Trail Kids Run+Orienteering Session Coach

The Loppet Foundation creates a shared passion for year-round, outdoor adventure in the Minneapolis area, focusing on underserved youth and families. The foundation provides quality programming for youth and adults, produces world class adventures and sporting events, and strives to create a welcoming and inclusive community in its operations in Theodore Wirth Park. The Loppet staff are dedicated and energetic individuals who work together leveraging the various aspects of the Foundation to create a whole that is more than the sum of its parts.

The Loppet Foundation is seeking part time running and orienteering coaches for our Trail Kids Run+Orienteering programs. Trail Kids programs center on general physical development, teaching sport-specific skills, and creating a passion in youth for outdoor endurance sports. Trail Kids coaches will be present during our youth programs to deliver a curriculum that focuses on having fun, making friends, and gaining confidence in the sport. Primarily, coaches lead instruction of various biking skills, facilitate games and drills to practice said skills, and supervise group rides on the singletrack trails.

Hours and Locations

Our programs are 1.5 hour practices that meet twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays in and near Theodore Wirth Park. We ask coaches to commit to both days per week to keep consistency with our coaching groups.

Responsibilities

- Arrive 15 minutes before practice begins to meet with the Lead Coach and go over the practice plan
- Help set up skill stations on which groups can practice skills
- Check Team App chats for late arrivals and parent communications
- Teach trail running and orienteering skills and lead games for youth as outlined in the training curricula and lesson plans
- Work with the Lead Coach to address any behavior issues that come up in coaching groups
- Supervise group rides on the local trails
- Lead games and skill practice (especially when trails may be closed)
- Oversee coaching groups by helping out with different groups on various nights
- Give feedback to participants and assess skill levels
- Provide an inclusive, equitable, and encouraging experience for all participants
- Participate in coaches meetings, debriefs, and training
- Evaluate and record ability levels for program participants

Provided Training and Certifications

All coaches need to go through the following training:
- Heads Up concussion certification
- Safe Sport certification
- Loppet Safety/First Aid presentation (online)
- Loppet Running and Orienteering Skill online and/or in-person sessions
- Loppet Run+Orienteering Coach Manual
- Mission-driven equity guidelines
Trail Kids coaches report to the Lead Coaches, who report to the Trail Kids Director. This is a seasonal hourly position at the Loppet Foundation. Pay range is between $15 and $17 per hour, depending on demonstrable experience. Volunteers are also welcome!

*We recognize the need for a diverse workforce and understand that traditionally underrepresented communities must be centered in the work we do. As a Foundation, we are committed to building a blended team that reflects the community we serve. Hence, we strongly encourage BIPOC, Indigenous and Queer-identified individuals to apply.*

**How to Apply**

No phone calls, no walks in. To apply please follow the instructions below precisely:

Email your interest to trailkids@loppet.org with an e-mail subject that reads exactly “Part Time Run+Orienteering Program Coach.” You may also email this address with questions about the position.