



## JOB DESCRIPTION

**JOB TITLE:** GROUNDSPERSON

**LOCATION:** DEVA STADIUM, BUMPERS LANE, CHESTER, CH1 4LT

**HOURS (PER WEEK):** 37.5 HOURS (INCLUDING ATTENDANCE AT ALL HOME FIXTURES)

**SALARY:** DEPENDANT ON EXPERIENCE (PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR SALARY EXPECTATIONS IN APPLICATION)

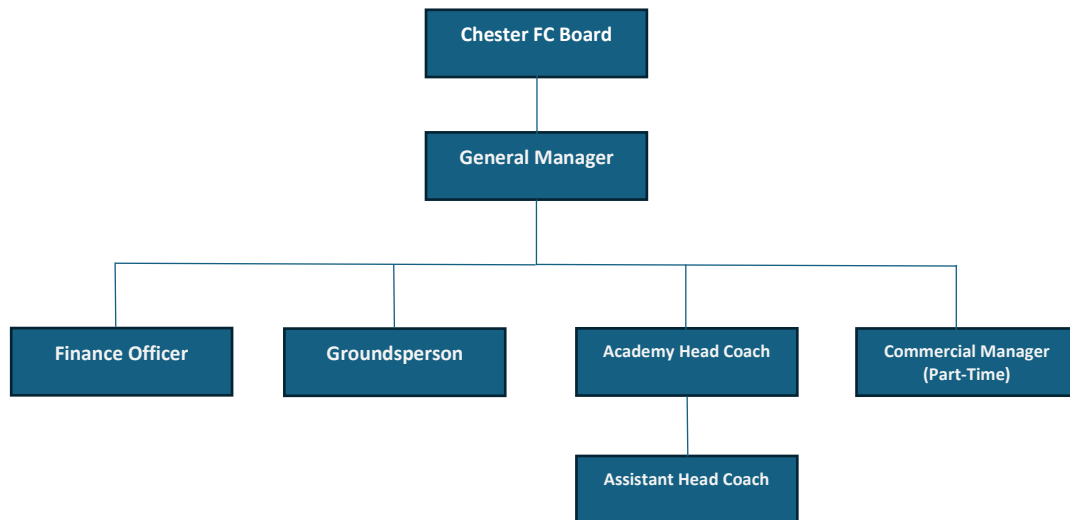
**CONTRACT TYPE:** FULL-TIME, PERMANENT

**REPORTS TO:** GENERAL MANAGER

**DATE:** June 2024

**JOB PURPOSE:** The role of the Groundsperson is to manage the stadium pitch and the associated grass and landscaping around the Ground so that the playing surface is in the best condition possible ultimately for the benefit of all who visit and/or play at Chester Football Club and to enhance its reputation.

### ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



### DIMENSIONS

- The current operating budget of the Club is c.£1.3M.

### CORE VALUES OF THE CLUB

- RESPECT
- INTEGRITY
- VISIONARY
- PASSION
- FANS FIRST



- BELIEF
- RELIABLE

#### **MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES**

- Present the pitch and stadium grounds to the highest standard for matches and events for the benefit of everyone involved with the Football Club
- Carry out ongoing pitch duties (grass cutting, watering, pitch marking and general match preparations) so that the playing surface is as good as possible for the players and the Manager
- Develop and implement work and fertiliser programmes to ensure the pitches are maintained to the highest possible standard
- Work with the General Manager to manage costs for all work undertaken so that these are kept within the agreed budget and overspends/underspends are mutually agreed
- Ensure machinery is maintained and serviced to an acceptable standard so that equipment is available at the right time
- Maintain irrigation and drainage systems to support all aspects of pitch maintenance
- Operate and undertake the basic maintenance of hand driven and ride-on mowing equipment, hedge cutters, strimmers, etc to the required safety standards and using the appropriate Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) so that work is undertaken safely
- Ensure the Stadium's exterior grounds are maintained and the grass mown as needed so that the overall appearance of the Club is welcoming and presentable for supporters and other visitors.
- Monitor the surrounding areas of the building for maintenance work needed, undertaking the smaller jobs as required and reporting the larger issues to the relevant Director so that appropriate action can be taken at the right time
- Build and maintain good communication with Club Directors, the General Manager and other staff to develop mutual understanding of the ongoing challenges with not only the playing surface of the pitch but also the surrounding grounds. Work with all these colleagues to find out where grants and/or sponsorship can be had to support pitch maintenance and improvement
- Liaise with the relevant Director(s) to organise volunteer support for the grounds and building maintenance function so that there is additional resource for cutting the grass, putting on/taking off grounds covers or undertaking small jobs (e.g. painting) as needed, and that such volunteers are able to operate machinery safely

#### **PLANNING AND ORGANISING**

- The job holder's work is largely week-to-week, particularly during the Football Season where the demands on the pitch have to be managed and the pressure is on to ensure the grass is right for the games in whatever weather conditions.
- Presenting and managing an end of season/closed season pitch renovation programme ensuring the required work is carried out by suppliers

#### **INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS**

- Liaising with the First Team Manager on a regular basis to ensure pitches are appropriately prepared for matches
- Maintaining and creating relationships with key suppliers to order products and services where required

#### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

- NVQ Level 3 in Sports Turf Management or equivalent (desirable)
- Level 2 Certificate in the safe use of pesticides (desirable)
- Experience in working on professional sports pitches (desirable)
- Strong communication and organisational skills
- The ability to remain calm under pressure



#### **OTHER CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION/SPECIAL FEATURES**

Chester Football Club is supporter-owned and has a clear ethos of being financially sustainable and community focused while striving to play at the highest level possible in the English pyramid. All staff are expected to uphold this ethos, comply with all club policies and procedures and the relevant legislative and regulatory requirements while promoting a positive image of Chester Football Club and City Fans United. The job holder will be expected to fulfil any other duties commensurate with the level of the post that may be required from time to time and that this can include evening and weekend work.