

LUNTA & NFL Academy Performance Nutritionist

Job Ref: REQ240847

As part of the University's ongoing commitment to redeployment, please note that this vacancy may be withdrawn at any stage of the recruitment process if a suitable redeployee is identified.

Background

Loughborough University National Tennis Academy (LUNTA) - About the Programme

Loughborough University National Tennis Academy (LUNTA) is a transformational environment for elite junior international tennis players and forms part of the Lawn Tennis Association's (LTA) Player Pathway, targeted at developing a greater number of professional players inside the senior top 100 in both the Men's and Women's game. The individualized, pro-style, interdisciplinary training environment tailored specifically to prepare players for the demands of professional tennis supports players between the ages of 14-18 years old (as young as 11 in exceptional circumstances).

Our philosophy is centred around providing accelerated progress and where whole chapters of development can be turned, as well as pages. Our mission is to develop Great People, Great Performers and Great Tennis Players, through high player-care and valuing the pursuit of excellence. We are a National Tennis Academy aimed at taking players on their journey to the top of U18 International Tennis and supporting their progress beyond through a quality academic experience, coaching excellence, leading performance support and unrivalled training and competition programmes.

The National Football League Academy (NFL) – About the Programme

The NFL Academy (UK) is one of only two academies in the world (the other based in Australia) dedicated to developing talented athletes from across the globe into elite-level American football players, with a focus on advancing to Division 1 collegiate programs in the United States. Located in the UK, the Academy is a partnership between the NFL, Loughborough University, and Loughborough College.

This collaboration offers athletes access to world-class coaching, cutting-edge sports science, state-of-the-art facilities, and a balanced academic program. The Academy combines elite American football training with a focus on academic education and personal development, helping athletes succeed both on and off the field. The ultimate goal is to prepare students for success in top collegiate football programs and future professional careers.

Loughborough Sport is committed to the development of aspiring coaches and practitioners through elite sport in the UK. Supporting around 700 funded athletes, scholars, and first team athletes across a range of sports and athletic disciplines, we provide a unique environment to develop a range of skills within an interdisciplinary sports program. This is an opportunity for an aspiring practitioner to join our Performance Nutrition team in delivering support to our Performance Programmes.

Job Description

Job Grade: Operational Services Grade 5 (Full-Time) Job Split 0.5FTE LUNTA & 0.5FTE NFL Academy

Job Purpose

- To deliver performance nutrition support to the Loughborough University National Tennis Academy (LUNTA) & The NFL Academy, to optimise physical preparedness for competition.

Main Roles and Responsibilities

- Deliver, organise and review nutrition support for National Tennis Academy Players & NFL Academy Players. This will include the delivery of workshops, one-on-one consultations and group sessions to athletes as part of both the Academy Performance Plan and Individual Development Plans for players.
- Help foster relationships with National Tennis Academy & NFL Academy coaches to organise and plan appropriate and novel support mechanisms for sports nutrition to athletes.
- Help foster relationships with other support staff (strength & conditioning, performance analysis, psychology and sports medicine) to contribute to the delivery of the agreed support programme whilst maintaining relationships within the interdisciplinary team (IDT).
- Help foster a food first approach to nutrition among athletes, coaches and performance support teams.
- Foster relationships and work with the Academy's partner education provider, Loughborough Amherst School, in the provision of world-class nutrition support whilst at School within the Boarding environment
- Create and deliver plans and strategies that influence or change behaviour to improve nutritional habits of athletes, coaches and performance support staff.
- Alongside the Head of Performance Support/Strength and Conditioning Lead, communicate key messages on player progress to parents and develop a relationship that encourages our nutrition support philosophy at home
- Keep up-to-date with current research and development in sports nutrition and science, and where appropriate apply this to the work carried out
- Produce resource materials for athletes, coaches and performance support.
- A willingness to engage with and support continuous professional development through internal and external opportunities e.g. journal articles, case review, conferences and courses.
- Assist in the development of key relationships between Loughborough Sport, School of Sport, Exercise and Health Sciences (SSEHS), Lawn Tennis Association, Loughborough Amherst School, The National Football League and other partners.
- Undertake additional duties as requested by your line manager from time to time.
- All aspects of administration and co-ordination involved with the role. This includes basic administration such as photocopying, filing, co-ordination of meetings, minute taking and handling telephone calls

Points To Note

The purpose of this job description is to indicate the general level of duties and responsibility of the post. The detailed duties may vary from time to time without changing the general character or level of responsibility entailed.

