



Position:	Assistant Coach – U18 Junior Black Sox Men’s Team
Position Type:	Volunteer – Fixed term for April Test Series
Reports to:	Junior Black Sox Head Coach
Location:	Flexible

Softball New Zealand/Poiuka Aotearoa

Our Vision: Whakakitenga – we want softball to be a sport for life. One that evolves as it needs to, is enjoyed by all those who connect with the game in any capacity and is characterised by success.

Softball in Aotearoa is a whānau sport. Across the generations the sport brings families and communities together for play and enjoyment. A truly gender equal game, softball is alive with growth and opportunity with over 20,000 participants nationwide. It is also a game popular with Māori and Pacific families who make up more than 60% of the game’s participants.

Softball New Zealand is the national sporting organisation charged with the responsibility of leading softball in New Zealand. We ensure our Men’s Black Sox and Women’s White Sox teams are competitive on the world stage; we develop and deliver quality national sports programmes at community and high-performance level; and we run world class events and tournaments.

About the role

We are seeking a dedicated Assistant Coach for the U18 Junior Black Sox Men’s Team. This short-term position involves supporting the selection and coaching of the team for a test-series against Australia under 18, scheduled for the 4th-6th of April. The position will conclude at the end of the series. Preference will be given to those with previous experience working with, and knowledge of, the current group of athletes eligible for selection.

Key Responsibilities

- To support the holistic development of athletes so that they can move successfully through the national pathway.
- Assist the Head Coach with talent identification and selection of the athletes to be included in squads and teams throughout the campaign
- Assist in the implementation and delivery of the campaign preparation in consultation with the head coach

- Provide expert coaching and programme support to the Head Coach
- Liaise with the Regional Associations U18 coaches and regional Softball Associations
- Adhere with the requirements of relevant Softball New Zealand Policies

Qualifications, Experience and Skills

- The ability to work within a team
- The ability to communicate effectively
- A minimum of 2 years' experience in preparing softball players at a provincial level, and knowledge of contemporary trends in softball.
- Proven methodologies in the development of talent and performance.
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Superior organisational skills.
- Be an integral member of the Softball New Zealand High Performance Staff and take a collaborative approach toward the greater development of elite softball.
- Able to work irregular hours with the capacity to travel domestically and internationally for team commitments.

This is a volunteer role. Softball New Zealand will pay all reasonable expenses incurred when the role holder is involved in approved team activities.

The successful candidate will be required to complete the Sport Integrity Commission – Child Safeguarding and protection course.

Relationships:

Main internal stakeholders	SNZ CEO GM High Performance Junior Black Sox Head Coach SNZ Business Support Administrator National pathway coaches, management, and players
Main external stakeholders	Regional associations World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) Commercial partners