

Alberta Slalom Canoe Kayak Association (ASCK) is searching for a High-Performance Head Coach or the right person to develop into our High-Performance Coach.

Please send your resume and cover letter to: albertaslalom@gmail.com

Deadline February 15, 2023

Job Status

- Full-time salary position
- The successful candidate will report directly to the Alberta Slalom liaison appointed by the board and is accountable to the Board of Directors
- Compensation and benefits will be negotiated based on qualifications and experience

General Description / Location

The Head Coach position for Alberta is located in Calgary, AB. The Head Coach is accountable for the development of whitewater slalom athletes capable of achieving world-class performances while contributing to the physical, psychological, and social development of each athlete entrusted under his/her care. Candidates should be familiar with coaching slalom kayaking, the Canadian sport system, and general non-profit activities. We value collaboration, ongoing learning and above else fun!

Organizational Scope

ASCK is the recognized authority by Alberta Whitewater Association (AWA) and Canoe Kayak Canada (CKC) on all whitewater slalom disciplines (Canoe, Kayak, SUP, and Kayak Cross) in the Province of Alberta.

- All staff employed by ASCK are required to facilitate the achievement of its long-term vision and planned annual targets. All personnel are required to operate within the policies and procedures as established by the Board of Directors and are expected to act consistently with the association's values.
- Alberta Slalom is a not for profit society that receives financial contributions from the federal/provincial government and other agencies, organizations, and corporate sponsors, and is accountable for the disbursement and reporting of funds according to the contracted terms and conditions. Programs, activities, and services are operated within the limitations established in an annual operating budget approved by the Board of Directors.

Specific Responsibilities

High Performance Program

- All aspects of athlete development and preparation for members of the Alberta High Performance (HP), High Performance Lite (HPL) and Winter Development Programs (WDP).
- Planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of High-Performance athlete training and preparation for competition at National and International events.
- Develops and implements the preparation of athlete training programs. Discusses these programs with the athletes and monitors their training.
- Prepare Annual, Monthly & Weekly training plans for HP program athletes, working with individuals to set goals and individual training including dryland training.
- Facilitate athlete testing (field and lab) in order to track progress and assess program success.
- Coordinate with the programs of the CKC to avoid duplication of services
- Maintains regular communication with athletes in all seasons
- Evaluates the performance of his/her discipline athletes, team and documents this evaluation for use in ongoing performance analysis.

Youth, Adult and Development program

- Produce and direct the implementation of year-round training plans for Youth, Adult and Development program athletes in all disciplines, Kayak, Canoe, SUP and Kayak Cross.
- Facilitate preparation of development athletes for the High-Performance Program by encouraging club coaches to focus on:
 - Developing strong whitewater & technical skills
 - Developing physical training through strength and conditioning and fitness work
 - Introducing mental and tactical training for competitions
 - Liaise with Club Coaches and National Coaches for optimal athlete development
 - Monitor and support club programs through club coaches so that athletes are prepared for the Youth and Development program

All programing

- Work to recruit, develop and retain long-term athletes, in an accessible, healthy, fun and safe paddling environment.
- Create an ethical and respectful environment with open, honest, timely and transparent communication.
- Promote sportsman like conduct and teamwork that extends into the community.
- Encourage parental engagement, support, and participation of volunteers.
- Work with key ASCK Board Members, and the AWA director in identifying clear objectives for competitions and training camps and communicates these to the athletes.
- Prepare the annual program plan that identifies competitions for approval by the

board and communicates this information to athletes.

- The prepared annual program plans will identify competitions, number of athletes, required equipment and support personnel for the purpose of budget preparation.
- Advise athletes on appropriate equipment and assist athletes in procurement.
- Organizes and directs the training and competitive activities of the athletes for which he/she is assigned. Controls these activities when athletes are under his/her direct responsibility.
- Collaborate, arrange for special assessments/workshops & implement recommendations from recognized sport science providers.
- Maintain a safe sport environment both on and off the water and immediately notify the ASCK Board of any unsafe incidents, conditions, or situations.
- Maintain good communication with athletes and parents.
- Travel with athletes to attend training camps and races locally, inter- provincially, nationally, and possibly internationally.
- Operate ASCK van as shuttle for athletes.

Coach Mentoring

- The Head Coach is expected to create mentoring opportunities for assistant coaches and club coaches in the area of Whitewater Slalom.

Slalom Management

The Head Coach shares responsibility with the AWA Executive Director for the organization and management of the ASCK Programs & initiatives including:

- Managing provincial development camps
- Assisting with selection and Evaluating Assistant Coaches
- Promoting of the Alberta HP Program to the Canadian whitewater slalom community and the public
- Promoting Slalom Canoe/Kayak and its interests in Alberta
- Supporting clubs with workshops and club coaches with training opportunities
- The position is one of high public visibility and as such it is imperative that the Coach represents ASCK, its athletes, staff, volunteers, and sponsors in a positive fashion at all times.

Travel

- The Head Coach will be required to travel to domestic and international events including camps and competitions throughout the year.

Qualifications:

Education

The High-Performance Head Coach should have extensive knowledge and experience in the sport of Slalom Canoe Kayak, including:

- Technical, Tactical, Physical, Mental Preparation
- Safe Sport Training and Level 3 Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC) is mandatory.
- First Aid
- Swiftwater Rescue
- Experience in leading river trips, organizing/hosting special events, and assisting volunteers.
- Competitive Slalom K1 and/or C1 experience at the National and International Level
- ASCK supports additional training, development, and upgrades, on a case-by-case basis.
- Experience with other disciplines (SUP, Polo, Freestyle, Creek racing) is an asset
- It is expected that the Head Coach will have an understanding of the scientific basis of training and peaking for performance and will take advantage of all opportunities to develop this knowledge. To this end, the Head Coach will be responsible for the completion of all available levels of the CAC National Coaching Certification Program, both technical and theory, or their equivalents or hold an equivalent national coaching certification.
- A class 5 driver's license and willing to obtain a class 4 driver's license if required.

Skills / Background

- Experienced coach with a progressive track record of coaching athletes
- Show evidence of working effectively within a team, possessing excellent planning, interpersonal, management and organizational skills, and can motivate and inspire others
- Have good written and oral communication skills (fluent in English).
- Experience of applying aspects of sports science, medicine and technology to improve performance
- Evidence of the ability to think innovatively and use experience and knowledge from other sports or fields to accomplish excellence
- Key personal qualities include adaptability, commitment, drive, and innovation
- Strong computer literacy

- Bilingual (French/English) would be seen as an asset

2023 Proposed Summer Schedule:

- Fri, Apr 21-Sun, Apr 23 - Attend 2023 Whitewater Leadership Symposium
- April 29-Penguin Race
- May 13-14 – Junior / U23 National Slalom Team Trials – Kananaskis
- May 27-28 – Harvie Passage Open
- June-Aug Evenings at Harvie Passage – All disciplines slalom Wed. TD development, Adult Tuesdays, or Fridays with Adult Races (to be confirmed)
- Jun 10-11 – Kananaskis Open
- Jul 20-23 – Alberta Summer Games
- Jul 29-30 – Toby Creek Race
- August 21-27 – 2023 Nationals Championships - Minden, ON
- September 9-10 – Provincials
- September 23-24 – Harvie Passage Classic

Created – December 2022