



JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE: Football Research and Methodology Analyst
DEPARTMENT: Performance Analysis
REPORTS TO: Head of Performance and Research
LOCATION: The Sir Jack Hayward Training Ground, Compton Park, Wolverhampton
HOURS: 37.5 hours per week
DATE: October 2020

We are Wolves. Progressive, determined, bright, unified and humble. A pack that is hungry for success. Wolves is one of the fastest growing professional football clubs in the UK, and also boasts one of the richest histories in the beautiful game.

Formed in 1877, Wolves was a founder member of the Football League, and was one of the country's most successful sides in the fifties and sixties. During a two decade spell the Black Country's most decorated side won three First Division titles and one of its four FA Cups.

Fast forward to 2020, where an incredible three seasons at Molineux has seen Wolves clinch the Sky Bet Championship trophy with 99 points, followed by a seventh-place finish in the Premier League, which included memorable wins over Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur, Chelsea and Arsenal. This season we have completed the double over the reigning champions, have equalled last season's seventh place finish in the league and reached the quarter finals of the Europa League.

But at Wolves it is all about what we will do, not what we have done.

We don't simply look to the future, we seize it.

We take seriously our commitment to the safeguarding of children and adults at risk and to ensuring that Wolves is free from discrimination and harassment.

Job purpose

There has never been a more exciting time to work at Wolves. The club is in the process of developing practices, strategies and teams to deliver success at the very highest level. This has never been as important as it is now in supporting performance on the field of play.

The club is in the process of developing its Performance Analysis and Research department, enabling even greater quality and depth in the service provided across the club. The successful candidate will be responsible for developing the best practice framework, regular trend and research analysis across Wolves' performance, the Premier League, as well as other global football trends, whilst supporting the 1st Team analysts in pre and post-match analysis tasks.



Key responsibilities

- Develop and maintain performance KPI's relative to Wolves' performance throughout the season, relative to playing style and club strategy.
- Identify and maintain key measures for individual, unit and team performance relative to playing style.
- Utilise tactical, technical and physical measures to highlight Wolves playing style and identity.
- Build, monitor and regularly update Premier League databases (video and statistical) to cover league trends throughout the season.
- Create reports to be distributed to staff across the club from the data and video collected, highlighting the key trends.
- Using the video and data available through internal and external sources, maintain a database of best practice examples from the Wolves 1st Team to be used across the club for player/team/coach development.
- Maintain and develop the Best Practice framework across the 1st Team and Academy
- Research on new methodologies and technology to develop the workflow and processes used within analysis at the club.
- Link with recruitment department data analysts and video scouts to develop global trend analysis and knowledge across multiple leagues.
- Be a role-model of the club's values.

General responsibilities

- Compliance with Club policies
- Compliance with the Club's health and safety procedures
- Compliance with the Club's safeguarding policies
- To promote the Club's values
- To work consistently to embed equality & diversity into the Club
- To undertake such other duties as may be reasonably expected
- To maintain professional conduct at all times

Safeguarding

- This role involves working with children and/or vulnerable adults in a Regulated Activity (or in close proximity to children and/or vulnerable adults). This means that the post-holder is required to apply all relevant policies and uphold the Club's commitment to safeguarding vulnerable people.
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Key relationships

- Reporting to the Head of Performance and Research, working as part of a team of forward-thinking Performance Analysts, building strong relationships to provide an elite and relevant service to all departments.
- Develop strong relationships across all backroom staff, enabling a feeling of trust that they can contribute the required information as and when necessary to the highest possible standard.
- Build strong communication links with the Recruitment Department in sharing information, providing an insight through the KPI and trend reports produced, to enhance the recruitment process.
- Communication with the Academy in producing content relevant to enhance player and coach development through elite best practice examples from the Wolves 1st Team and Academy.
- Build good relationships with data and software companies to help support continued development of the department workflow and knowledge base.



Person Specification

Job Title: Football Research and Methodology Analyst

Knowledge: the level and breadth of knowledge to do the job e.g. understanding of a defined system, method or procedure, legal or regulatory frameworks etc

Essential

- A strong understanding of both the tactical and technical aspects of football.
- Previous experience of working in a professional football club.

Desirable

- Strong knowledge of coaches, players and playing styles globally.
- Ability to work with video, using a range of tools including SBG, SportsCode, iMovie, Wyscout.
- Operate within the rules of professional confidentiality to liaise with athletes, medical staff, sports sciences staff, coaches and other support staff as appropriate
- An understanding of individual responsibility in complying with Health and Safety policies
- Experience in working in an elite football environment

Technical/work-based skills: skills specific to the job e.g. language competence, typing skills, coaching skills etc

Essential

- Previous experience of working with data and ability to filter this into informative reports and to visualise data to highlight key messages.
- Strong use working with all Microsoft Office products (Excel, PowerPoint).

Desirable

- Experience using Apple products (including MacBook Pro).

General skills and attributes: more general characteristics e.g. flexibility, communication skills, team working etc

Essential

- Clear communication styles through written and verbal work.
- High levels of attention to detail.
- Positive attitude towards challenging tasks.
- Team player and ability to meet deadlines under pressure.
- Highly organised and able to structure/file work, making it easily accessible to colleagues.
- Ability to manage multiple tasks at the same time.
- Learning mentality, looking to constantly improve and pick up new skills/attributes.
- Ability to communicate complex data in terms that are easily understood by a wide range of audiences
- Ability to work irregular and unsociable hours as required involving work outside normal office hours, evenings, weekends and Bank Holidays

Experience: proven record of experience in a particular field, profession or specialism.

Essential

- Previous experience of working within professional sport.



Desirable

- Previous experience of working with Opta.
- Previous experience of Tableau (or similar data visualisation software).
- Previous experience of using Telestration tools to annotate video
- Previous experience within an 1st Team/Academy football MDT environment

Qualifications: the level of educational, professional and/or occupational training required

Essential

- A minimum 2:1 in a relevant Coaching/Sport Science related degree.
- Post-holder will be subject to a DBS check at the appropriate level and cleared by the Wolves Head of Safeguarding.

Desirable

- A Performance/Data Analysis postgraduate course.