

Job Description **National Team Head Coach**

Special Olympics World Winter Games Sweden 2021

Overview:

The National Team Program (NTP) is designed to provide athletes, coaches and mission staff with a formalized approach to training and preparation for World Games. The program ensures that Special Olympics athletes in Canada have access to quality training, coaching and competitive opportunities to ensure optimal training, performance and positive experiences as a member of the National Team.

A strong team of coaches and mission staff are needed in order to support the athletes through their preparation and at the Games, we encourage both veterans of the program, and newcomers to apply if interested.

Title: **National Team Head Coach**

Scope: The National Team Head Coach is the sport technical lead for their respective sport. They are responsible for the development and monitoring of seasonal training plans that guide athletes and coaches leading up to the World Games. The National Team Head Coach is in frequent communication with Assistant Coaches and Training Coaches, as well as the Chef de Mission and Team Managers, on all sport technical and athlete training activities.

Accountabilities:

The National Team Head Coach is a volunteer position accountable to the Chef de Mission. The Head Coach works closely with the Team Managers on all sport matters related to the training, preparation and competition of Team Canada athletes.

Responsibilities:

Pre-Games:

- Actively participate in the Head Coach/Mission Staff planning session.
- In cooperation with the Chef de Mission, Team Managers, Coaches and Mission Staff develop an agenda and plan sport specific sessions for the National Team training camp (May or June 2020).
- Actively plan and participate in a sport specific training camp (Fall/Winter 2020).
- Be familiar with the Athlete Agreement and the roles and responsibilities of the Chef de Mission, Team Managers, Coaches and Mission Staff.
- At the National Team training camp conduct athletic assessments to assist with athlete specific training programs and required resources.
- In cooperation with Assistant Coaches and Training Coaches develop individualized, comprehensive conditioning/training plans for each athlete, to be implemented by Training Coaches, following the training camp through to the Games.
- Assist Training Coaches in the identification of local resources to support each athlete's training program, such as training facilities, transportation, equipment

and human resources (i.e. individuals with sport specific technical expertise or knowledge in the fields of fitness and strength training, nutrition and/or sport medicine).

- Through the use of monthly training logs on the web reporting tool (submitted by Training Coaches) monitor each athlete's training progress and revise program as required.
- Communicate regularly with Assistant Coaches and Training Coaches on sport technical issues, providing guidance and assistance where needed.
- Attend the National Team Staging Camp prior to departing for the World Games.
- Work within the lines of communication set by the Team Canada Leadership Team.
- Work with the Mission Staff and Coaches to create and maintain a cohesive team.
- Communicate regularly with the Chef de Mission and Team Managers and immediately notify them of any inconsistencies or concerns related to athlete training.
- Provide ongoing input in evaluation for the NTP
- Actively participate in National Team conference calls, as required.
- Participate in professional development opportunities.
- Read and be familiar with all Team Canada correspondence and information.
- Act as a role model and conduct yourself within the National Team Program Code of Conduct.

During Games:

- Act as the sport technical lead for your respective sport.
- In cooperation with Mission Staff and Assistant Coaches, develop an action plan for each day during the World Games.
- Work with the team to ensure a productive and healthy environment at all times.
- Actively participate as a member of Team Canada
- Participate in sport specific team meetings.
- Provide daily reports to the Chef de Mission and Team Managers on sport specific activities related to athletes, competition venues, logistics, etc.
- Maintain records of athletic achievement/progress from National Games through to the completion of the World Games. Provide final results to each Training Coach.
- Be familiar with the Emergency Management plan and be able to effectively deal with issues management and conflict resolution
- Retain copies of all accident/incident forms and relay any injuries or concerns to the Chef de Mission.
- Participate in all official Team Canada functions during the World Games.
- Travel to and from the World Games as part of the National Team.
- House with the Team Canada delegation in the Athlete's Village for the entire duration of the World Games.

Post Games:

- Send congratulatory letters to Athletes, Training and Assistant Coaches.

Qualifications:

- Must be a member of Special Olympics in Canada.
- Must have attended National Games as a member of a provincial/ territorial delegation either at the qualifying event or in the previous Games cycle.

- Experience as a Head Coach, with extensive sport technical knowledge of your respective sport, along with an understanding of the physiological and psychological demands placed on its competitors.
- Knowledge of Special Olympics International. sport specific rules
- Experience in the development and implementation of seasonal plans for athletes competing in a major regional, provincial, national, and/or international competition.
- Excellent leadership, communication, organizational and administrative skills.

- A strong understanding and fundamental belief in the mission of Special Olympics in Canada and the goals of the National Team Program.
- Working knowledge of the Canadian sport system, Special Olympics in Canada and the roles and responsibilities of the SOC chapters and national office.
- Strong interpersonal and problem solving skills.
- Experience coaching athletes with an intellectual disability.
- Demonstrated ability to both work independently and cooperate in a partnering manner in the achievement of the National Team goals
- Ability to work in a demanding environment on-site at the Games
- Available to participate in professional development opportunities, National Team Program meetings, training camps and other functions as required.
- Proficiency in computer skills is mandatory.
- Must be 18 years of age or over.
- C.P.R. and first aid is an asset.
- Resident of Canada
- Ability to communicate in both official languages is an asset.
- NCCP Certification Requirements can be found in the table below

Special Olympics	All coaches must have completed the NCCP – SOC – Competition Sport Coach Workshop All coaches must have completed the Making Ethical Decisions module and online evaluation All coaches must possess an up-to-date Police Record Check
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Sport	Sport Technical Coaching Course from the National Sport Organization		Sport Technical Coaching Course from the National Sport Organization (old NCCP)
Winter Sports			
Alpine Skiing	Entry Level Course (I-B) OR CSIA Level 1	or	Tech 1
Cross Country Skiing	Community Coaching: Introduction (ICC) AND Community Coaching (CC)		Tech 1
Speed Skating	AC - FUNdamentals Leader (Community) HC - FUNdamentals Coach (Instruction) (effective Jan. 1, 2020) Fundamentals Leader will be accepted until then		Tech 1
Figure Skating	CanSkate Coach Trained (Level 1+2) OR Regional Coach In-training (Levels 3 to 6)		Tech 1
Snowshoeing	SOC Snowshoeing Module		n/a

Time Commitment (may be subject to change):

- April 2020 – First Mission Meeting (3 days including travel)
- May or June 2020 – Team Training Camp (4-5 days including travel)
- Fall/Winter 2020 - Sport Specific Training Camp (3-4 days including travel)
- December 2020 - Final Mission Meeting (3 days including travel)
- January 30-February 14, 2021 (tentative) – Staging Camp, Send-Off & World Games (inclusive of travel and Host Town Program)
- January 2020 to March 2021 on-going team / planning responsibilities