



POSITION DESCRIPTION

TITLE: CRUSADERS LEAD PERFORMANCE SCIENTIST

INCUMBENT:

REPORTS TO: CRUSADERS HEAD OF PHYSICAL PERFORMANCE

POSITION OBJECTIVES: LEAD THE ALIGNMENT AND DELIVERY OF THE SPORTS SCIENCE PROGRAM FOR THE CRUSADERS, SO AS TO ASSIST IN THE TEAM DELIVERING WORLD-CLASS PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPING WORLD CLASS PLAYERS.

TO ASSIST WITH THE PERFORMANCE AND PREPARATION OF THE CRUSADERS BY OVERSEEING ALL ASPECTS OF THE CRUSADERS PERFORMANCE MONITORING SYSTEMS INCLUDING FURTHER ENHANCEMENT OF DATA COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND REPORTING METHODS

TO COLLATE, ANALYSE AND REPORT ON ALL PERFORMANCE MONITORING DATA TO ENSURE OPTIMAL PLAYER LOADING FOR CONDITIONING, RECOVERY AND PERFORMANCE

UNDERTAKE RESEARCH PROJECTS TO SUPPORT THE MEDICAL, STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING AND PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS DEPARTMENTS ENSURING THEY REMAIN LEADERS IN BEST PRACTISE.

DEVELOP AND FACILITATE FUNCTIONAL WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH CRUSADERS ACADEMY AND BUNNINGS NPC CUP TEAMS PERFORMANCE STAFF, INCLUDING CRFU AND TASMAN TO ENSURE SEAMLESS TRANSITION BETWEEN COMPETITIONS.

LAST REVIEWED: Nov'23

BY: GM PROFESSIONAL RUGBY AND BUSINESS SUPPORT MANAGER

NB: THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO REVIEW FROM TIME TO TIME, BUT NO LESS THAN ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

Achievement of the position objective will be measured through the following key result areas.

1 Lead the maintenance & evolution of the Crusaders performance database.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- The collection, manipulation, and visualisation of appropriate data from multiple sources of technology.
- Oversight of performance data collected by students as part of a research study.
- Presentation of information through the database for collaborative planning.
- Data collection & co-ordination with the NZR National Smartabase.

2 Lead the use of sport science technology for the purpose of performance load monitoring, profiling, and competition analysis.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Co-ordination of performance monitoring strategies to ensure optimal player loading for conditioning, recovery, and performance.
- Analyse competition demands to ensure our training practices meet match demands and ensure optimal preparation for competition.
- Collaborate with video analysts to ensure the integration of tactical, technical, and physical data.
- Oversee the vision for the use of sport science technology and its integration within the high-performance environment, articulated and understood across team management and players.
- Ensure regular reporting of information in an effective and useful manner to coaches and other personnel as appropriate.
- Lead player engagement with their information to drive ownership and understanding of their long-term development and short-term performance.

3 Utilise Research methods, personal development opportunities & innovation to ensure Crusaders are industry leaders with high performance practices.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Research, report, and stay up to date on industry best practice and latest trends across other comparative sports as they relate to coaching, analysis, medical & strength and conditioning.
- Undertake specific internal research projects as requested by Crusaders medical, strength & conditioning, or coaching departments.
- Work collaboratively with other departments to identify the future needs of the Crusaders, developing strategies to prepare in advance for these evolving needs, keeping the Crusaders future focused.
- Oversee a research-based University partnership to inform sport science practices.

4 Proactively drive alignment with Bunnings NPC, Academy and any other representative programs involving Crusaders contracted or development players.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Provide support and guidance to both Canterbury and Tasman strength and conditioning coaches regarding best practice.
- Oversee the implementation of technology, data science, performance profiling and sport science systems and processes to ensure effective outcomes are attained and alignment can be achieved through crusaders best practice methods.

5 Support the Crusaders International Academy Manager in the development and delivery of player, coach and support staff development programs.

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- To assist and advise with the development and delivery of the CIA programmes as appropriate.
- Be available to assist with the delivery of coaching, mentoring and presentations from time to time for the CIA Manager. Content and timing to be considered in conjunction with the Crusaders General Manager of Professional Rugby and Manager of the CIA.

6 Health and Safety

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- All occupational safety and health obligations are met to ensure a safe and hazard minimised place of work.
- Complies with the health and safety systems and emergency procedures in place throughout the business.
- Encourages staff participation in the business's health and safety system.
- Demonstrates a commitment to continuous health and safety improvement.
- Ensures prompt and accurate reporting of all hazards, accidents and incidents.
- Attends health and safety update training sessions scheduled.

7 Any Other Duties

EXPECTED RESULTS:

- Any other duties as may be required from time to time to meet the needs the Crusaders.
- Duties agreed to in conjunction with the Crusaders Head Coach and or, Crusaders General Manager of Professional Rugby. These may include, but are not limited to, providing coaching support to Crusaders Provincial teams, working with Academy and development players, working across departments for the betterment of the Crusaders Performance department.

KEY AREAS OF AUTHORITY

Staff:

Budget: Spending authority in line with delegated limits

FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Internal: Crusaders Coaches
Crusaders Strength & Conditioning Staff
Team Doctor
Team Physiotherapist(s)
Crusaders Performance Analyst
Consultant Performance Dietician

External: Crusaders Academy Staff
NZR Injury Surveillance researchers
Crusaders provincial union partners performance staff (Tasman and Canterbury)
Universities and other tertiary institutions
All Blacks medical and conditioning staff
NZR Performance Analysis Manager