

Ireland U16 & U18 Coach - Role Profile



JOB TITLE:	Boys/Girls U16/18 Coach (Head Coach/Assistant Coach/Regional Coach)
RESPONSIBLE TO THE POSITION OF:	Talent Development Manager
DAYS REQUIRED:	Meetings: Monthly check ins (online), 3-4 in person meetings National Training Sessions: Approx 10 (full days) Regional Training Sessions: Approx 20 Overnight Trips: Approx 15-20 nights (FEB, APRIL, JUNE, JULY)
DURATION:	Oct 2024 – August 2025 with possibility for continuation Please note that successful candidates will be expected to attend ALL remaining Interprovincial games with National Programmes starting soon after GIRLS: 27/10, 03/11, 10/11 BOYS: 03/11, 10/11, 17/11

Overview

Hockey Ireland is a non-profit, membership-based organization recognised by Sport Ireland and Sport Northern Ireland as the National Governing Body for all Field and Indoor disciplines for the sport of hockey on the island of Ireland. Hockey Ireland is affiliated to both the European and International Hockey Federations (EHF & FIH). There is currently c.42,000 registered members and c.155 registered clubs throughout the country.

We are currently looking to recruit a variety of coaching roles to lead and deliver our Pathway Performance Programmes. Junior Age Group training sessions will primarily take place on the Sport Ireland Campus, Abbottstown, Dublin, and at regional training centers.

The **Junior Age Group Programme** aims to develop players capable of transitioning to, and impacting, the senior international level. These coaching roles will ensure year-round, high-quality, and consistent technical, physical, and specialist skill development for identified potential senior internationals.

Under the leadership of Simon Lowry, the newly appointed Talent Development Manager with significant expertise in the field, the successful candidates will work with some of the top underage athletes in Ireland. This is a unique opportunity to make a tangible impact on their development and contribute to the future success at international level.

In addition to the opportunity to coach at a high-performance level, the roles will provide opportunities for professional development throughout the year, making it an exciting and valuable career advancement opportunity for coaches committed to excellence in athlete development.

KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

<p>Head Coach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver consistent, high-quality coaching sessions tailored to the technical, tactical, physical, and psychological needs of identified players. • Monitor and evaluate player progress throughout the year, adjusting development plans as necessary. • Work closely with Simon Lowry (Talent Development Manager) to ensure alignment with the broader national talent development strategy. • Engage with key stakeholders, including players, parents, and other coaching and support staff, to foster a supportive environment conducive to elite player development. • Work closely with the Team Manager to ensure continuity in planning and communications • Oversee and deliver the programme designed by Hockey Ireland (Please note Pathway Programme activity is primarily on Sunday) • Progress the development of talented players so they can become 'senior international ready' • Create an environment that challenges players and staff to excel and reach their full potential. • Provide written reports on players' technical and physical development • Manage communication with players around selection, entry and exit to the programme • Liaise with interpro and club coaches regarding selection and player progress • Regularly provide feedback to players within programme • Liaise regularly with other pathway coaches and national scouting group • Act as part of a network of national coaches who deliver regional sessions
<p>Assistant Coach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of the programme designed by Hockey Ireland (Please note Pathway programme activity is primarily on Sunday) • Progress the development of talented players so they can become 'senior international ready' by delivering coaching sessions of the highest quality • Attend inter-pro and club matches where appropriate • Regularly provide feedback to players within programme • Liaise regularly with other pathway coaches and national scouting group • Act as part of a network of national coaches who deliver regional sessions for all Hockey Ireland players
<p>Specialist Skills Coach</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Technical development 2. PCA and Goalscoring 3. Dragflicking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of the pathway programme designed by Hockey Ireland • Work with smaller groups of identified players to develop international impact skills • Liaise with Head of Athletic Development, Pathway Manager and Head of Elite Goalkeeping regarding S&C requirements to underpin skill development • Support the development of resources to disseminate across pathway stakeholders

PERSONNEL SPECIFICATION

The successful candidates will be experienced coaching professionals, or an emerging high potential coach. They will demonstrate the required coaching and leadership attributes, an understanding of high performance and the current trends in international hockey, and the capability to deliver player development which will convert pathway players to senior internationals.

ESSENTIAL - Qualifications and Experience

- Level 2 and/or FIH coaching qualifications or equivalent (or working towards them)
- Ability to work as part of a team of coaches within the pathway, where no hierarchy exists
- Proven record of player development success in multiple environments and age groups
- Experience in implementing a comprehensive domestic or international coaching programme
- Understanding and experience of the demands of high-performance sport
- Openness and willingness to share with other pathway coaches & practitioners
- Ability to motivate and inspire
- Excellent communications (verbal and written)
- Ability to apply the principles of coaching, sport science, medicine and technology within a high-performance programme
- Proven methodologies in the development of elite talent and performance
- Exceptional people skills, with an emphasis on the management of player
- Capacity to travel domestically and overseas for extended periods.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

- Previous experience of working in an international hockey coaching environment
- A competent knowledge of the latest coaching software systems
- An understanding of the Irish sporting landscape, culture and mentality

Hockey Ireland will provide the following to successful candidates:

- A competitive package commensurate with qualifications, skills and experience.
- A budget towards out-of-pocket expenses
- Hockey Ireland branded uniform
- Guidance and support from the Talent Development Manager and Director of High Performance.

Application Process:

- Applicants will need to be eligible to work within the EU & UK.
- Closing date for applications is the **10am on Thursday 17th October** with interviews expected to be completed by Friday 25th October
- A detailed letter of application and full CV (max. 2 pages) should be sent by email to simon.lowry@hockey.ie with the subject 'JAG Coach' clearly stating if you have a preference for a particular role.
- Applicants will be short-listed on the basis of information supplied. Your application will be retained as confidential.

Hockey Ireland is an equal opportunities employer
