



Position Description

Role Title:	National Head Coach, Foot Orienteering
Reporting To:	OA Executive Officer / Board of Orienteering Australia
Review Period:	Annually

OVERVIEW

The Orienteering Australia (OA) National Head Coach and High Performance (HP) Administrator have operational responsibility for OA's HP program. The roles work closely together, and the precise division of duties between the two can be tailored to the particular skills and preferences of the individuals. The Head Coach typically has primary responsibility for:

- Leadership of the HP program in consultation with States, athletes, OA and other stakeholders
- Guidance, development, mentoring and organisation of HP athletes, coaches and officials
- Planning and preparation of national elite orienteering teams to compete across the world

The aim of the OA HP program is to support the development of our junior and senior elite orienteers and Australian elite orienteering in general, and to provide them (and the wider orienteering community) with an exciting and well supported set of national and international activities. This forms an important part of OA's strategic objective of wanting every orienteer to be able to realise their potential. The broader aim is to develop and retain elite orienteers to foster a vibrant and attractive sport, with world-class performances and role models, who are motivated to contribute to the sport for life.

SCOPE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The National Head Coach is a part of the HP Management Group (HPMG) together with the OA HP Director, HP Administrator, Manager of Coaching Development, Administrator of Coaching Development, and OA Executive Officer. Central to this role is the need to build and maintain strong relationships with system partners and stakeholder groups such as the Australian Institute of Sport, Sport Integrity Australia, State Associations, the State HP and Coaching Directors and NOL Team Managers, other members of the HPMG, and the OA Board. In particular, this position supports HP athletes and the State HP and Coaching Directors and NOL Team Managers.

The core functions of the National Head Coach are to:

- Operationally lead the OA HP Program to deliver on OA strategy
- Plan and deliver the annual NOL competition in close collaboration with the HP Administrator and States
- Prepare selection criteria and be one of the selectors in national team selection panels
- Plan Australian representative tours and HP event participation including appointment of team officials
- Define a HP squad structure, secure officials, and select athletes for inclusion in those squads
- Assist, develop, mentor, and organise coaches for all athletes and guide them along the HP pathway
- Organise national HP training camps and activities
- Provide coaching and support to HP athletes, coaches, squads and national teams
- Engage with States on coaching and event planning, emphasising the importance of relevant, exciting, accessible and inclusive coaching activities and events to support athlete development across Australia.



KEY COMPETENCIES

1. LEADERSHIP

- Demonstrated passion and knowledge of national and international elite orienteering with an ability to lead and inspire others and be respected for fairness and integrity by athletes, states, coaches and others.

2. KNOWLEDGE OF HIGH PERFORMANCE COACHING

- Advanced knowledge of the requirements for athlete development, coaching and performance in elite orienteering and the ability to work practically to address these requirements.

3. RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT

- Ability to work collaboratively with athletes, coaches, officials and other stakeholders to drive positive outcomes for individual athletes, national teams, and Australian orienteering.

4. PROBLEM SOLVING AND ANALYSIS

- Ability to analyse policy and program issues, draw correct conclusions, see opportunities and articulate focussed policy, communication and process improvements.

5. STRATEGY FORMULATION

- Ability to formulate strategies and policies for elite orienteering and to translate them into action by involving others.