Special Conditions

It will be necessary to work outside normal office hours, including some work in the evenings and at weekends.

All staff have a statutory responsibility to take reasonable care of themselves, others and the environment and to prevent harm by their acts or omissions. All staff are therefore required to adhere to the University's Health, Safety and Environmental Policy & Procedures.

All staff should hold a duty and commitment to observing the commitment to the University's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion policies at all times.

Successful completion of probation will be dependent on attendance at the University's mandatory courses which include Belonging and Inclusion and, where appropriate, Recruitment and Selection.

Organisational Responsibility

Reports to the Head of Performance Support/Strength and Conditioning Lead for the National Academy. The post holder will also integrate within the wider Performance Nutrition Team at Loughborough Sport, offering the opportunity for development, networking, and connection with the Performance Nutrition Lead.

Person Specification

Your application will be reviewed against the essential and desirable criteria listed below. Applicants are strongly advised to explicitly state and evidence how they meet each of the essential (and desirable) criteria in their application. Stages of assessment are as follows:

- 1 – Application
- 2 – Test/Assessment Centre/Presentation
- 3 – Interview

Essential Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Previous experience of providing performance nutrition support to a variety of sports and coaches, both teams and individuals.	1,2,3
	Experience of carrying out nutritional data analysis, interpreting test results and providing feedback to athletes and coaches.	1,2,3
	Experience in the delivery of 1-to-1 nutrition consultations, needs analyses and athlete education sessions.	1,2,3
	Experience of delivering nutrition support to athletes and coaches to improve performance	1,3
Skills & abilities	Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.	3
	Ability to work cooperatively, flexibly and to meet deadlines.	1,3
	Ability to translate nutrition science into practical food advice.	
	Excellent organisational and time management skills.	1,3
	A sound working knowledge of basic office PC packages in order to produce reports and presentations.	1,3
	Familiar with Microsoft Office (i.e. Word, Access, Excel and PowerPoint)	1
Education/qualifications	Degree in Sport Science or related topic	1
	Postgraduate qualification in Performance Nutrition/Sports Nutrition or related discipline	1
	SENr graduate or registrant or equivalent registration (e.g. HCPC)	
Training	Willingness to undertake continued professional development.	1,3
Other	Willingness to work irregular hours as necessary, including evenings, weekends and bank holidays.	1,3
	To observe the University's Equal Opportunities Policy at all times.	1

Desirable Criteria

Area	Criteria	Stage
Experience	Experience of working as part of a multi-disciplinary team.	1,2,3
	Experience of working in a multisport environment	1,3
	Experience of producing educational resources for support programmes, particularly for elite performers.	1,2,3
	Experience of ordering, receiving and dealing with supplements in accordance with the SENr guidelines.	1,3
Education / Qualifications	ISAK Level 1 Body Composition Assessment.	1

	Level 2 Food safety	1
	UKAD Advisor or Clean Coach certificate	

Conditions of Service

The position is full time and fixed term. 0.5 FTE (NFL) until 31st August 2027 and 0.5 FTE (LUNTA) until 31st August 2029. Salary will be on [Operational Services Grade 5](#), starting salary to be confirmed on offer of appointment.

The appointment will be subject to the University's normal Terms and Conditions of Employment for Academic and Related staff/Operational and Administrative staff, details of which can be found [here](#).

The University is committed to enabling staff to maintain a healthy work-home balance and has a number of family-friendly policies which are available at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/family-leave-policy-and-procedure---page.html>.

We also offer an on-campus nursery with subsidised places, subsidised places at local holiday clubs and a childcare voucher scheme (further details are available at: <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/a-z/childcare-information---page.html>)

In addition, the University is supportive, wherever possible, of flexible working arrangements.

We also strive to create a culture that supports equity and celebrates diversity throughout the campus. The University holds a Bronze Athena SWAN award which recognises the importance of support for women at all stages of their academic career. For further information on Athena SWAN see <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/hr/athena-swan/>