



**WELLINGTON PHOENIX FOOTBALL CLUB
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

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| Business/Function: | Football Operations | Location: Wellington |
| Role: | A-League Women (ALW) Head Physiotherapist | Incumbent: Vacant |
| Purpose: | <p>The ALW Head Physiotherapist plays a pivotal role, alongside the A-League Rehab Physiotherapist, in optimising the physical health and well-being of female football players within the Wellington Phoenix A-League Women’s programme. This position demands a profound understanding of physiotherapy principles tailored to football-specific requirements, coupled with the ability to create and implement comprehensive rehabilitation programs aligned with the high-performance needs of female professional footballers. As an integral member of a multi-disciplinary team, the ALW Head Physiotherapist will assume a leadership role in overseeing and executing the clubs physiotherapy and rehabilitation programs for female players.</p> <p>The successful candidate will contribute to the Wellington Phoenix Board's long-term vision of building a financially self-sustaining club that upholds the highest standards of football excellence on the field and maintains optimal corporate governance off the field.</p> <p>In line with the club's mission, the ALW Head Physiotherapist will actively contribute to fostering a football culture where talent is developed and nurtured within a framework of excellence. On the field, the objective is to implement physiotherapy strategies that support a possession-based playing style – one that is competitive, high-performing, and highlights the best of the talent within the club.</p> | |
| Reports To: | <p>Director of Football Indirect report to ALW Head Coach and the A-Leagues Head Physiotherapist</p> | |
| Direct Reports: | <p>Nil</p> | |

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| <p>Responsibilities:</p> | <p>Injury Assessment and Rehabilitation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Lead the assessment and delivery of all ALW physiotherapy and comprehensive injury rehabilitation support for players, aligning with the club's physiotherapy philosophy. · Implement evidence-based treatment strategies to facilitate a prompt and safe return to play and performance. · Ensure that rehabilitation sessions for players are tailored to their specific needs, with a focus on individualised care where possible. · Design and implement appropriate injury prevention and rehabilitation programs. · Customise programs to address positional requirements, injury prevention, and the unique needs of individual players. · Prompt referrals to the appropriate person(s) such as: Club GP/Sports Dr/Club Psychologist/radiology etc where appropriate. <p>Injury Prevention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Collaborate in physical testing procedures, ensuring accurate recording and interpretation of data. · Design and implement injury prevention programs to mitigate the risk of common football-related injuries and to support the physical development of the players. · Work closely with the coaching staff to integrate injury prevention strategies into training sessions. · Utilise the club's athlete monitoring platform for continuous evaluation of player progress and well-being. · Apply data analysis (including GPS and workload monitoring) to inform the design and adjustment of individualised prehabilitation programs. <p>Emergency and Primary Care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Be prepared to provide immediate and effective emergency care in the event of on and off field injuries or medical emergencies. · Provide matchday and training support, including regular travel to Australia, injury assessments, taping, and immediate care if needed (including accompanying players to hospital/medical centre's as necessary) <p>Wellness & Data Monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Monitor player progress and well-being through the club's athlete monitoring platform (e.g. Kitman Labs) · Making decisions on reported injury or wellness and communicating this with the medical and/or operations staff <p>Research and Innovation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Stay informed about the latest advancements in physiotherapy, strength and conditioning, sports science, and injury rehabilitation. · Integrate evidence-based practices to continually enhance the effectiveness of the ALW physiotherapy and training programs. |
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| | <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Maintain excellent and regular communication with all ALW staff. · In conjunction with the A-Leagues Head Physiotherapist and the Football Operations Manager, establish who leads various Physiotherapy supplier partnerships/ relationships within the overall A-Leagues Physio Department. |
| <p>Skills & Ability:</p> | <p>Clinical Expertise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Possess a strong foundation in physiotherapy principles, specialising in sports-related injuries and rehabilitation for females athletes. <p>Sports-Specific Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Have a deep understanding of sports biomechanics and physiology to tailor treatment plans for athletes. <p>Psychosocial and Cultural Awareness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Recognise and address the psychosocial aspects of sports injuries, providing support to athletes during rehabilitation, and demonstrate cultural competence when working with diverse backgrounds. <p>Communication Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Exhibit excellent communication skills and emotional intelligence to convey complex medical information clearly to athletes, parents, coaching and medical staff. <p>Collaboration and Teamwork:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Work collaboratively with healthcare professionals, coaches, and support staff for holistic athlete care. <p>Adaptability and Prevention Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Demonstrate flexibility in managing dynamic sports environments and implement effective injury prevention strategies. |
| <p>Knowledge & Experience:</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in sports medicine, event coordination, and the elite sports industry, with specific football knowledge. • Excellent communication skills, knowledge of international sports science best practices, and familiarity with local player development pathways are also valuable assets. • Experience of leading a group or contract(s) within a previous physiotherapy based organisation • Dealing with ACC, referrals to radiology groups and specialists within the local regions of Wellington / Hutt Valley |

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| Leadership: | Leadership and Mentorship: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Co-lead a physiotherapy department, providing guidance, mentorship, and professional development opportunities. · Foster a positive and collaborative team culture within the strength and conditioning department. · To personally champion and drive a culture of continuous improvement throughout the organisation · To act as an ambassador for, and promote the best interests of the Club at all times |
| Key Relationships: | Internal: Academy Physiotherapists, A Leagues Physiotherapist, A-Leagues and Academy Coaches, A-League and Academy Operations Manager, Club Doctors, A-Leagues and Academy Sports Scientists, General Manager, A-Leagues Management Staff External: Sponsors, corporate partners, other A-League clubs. |
| Key Competencies: | Essential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · A Bachelor's degree in Physiotherapy, or equivalent is required · Masters of physiotherapy or desire to study further is desirable but not necessary. · Minimum of two years physiotherapy experience in football or other sports required. · Current First Aid Certificate is required. · Full Drivers Licence. · Ability to work Monday to Sunday (subject to the requirement of the business). |

Agreed By:

Incumbent:

Date:

Director of Football

Date: