

Senior Biomechanist



Position Description

Position:	Senior Biomechanist
Location:	Australian Institute of Sport Canberra
Basis:	Full Time contract through until 31 st December 2020
Department:	High Performance
Reporting relationships:	The role reports to the High Performance Director
Internal relationship:	AA high performance staff
External relationships:	National institute network (NIN), key high performance coaches and athletes
Approved by:	Chief Operating Officer
Date approved:	June 2018

Position Summary

Based at the AIS in Canberra, the **Senior Biomechanist** is responsible for the delivery of high level biomechanical services, coordination and advice to athletes and coaches within the Canberra daily training environment (DTE), and competition analysis for assigned Athletics Australia teams. This role will also encompass the Biomechanics National Lead role which coordinates the development of the national framework for Athletics Biomechanics and leads the national network of quality assured Athletics Biomechanists.

Athletics Australia

Athletics Australia (AA) is the national governing body for the sport of athletics in Australia. Our vision is to “create a vibrant and successful sport of Athletics in Australia” and this is underpinned by our organisational values of

- Inclusion
- Integrity
- Innovation
- Excellence

AA's High Performance Program is funded by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). We support our high performance athletes and their coaches in partnership with the AIS, the National Institute Network (NIN) and peak sporting bodies, Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) and Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA).

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop and implement world-leading Athletics biomechanics support through systematic collection, analysis and application of data focused on improving athlete performance.
- Collaborate with the Canberra based Athletics Australia Para-Athletics coaches develop world leading biomechanical and scientific approaches to improving athlete performance, with a specific focus on amputee sprinting and jumping, and wheelchair racing.
- Develop and lead a national network and framework of quality assured athletics biomechanists within the SIS/SAS system to prioritise and deliver a range of services and projects that support targets established by Athletics Australia.
- Lead and facilitate the national standards/protocols for recording and distributing competition biomechanical data and performance analysis through both the domestic and international competition structure.
- Be the senior driver of research projects in athletics biomechanics nationally, aligned to Athletics Australia identified priority areas.
- As required, support official Athletics Australia camp-based environments and/or other state based DTEs provide biomechanics.
- Collaborate with other Athletics Performance Services, the SIS/SAS network and the academic sector to assist with the implementation of an applied athletics research program aligned with Athletics Australia's High Performance objectives.
- Lead the administration of a national repository of protocols, guidelines and templates etc. for approved service providers to access across the country.

- Liaise with key AA and SIS/SAS staff from other disciplines (e.g. coaches, physiotherapists, physiologists, engineers etc.) for skill assessment and follow up program development in a multi-discipline approach to service delivery.
- Adopt NSSQA processes to standardise appropriate measurement methodologies, screening regimes and reporting processes on a national basis.
- Work within the relevant rules and codes of practice/conduct for Athletics Australia, IAAF, World Para Athletics, AOC, APC, CGA and ASADA as appropriate and required.

WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY

These responsibilities should be read in conjunction with the Organisation's Workplace Health & Safety policy and procedures:

- All employees should understand Workplace, Health and Safety (WH&S) principles and comply with the organisation's WH&S system;
- All employees should adopt safe work practices that comply with WH&S requirements and must not willfully place at risk the health & safety of any person in the workplace;
- All employees should participate in relevant WH&S meetings, training and other activities; and
- All employees must wear personal protective equipment as required.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Knowledge and experience

Essential

- PhD in Biomechanics or related field, e.g., sport science, engineering, human movement studies, computer science, with 5+ years of experience servicing elite athletes with biomechanical services and projects.
- Demonstrated capacity to provide high quality biomechanical services for elite athletes and high performance sport coaches.
- Demonstrated comprehensive technical ability to operate biomechanical testing equipment, conduct related analyses and produce clear, concise reports and feedback.
- Excellent computing skills including the ability to effectively utilise MS office, database and statistical packages, biomechanics specific software (e.g. 3D motion data analysis, kinematic and kinetic analysis programmes) and computer programming languages.
- Demonstrated understanding of a range of sport science sub-disciplines and how they interact to provide interdisciplinary solutions in an elite sporting context.
- Demonstrated project management and project leadership skills in the sporting environment.
- Hold continued accreditation through Exercise Sports Science Australia (ESSA).

Desirable

- Evidence of journal publications and conference presentations record demonstrating national/international level expertise in sport biomechanics or a related area.
- A demonstrated working knowledge of the biomechanics of the sport of athletics, particularly within Para-Athletics, would be a significant advantage.
- Proven experience and ability to work with member and volunteer organisations.

Key Competencies

- Strategic thinking and problem solving skills, including the ability to:
 - Analyse and identify issues on an industry wide basis;
 - Assess associated implications and propose solutions; and
 - Harness information, identify critical gaps and assess the value of information to identify and develop opportunities with internal and external partners.
- Excellent communication skills (including interpersonal, negotiation, influencing and representation) and a proven ability to build and maintain effective relationships both internally and externally with a diverse range of stakeholders (this includes athletes, coaches and network biomechanists as well as support staff from other sport science sub-disciplines).
- Demonstrated ability to identify, plan and organise work objectives within an often fast-moving environment.
- Demonstrated ability to understand and conceptualise complex processes and systems and communicate these in clear and concise terms for a range of audiences.
- Work collaboratively and collegially alongside the key high performance coaches and athletes, and their other service providers.

Personal Attributes

- Approachable.
- Inquisitive.
- Comfortable with change, complexity and ambiguity.
- Able to relate to others in various roles.
- Work collaboratively within a high performance team.
- Self-motivated.

Employee's Initials

Employer's Initials