CIHA Representative Team Head Coach Position Description

Purpose of Role: To plan, co-ordinate and deliver a comprehensive training and playing programme focused on player development, team development and enabling the team to compete to its highest potential, while at all times operating in accordance with the objectives and rules of CIHA and Ice Hockey NZ.

Compensation: This role is voluntary and unpaid.

Mandatory Qualification: Holds the Ice Hockey NZ coaching certification required for the level of appointment.

Responsible To: CIHA Committee and CIHA Director of Player & Coach Development

Primary Relationships: Team Manager(s) and Assistant Coach(es)

Key Tasks and Responsibilities

- Create an environment that is supportive, encouraging, and enthusiastic for the team, helping players develop skills, confidence, and self-esteem in order to perform at their full potential.
- Identify and recommend suitable assistant coaches for CIHA consideration.
- Identify and invite suitable players, as required, to participate in the program.
- Select a team in conjunction with other selection personnel, in accordance with CIHA and the respective NZ league policies, objectives, and rules.
- Set realistic and achievable goals for the team in conjunction with the appropriate team personnel.
- Devise, plan, and implement a complete program of both on-ice and off-ice training that develops individual players and the team as a whole, and enables the team to perform effectively in competitions.
- Liaise and report effectively with the Team Manager, and/or designated personnel on matters concerning the team, as required; understand and respect that the Team Manager is responsible for off-ice aspects of team management.
- Liaise with other CIHA coaching and management personnel, as appropriate.
- Undertake official duties as required by the CIHA.
- Ensure all players are well informed regarding all relevant aspects related to the team.
- Develop and implement appropriate game plans for all games.
- Carry out policies and directives as set down by the CIHA with regard to fair play, sportsmanship, and conduct.
- Behave in a manner that reflects positively on the coach, team, and CIHA at all times.
- Treat opponents and officials with respect both in victory and defeat and encourage athletes to act accordingly. Actively encourage athletes to uphold the rules of their sport and the spirit of such rules.
- Undertake a post season review to include team profile, calendar and performance record as required by the CIHA.

Required Skills

- A strong interest in and personal commitment to coaching.
- Knowledge of the skills, rules and strategies of the game.
- Must have such qualities as sportsmanship, discipline and patience.

- Strong communication skills and ability to connect well with the team, and with the players individually (and parents, in the case of youth players).
- Good organisational skills, time management, and ability to put things in perspective and prioritise—particularly for practices.
- Have observational skills to understand team and individual player strengths and areas of development—and take actions to improve.
- Ability to identify, set, and achieve goals for yourself, the players, and the team in a clear, structured manner.
- Ability to identify potential areas of conflict and collaborate with the Team Manager to develop appropriate strategies.
- Be able to assess your own coaching abilities, accept feedback, and work to improve.
- Willingness to participate in Ice Hockey NZ Youth Development programs.
- Consent to be screened and ability to be cleared by a National police check.
- Previous coaching experience (highly desirable).

Terms 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-month notice to the other in writing. The CIHA reserves the right to shorten this term should it deem such action just and appropriate, given the circumstances.