

INTERPROVINCIAL U16 COACHING ROLES – ROLE PROFILE

JOB TITLE:	Girls U16 Coach (Head Coach/ Assistant Coach/ Goalie Coach)
REPORTS TO:	Connacht Hockey President
DURATION:	February 2025 – February 2026 (with possibility for continuation for a single 12-month period)

1. OVERVIEW OF ROLE

Connacht Branch is a non-profit, governing body for hockey in Connacht, which is an affiliate member of the National Governing Body, Hockey Ireland.

We are currently looking to recruit a head coach and assistant coach to deliver our U16 interprovincial programme. Training sessions will primarily take place at the University of Galway hockey facility in Dangan, Galway.

The U16 programme aims to develop players to participate in the Hockey Ireland Interprovincial Tournament with a view to developing pathways for elite players to progress to the national Hockey Ireland Pathway Performance Programmes.

2. KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Key Responsibilities of Head Coach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver consistent, high-quality coaching sessions tailored to the technical, tactical, physical, and psychological needs of identified players. • Engage closely with Connacht Academy and club head coaches regarding selection of players to attend trials. • Hold trials, monitor players and select training squad, in conjunction with the Assistant Coach and Selectors, the best players available for selection. • Monitor and evaluate player progress throughout the year, adjusting development plans as necessary. • Work closely with Connacht interprovincial representative to ensure alignment with the broader provincial and 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 in line with best practice of programmes designed by Hockey Ireland. • Progress the development of talented players so they can progress to Hockey Ireland Pathway Performance Programmes. • Create an environment that challenges players and staff to excel and reach their full potential. • Manage communication with players around selection, entry and exit to the programme. • Liaise with club coaches regarding selection and player progress. • Regularly provide feedback to players within programme. • Provide a post-tournament report to Connacht Branch. Always articulate the Core Values of the Connacht Hockey Branch, both on and off the pitch.
Key Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of the U16 programme designed by the Head Coach and

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<p>of Assistant Coach & Goalie Coach</p>	<p>provide assistance in preparing any reports to the interprovincial manager.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress the development of talented players so they can progress to Hockey Ireland Pathway Performance Programmes. • Attend inter-pro and club matches where appropriate. • Regularly provide feedback to players within programme. • Liaise regularly with other interprovincial coaches. • Always articulate the Core Values of the Connacht Hockey Branch, both on and off the pitch.
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3. PERSONAL SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will be an experienced coach.

They will demonstrate the required coaching and leadership attributes, an understanding of high performance and the current trends in national and international hockey, and the capability to deliver player development which will enable each player to fulfil their potential.

4. QUALIFICATIONS

ESSENTIAL - Qualifications and Experience

- Level 2 coaching qualifications or equivalent (or working towards this).
- Ability to work as part of a team of coaches within the interprovincial programme, where no hierarchy exists.
- Proven record of player development success in multiple environments and age groups.
- Experience in implementing a comprehensive coaching programme.
- Openness and willingness to share with Connacht academy and other interprovincial coaches & managers.
- Ability to motivate and inspire.
- Excellent communications (verbal and written).
- Proven methodologies in the development of talent and performance.
- Exceptional people skills, with an emphasis on the management of player.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA

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

5. APPLICATION PROCESS

- Closing date for applications is the **10am on Friday 17th January 2025** with interviews expected to be completed by Friday 24th January 2025.
- A detailed letter of application and full CV (max. 2 pages) should be sent by email to Connacht Branch connachtbranchhockey@gmail.com with the subject 'Interprovincial Coach' clearly stating if you have a preference for a particular role.
- Applicants will be short-listed based on information supplied. Your application will be retained as confidential.