlete management and progress.
- Utilise contacts and networks within the world of curling and British sport to further the aims and objectives of British and Scottish Curling. Such contacts to assist with event planning (calendar) and innovation, influence on World Curling, home nations curling bodies, and awareness of trends and issues impacting elite curling globally.

Person Specification

Specific Experience (Essential)

- Experience of coaching curling at Olympic//World Championship level.
- Experience of developing players/teams over a season(s) to peak performances at Olympic/World Championship level.
- High level knowledge of tactical aspects of curling either through very recent experience of coaching and/or playing.
- Strong knowledge of technical aspects of curling and ability to deliver that to elite athletes.
- Evidence of successful season (or longer) planning, encompassing competition, budget, resources and people management.
- Proven ability to influence culture and coaching dynamics to create an environment (NCA and virtual) where honesty, openness, trust and learning flourishes among athletes, coaches and wider staff.
- Demonstrable understanding as a coach as to how to collaborate with sport science and medical services to develop players/teams through a fully integrated and effective cross disciplinary support service.

Desired Experience

- Experience of selection process for major championships including the Olympics.
- Strategic planning, development and implementation in a sporting or related context.
- Management and development of full and/or part time curling coaches.
- Experience working internationally and ability to adapt to local sporting cultures and lifestyles.

To Apply

To apply for this opportunity with Great Britain's most successful winter sport in a key and high profile role, please email a letter of application and CV to performance@britishcurling.org.uk with the reference OHC23 in the subject line.

For further information or specific enquiries please contact Nigel Holl, Executive Performance Director (EPD) on nigel.holl@britishcurling.org.uk / +44 (0)7920270293. Any enquiries will be treated confidentially.

The EPD will be attending the Women's and Men's World Curling Championships (Sweden and Ottawa, Canada respectively) should anyone wish to have a face-to-face conversation.

Closing Date for Applications: Friday 14th April 2023

Interviews will be held Tuesday 2nd May 2023

British Curling is committed to selecting and appointing staff solely on the basis of their ability to do the job for which they are being recruited and we welcome applications from all sections of the community. British Curling encourages job applications from suitably qualified and eligible candidates irrespective of their gender, ethnicity, religion, belief or sexual orientation.