



Job Title: EUOC Performance Coach

Location: Edinburgh. Remote working possible.

Employment Type: Part-time (~16-25h/month)

Compensation: Hourly rate £20/h



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

About Edinburgh University Orienteering club:

Edinburgh University Orienteering club is the largest university orienteering club in the UK and has an active calendar of student-led weekly training and club trips. The club has athletes of all abilities, from beginners to international athletes. You can find out more about the club on the website:

<https://euoc.co.uk/>.

Within the university Sport and Exercise Department, we are funded as a Performance development sport. Currently 9 athletes are part of the Performance Programme, which is lower than previous years. The programme previously had a professional head coach funded by the university, but has not had an employed coach for the past couple of years.

Position summary:

We are seeking an experienced and enthusiastic coach to work with a group of performance-focused athletes. As a result of the recent gap in coaching support, athletes may have varying requirements and training backgrounds. The main focus will be on 1-1 coaching meetings with athletes to provide individualised support, and you would be funded for a total of 2h/month per athlete. Individual meetings may cover physical training planning/reviews, technical training discussion/reviews and advising on appropriate focus for technical sessions, mentorship, specific competition preparation, analysis or general support with balancing training and studies or life. We anticipate that the group would be 10-12 athletes. Athletes will pay a regular (six monthly) contribution to participate, with no minimum performance criteria.

Responsibilities:

- The key part of the role is to have individual meetings with athletes (either online or in person).
- Communication with the athlete via a suitable platform (such as WhatsApp) between meetings, and following their training on Attackpoint, or a similar platform.
- Setting appropriate weekly intervals sessions (ideally a general base session for the group/club, with modifications for individual athletes where needed).
- Promote a positive and inclusive group training environment - whilst athlete advice should be individualised, we would value efforts to maintain some co-ordination amongst the group in weekly training.
- Communication with University sports staff regarding the orienteering calendar and athlete needs.

Currently out of scope:

- Planning orienteering sessions
- Organising training camps
- In person coaching (Hanging training sessions, shadowing etc.)
- Group seminars and talks

These are optional activities, and we hope to expand the role to include some of these aspects in the future, but we do not anticipate having the funding available to cover these at this stage. We have identified these activities as less important, or less efficient ways of ensuring all athletes can benefit from the scheme equally.

Qualifications:

Required:

- Experience in Orienteering coaching, preferably at junior or senior elite level
- Previous personal experience of international orienteering as either an athlete or coach
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills

Preferred:

- Previous experience of working with students or young adults
- A valid DBS or PVG certificate (this can be arranged after appointment otherwise)
- Relevant certifications (Orienteering coaching, Safeguarding, Endurance running coaching etc.)

Note on funding and timescales:

We are hoping to run this as a pilot scheme starting from January 2025 and running for 19 months until the end of the next academic year (2025/26). We are applying for external funding and anticipate that for this period the role will be funded by a combination of athlete contributions and external grants. The full extent of the role will depend on the success of our funding application. You will be employed on a service agreement from the Sports Union and paid pro-rata (£20/h) on a monthly basis. We are not able to provide any additional compensation for expenses incurred as part of the role.

We hope to secure funding from the university or other sources to continue and expand the coaching role in future years, so watch this space!

How to apply:

To apply, please write a brief description of why you think you would be suitable for the role and what you can offer, and submit to orienteering@ed.ac.uk. A CV is welcomed, but not required.

We welcome applications from anyone interested. If you are keen to be involved, but have limited time or other restrictions/criteria, please still get in touch! The role description can be dynamic, and could be divided between more than one individual if necessary.

Application deadline **31/12/2024**

Contact information:

For more information, please contact orienteering@ed.ac.uk