



SENIOR ACADEMY COACH

We're introducing this exciting role to coach and develop the next generation of future Dragons. The role is key in ensuring the Dragons are successful both on and off field and ensuring that the academy is stocked with talent for the future.

We are a professional rugby club that operates from the famous rugby ground Rodney Parade Newport, South Wales. Our training facilities are based in the heart of our community and we compete in the United Rugby Championship, a multi-nation competition that pits the best Welsh, Scottish, Irish, Italian and South African talent against each other.

YOUR ROLE WILL BE TO:

Player Development:

- Design and deliver high-quality coaching sessions tailored to the needs and abilities of senior academy players, focusing on skill development, game understanding, and tactical awareness.
- Provide individualized coaching and feedback to support the growth and progression of each player within the academy.

Teams:

- Lead and manage academy teams during training sessions, matches, and tournaments, instilling a culture of discipline, teamwork, and excellence.
- Collaborate with other coaching staff to ensure a cohesive and integrated approach to player development across all levels of the academy.

Talent Identification and Recruitment:

- Work closely with talent identification staff to identify and recruit talented young players to the academy, both locally and regionally.
- Develop and maintain relationships with local clubs, schools, and representative teams to identify and nurture potential academy recruits.

Performance Analysis:

- Utilize performance analysis tools and methodologies to review and evaluate player and team performance, identifying areas for improvement and development.
- Work with performance analysis staff to integrate data-driven insights into coaching sessions and player feedback.

Professional Development:

- Stay abreast of the latest coaching techniques, trends, and best practices within the sport of rugby union.
- Pursue opportunities for professional development and accreditation to enhance coaching knowledge and skills.

Dragons Pathway

- You will be one of two senior coaches in the Performance Development pathway liaising with key partners and stakeholders to ensure the continued development of players
- As part of the role, you will support the U18, 16s, NCL and other identified partners to develop coach CPD programmes specifically defence and contact area.
- You will also work as part of our A-team programme with specific responsibility for defence and contact area.

YOU'LL WANT TO DO THIS JOB IF:

- A detailed planner who understands the planning cycles of the developing athlete.
- Able to develop a programme of activities that will drive the development of the young athlete.
- Be able to critically evaluate programmes on an individual and team basis.
- Develop strong relationships with athletes and staff to be able to deliver effective physical development programmes.
- Be able to implement an annual calendar of events to monitor and track the physical development of athletes and programmes.

YOU SHOULD HAVE:

- Experience of coaching forwards and contact in a performance setting.
- Experience within a high-performance sports environment.
- Currently hold a Level 3 or working towards the qualification.
- A degree sports coaching or equivalent is essential.
- Experience of working within a sports team environment.
- Knowledge of inter-disciplinary working practices
- Understanding of nutritional demands of high performance sport.