



## POSITION DESCRIPTION NATIONAL HEAD COACH

### TABLE TENNIS AUSTRALIA BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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Table Tennis Australia (TTA) is the peak national body responsible for the governance, development, promotion and administration of table tennis in Australia. As an Olympic and Commonwealth Games sport, the organisation offers an attractive opportunity for a professional coach to contribute significantly to the shaping and development of a national High Performance Program and to coach a national team at the Olympic Games in 2008. The successful applicant will also contribute to the development of sub-elite coaches, and will be expected to travel extensively within Australia to achieve this.

TTA has commenced the implementation of its 2006 – 2015 High Performance Plan by establishing National Training Centres in four states, establishing a National High Performance Team and gaining the support of the Board of Management, its external funding partners and the state associations. The next step in the plan is to appoint a National Head Coach, initially to coach the Australian team through until the Beijing Olympics in August 2008, with the view to extending the initial time period dependent upon funding. The National Head Coach would be closely involved in the implementation of other strategies contained with the 2006 – 2015 High Performance Plan, mainly the improvement of the players' daily training environment and the improvement of coach standards in Australia.

The Table Tennis Australia office is located in Brisbane, Queensland and is staffed by Chief Executive Officer, an Operations Manager and a National Director of Coaching.

### POSITION INFORMATION

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<b>Position Title</b>	National Head Coach
<b>Reports To</b>	Chief Executive Officer
<b>Hours of Work</b>	The position is offered on a 12 - 14 month contract basis initially. This contract may be extended if additional funds are identified. Hours of work are approximately 38 per week. Due to the nature of the position weekend and evening work are involved as well as extensive travel within Australia and overseas.
<b>Remuneration</b>	Negotiable
<b>Overview</b>	<p>The Board has the overall responsibility for corporate governance of Table Tennis Australia, formulating and approving policy, and setting the organisation's strategic direction.</p> <p>The primary function of the CEO is to provide leadership and management skills to guide and co-ordinate the activities of the organisation so that TTA will develop to its full potential following the Board's strategic direction.</p>

**Primary Job Purpose** The **National Head Coach** has overall responsibility to prepare and coach the 2008 Beijing Olympics team, develop and mentor coaches involved in TTA's High Performance Program and contribute significantly to the development of a High Performance infrastructure in Australia through planning, Coach Education and Junior Development.

**Key Relationships** The National Head Coach must be able to relate effectively with:

- The CEO
- The National Director of Coaching
- The Operations Manager
- The National High Performance Management Team members (including National Training Centre coaches)
- The National Coaching Committee members
- National squad members
- State Association office bearers
- The manager of the Beijing Olympic team
- The National Head Coach for Athletes with a Disability

## **KEY DUTIES**

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- In consultation with the CEO and the National High Performance Management Team, identify key strategies for the preparation of the Australian team to qualify and then compete at the 2008 Beijing Olympics in August 2008. These strategies would need to complement the TTA High Performance Plan 2006 – 2015.
- Communicate these strategies to Australian Squad members, National Training Centre coaches, players' private and or overseas coaches and the general table tennis community to ensure consistency within the TTA High Performance Program.
- Implement the strategies identified from the TTA High Performance Plan 2006 - 2015 through direct coaching of Australian squad members at the 4 x National Training Centres, at Australian Camps and at international competition to enable players to achieve success.
- Increase the knowledge base of the National Training Centre coaches, the National Coach for Athletes with a Disability and other High Performance coaches as identified by TTA to ensure a lasting legacy to the sport of table tennis in Australia by improving the standard of coaching.
- Work closely with the TTA National Director of Coaching to provide the opportunity for international best practice coaching methods to filter down to state and club level coaches.
- Assist (as able) in the development of TTA's fledgling Sports Medicine / Sports Science support program.
- Act as a member of the TTA National High Performance Management Team and the National Coaching Committee to communicate international best practice in coaching.

## **ISSUES AND CHALLENGES**

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Table Tennis Australia has a very limited budget for the preparation of the Australian team for the 2008 Beijing Olympics compared to other countries. The National Head Coach would have to display creativity and innovation to achieve the best results with limited resources. A Sports Medicine / Sports Science infrastructure has not been systematically established and would involve input from the National Head Coach.

Very few Australian Squad members play professionally (full time) with most working to support themselves or studying. The National Head Coach would need to recognise the various demands

outside of table tennis that players face.

The four National Training Centres are spread considerable distances apart throughout Australia and have varying coaching standards, numbers of players and support from their State Association.

Not all Australian Squad members are based in Australia meaning the National Head Coach would need to communicate the preparation details for Beijing to the international players and their coaches.

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POSITION OF NATIONAL HEAD COACH**

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### **A. Qualifications and Experience**

- Experience in working as National Team Coaching, including planning and physical preparation, sports psychology and sport sciences. A club coach with proven results and experience will also be considered.
- Experience in coach education at a National or international level
- A coaching, sports science and / or physical education degree would be an advantage.

### **B. Knowledge and Skills**

- Good command of the English language – both verbal and written
- Multi-skilled background and life experience

### **C. Personal Attributes**

- Passion and ambition to achieve success with limited resources
- Excellent people skills, ability to build rapport with a variety of people and the ability to resolve conflicts
- Self motivated, responsible and hard working
- Ability to inspire others to share the vision of excellence and success in the high performance culture in Australia
- Flexibility and adaptability to the Australian system and culture

## **KEY RESULT AREAS**

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- Development of strategies for preparation for the Beijing Olympics 2008
- Beijing 2008 – maximum qualification according to quotas (3 men and 3 women)
- Beijing 2008 – qualification from the group stage
- World Championships 2008 – top 30 finish Men and top 20 finish Women teams (Currently Women 28 & Men 46)
- World Junior Championships 2008 – qualification of boys and girls' teams
- World Junior Championships 2007 – top 10 finish for boys (finished 10<sup>th</sup> in 2006)
- World Cadet Challenge 2008 – qualification of 1 boy and 1 girl
- World Junior Circuit 2008 – medallist in selected tournament
- Conduct Level 2 and 3 coaching courses
- National Training Camps for Seniors and Juniors

Further information may be gained by contacting Bronwyn Marshall (TTA CEO) on 617 3369 4999 or at [ceo@tabletennis.org.au](mailto:ceo@tabletennis.org.au) or Neil Harwood (TTA Board Member) at [nharwood@southcom.com.au](mailto:nharwood@southcom.com.au)

## APPLICATIONS

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Applicants must submit the following in order to be considered for the position:

1. Brief letter of introduction
2. Resume
3. A document that demonstrates suitability for the position by providing information about each of the “**Requirements for the Position of Head Coach**” e.g. each dot point in
  - A. Qualifications and Experience
  - B. Knowledge and Skills
  - C. Personal Attributes

**Applications close on the 31<sup>st</sup> of May and must be submitted in electronic format to [ceo@tabletennis.org.au](mailto:ceo@tabletennis.org.au)**

Further information may be gained by contacting Ms Bronwyn Marshall (TTA CEO) on 617 3369 4999 or [ceo@tabletennis.org.au](mailto:ceo@tabletennis.org.au) or Mr Neil Harwood (TTA Board Member) at [nharwood@southcom.com.au](mailto:nharwood@southcom.com.au).

Mr Neil Harwood will also be in attendance at the World Individual Championships in Zagreb.