



Position Description

SPORT SCIENTIST

1. RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting to the Sport Science Coordinator, the Sport Scientist role is designed to deliver services in the areas of applied sports physiology and performance analysis to VIS athletes and sport programs.

This position requires specialist skills in the area of either sports physiology or performance analysis with a capacity to provide a range of services in *both* areas.

Services will be conducted by planning, researching, collecting data, providing specific information and dissemination of information, resulting in improved preparation and for sporting excellence, in accordance with the policy statement of VIS sport science and the aims and objectives of the VIS.

The specific responsibilities of the Sport Scientist are:

1.1 Athletes and Sport Programs

- 1.1.1 Monitoring new developments in the field of sport science. In particular, the use of existing and development of new analysis tools pertinent to the area of applied sports physiology and performance analysis.
- 1.1.2 Preparing comprehensive reports for coaches and athletes including an interpretation of results.
- 1.1.3 Establishing, designing, implementing and interpreting applied sports physiology test procedures in consultation with sports scientists, coaches and athletes.
- 1.1.4 Collect applied sports physiology data during training and competition in order to better understand the requirements of the sport and improvement in capacities of athletes.
- 1.1.5 Conduct performance analysis services during training and competition which may involve the use of biomechanical or game analysis-based software packages.
- 1.1.6 Contribute to various VIS projects in collaboration with other VIS sport science personnel, VIS athlete service providers, external consultants and Sports Institutes/Academics within Australia.

1.2 Program Administration and Operations

- 1.2.1 Collect and maintain sport science data on athletes.
- 1.2.2 Develop and conduct calibration, maintenance procedures and accurate analysis in accordance with the National Sport Science Quality Assurance program (NSSQA).
- 1.2.3 Prepare regular progress reports for sports programs.
- 1.2.4 Keep up-to-date with the scientific literature and by attending relevant state, national and international conferences, congresses, seminars and workshops.
- 1.2.5 Writing, presenting and publishing results of applied research in nationally and internationally recognised journals.
- 1.2.6 Prepare and submit regular work plans to sport science co-ordinator.

1.3 Sport Science Education

- 1.3.1 Providing state of the art information on applied sports physiology and performance analysis technology to coaches and athletes.
- 1.3.2 Contribute to athlete and coach education via presentations in workshops, journal club and seminars as well as student placement supervision.
- 1.3.3 Represent the Sport Science department in multi-disciplinary forums.
- 1.3.4 Work independently and as part of the Sport Science team to ensure VIS adopts cutting edge sport science practices.

1.4 Personal and Professional Development

- 1.4.1 In conjunction with the Sport Science Coordinator establish and implement a personal and professional development plan for regular discussion.
- 1.4.2 Become proficient in utilising technology and other methods to fully integrate sport science into VIS sport programs.

1.5 Other

- 1.5.1 To ensure their own safety and the safety of others, employees must work in a safe manner and comply with all VIS policies and procedures that relate to Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare.
- 1.5.2 Maintain relevant First Aid and anthropometry qualifications.
- 1.5.3 Frequent out of hours work is required. Domestic travel is also required.

2. KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL QUALITIES

Essential:

- 2.1 Possession of an appropriate tertiary degree qualification in sport science or equivalent.
- 2.2 Experience in working within a Sports Institute/Academy Sport Science Department or equivalent.
- 2.3 Demonstrated ability to work within a team as well as the ability to work independently. Posses a high level of personal initiative and autonomy.
- 2.4 Proven ability to implement and, when necessary, design applied sports physiology and performance analysis procedures.
- 2.5 Demonstrate ability to communicate with coaches and athletes in a way that converts complex Sport Science principles and techniques into sports language.
- 2.6 Proven ability to apply specialist skills in resolving applied sports physiology and performance analysis problems.
- 2.7 Proven personal and professional skills related to dealing with scholarship holders from widely diverse age groups and sports.
- 2.8 Familiar with the use of personal computers, software packages and their application in applied sports physiology and performance analysis.
- 2.9 Familiar with the concepts and requirements of the AIS NSSQA Program.
- 2.10 Current Drivers Licence.

Desirable:

- 2.11 Competence in Sport Science research methodology and appropriate statistical techniques.
- 2.12 Demonstrated ability to conduct applied research and produce publications recognised in journals or texts.
- 2.13 Current Level 1 ISAK Anthropometry certification or NSSQA endorsement.
- 2.14 Experience with public speaking and development and delivery of coach/athlete education programs.
- 2.15 Demonstrated administrative skills and experience.
- 2.16 Basic understanding of the principles of sports physiology, biomechanics, coaching, strength and conditioning for sport and sports nutrition.

- 2.17 Demonstrated knowledge of IBM compatible computers and the advanced use of Microsoft Office software such as Excel, Word and Access.
- 2.18 Post-graduate qualifications specialising in Sport Science from a recognised academic institution.

3. RELATIONSHIPS

- 3.1 Responsible to the Sport Science Coordinator for the day to day sport science program delivery
- 3.2 Liaison with coaches and other VIS athlete service providers regarding the specific sport science requirements of individual athletes and sports programs

4. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- 4.1 Improvements in the quality and quantity of sport science being conducted in VIS programs.
- 4.2 Feedback from athletes and sport coaches regarding the effectiveness of sport science programs.
- 4.3 Athlete attitudes to sport science programs implemented.
- 4.4 Contribution to the VIS sport science department in delivering cutting edge services.
- 4.5 Ability to work within a team environment and to relate harmoniously with athletes, coaches and staff.

Salary range: \$48,000 - \$53,000 per annum

For enquiries about the position after reading the job description, please contact:

Troy Flanagan, Victorian Institute of sport. Tel +613 9425 0000

To apply, applicants should address the selection criteria outlined in the job description

Please submit applications to:

Troy Flanagan
Sport Science Co-ordinator
Victorian Institute of Sport
PO Box 12608
A'Beckett Street
MELBOURNE 3000, Australia.

Applications close: 5pm 19th January 2007.

Please note that the VIS offices will be closed between Monday 25th December and Tuesday 2nd January.

For more information on the Victorian Institute of Sport, please visit www.vis.org.au