

Ski & Snowboard Australia – Cross Country Skiing High Performance Program

The Ski & Snowboard Australia Cross Country Committee (SAXC) is seeking expressions of interest from coaches and managers to work with an Australian Junior Development Tour to Canada during the 2014/2015 international season.

The intention is for the Junior Development Team to consist of 6-12 athletes aged approximately 16-18, with invitations to be based on performances during the 2014 Australian winter and recommendations from state coaches. The Tour will be of approximately six weeks duration and will be based predominantly at Silver Star / Sovereign Lake in Canada. Several key competitions will be targeted toward the end of the Tour, including a Noram Cup in Canmore.

Additional information is provided in the job descriptions below. Interested persons should apply via email to SSA Cross Country Skiing High Performance Manager Finn Marsland (finn.marsland@gmail.com) by Friday August 22, 2014, briefly addressing the key selection criteria. Applicants may be invited to supply additional information and/or to attend an interview. The appointment will be made by a panel appointed by SAXC.

Position Title: 2014/2015 Junior Development Coach and/or Manager	Date: August 2014
Reports To: Cross Country Skiing High Performance Manager	Contract Period: mid December to late January
<p>The Junior Development (JunDev) Coach and/or Manager will primarily be responsible for supporting a Junior Development Tour to Canada in December and January. The major focus will be on athlete development, with specific goals including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing technique through increased time on snow and quality coaching; • Reinforcing training and recovery methods in a daily training environment; • Training alongside local Canadian athletes, teams and coaches; • Learning how to travel, live, train and race as a team; • Gaining experience of racing at and peaking for higher level competitions • Building cohesion with future National Team team-mates. <p>The JunDev Coach and/or Manager will be expected to travel with the team to Canada between December 2014 and January 2015. The intention is for the team to work in closely with locally based teams both in Silver Star / Sovereign Lake and at the competition locations. The start/finish dates for the tour will be confirmed in consultation with the successful applicant.</p>	
Remuneration and Expenses	
Remuneration details are yet to be finalised however at minimum all travel and living expenses will be covered for the duration of the tour.	
Job Responsibilities (some may be more applicable to coach or manager)	
<p>Responsibilities may include:</p> <p>In the lead-up to the international tour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing the travel, training and competition schedule together with High Performance Manager and other team coaches/managers • Liaising with athletes, parents and personal coaches of athletes; • Liaising with international clubs, coaches and training groups at the intended locations in Canada; • Coordinating a training camp in late September; • Coordinating athlete preparation for the tour and building professional culture amongst the team athletes; • Booking of team accommodation and land transport; • Coordinating team flight bookings; and • Coordinating uniform requirements. 	

During the international tour:

- Coordinating daily training of athletes;
- Assisting athletes with technique development;
- Communicating with High Performance Manager;
- Motivating athletes and assisting with mental training strategies;
- Monitoring athlete training programs and general wellbeing;
- Coordinating catering and ensuring the team has a good nutritional plan;
- Providing race support for competitions;
- Management of team budget and accounting of all team expenses;
- Coordinating team land transport and driving team vehicles;
- Entering athletes in competitions and attending team captains meeting;
- Writing race reports after competitions; and
- Collecting images of athletes during training and competition for promotional purposes.

Key Selection Criteria (some may be more applicable to coach or manager)

- Demonstrated leadership skills and ability to make decisions under pressure.
- Demonstrated ability to motivate and inspire athletes and assist them in striving towards their goals.
- Demonstrated communication skills with athletes, parents and coaches.
- Demonstrated organisational skills, in particular in relation to coordinating accommodation and transport.
- Demonstrated ability to manage a team of athletes.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- Demonstrated knowledge of skiing techniques and ability to refine athletes' technical skills.
- Demonstrated race support skills including classic waxing, glide waxing and race day organisation.
- Demonstrated ability to manage and adjust individual training programs.
- Demonstrated ability to resolve issues within a team environment.

Desired Qualifications/Experience

- Current Australian or international drivers licence.
- Current First-Aid certification.
- Current Australian cross country ski coaching qualification.
- Experience in travelling, training and competing overseas.
- Experience in coaching/managing athletes/teams overseas.
- Current Working with Children check (or equivalent state certification).