

## Berkshire AGM England Squash and Racketball Update

I'm here on behalf of Amanda Robinson, who is the Regional Manager for England Squash and Racketball for the South, as she is away on annual leave this week. She has asked me to go through a few updates which will hopefully give you an overview of what ESR are doing and how we will be working over the coming year.

Firstly, ESR are currently undergoing an organisational re-structure which will affect the current coaching workforce. As the National Governing Body we have some challenging targets to meet over the next two years, our Sport England funding agreement contains some robust commitments that we must meet, and like all businesses in difficult economic times, we must ensure that we are getting maximum value out of our resources.

We are evaluating our employed coaching workforce with the firm view of not renewing fixed term contracts beyond their expiry dates (most of which fall this summer). The current overheads and on-costs associated with employing a coach delivery workforce are simply not financially viable when aligned to our overarching strategic targets. We are however looking at ways in which we can contract specific regional and local activity/projects from a pool of people who are able to coach, facilitate, enable and influence squash and racketball across all regions. We see this as a real opportunity to work closely with our key partners and achieve our joint objectives. It is our intention to try to do more with less (work smarter!). The operational budgets of the Network and Performance teams have been significantly enhanced to meet this need.

It is fully our intention to continue developing the sorts of services that the coaching workforce have been engaged on.

Over the coming year we will obviously be working in a different way and our monitoring will also be changing. We have in the past monitored our success of growth through Participation forms completed by coaches however from June 2011 onwards we will be monitoring court usage at peak, off peak and weekend times. We will hopefully be able to see an increase in court usage where we have helped implement programmes and also track trends across clubs, local authority facilities and universities. If you could assist Marie in gathering this data on a quarterly basis it will hopefully benefit your club and allow us to support you in gaining new members. This in turn will also mean increased revenue for your club and more development opportunities. We will try to make this data collection process as easy as possible with the hope of it taking only 5mins of your time.

Secondly, we have a regional newsletter that gets sent out on the 28<sup>th</sup> of every month and would welcome any stories, articles, reports etc from anyone. Things can include photo's and reports on events that have taken place as well as entry forms for up and coming competitions. We also have a monthly feature called "Volunteer of the Month" which we would love nominations for. This is to recognise the hard work and commitment from our valued volunteers across the region. All information on the newsletter needs to be sent to Marie Gook (Regional Administrator) on [marie.gook@englandsquashandracketball.com](mailto:marie.gook@englandsquashandracketball.com) or phone 01296 585877. Within the newsletter we try to provide readers with funding updates which will hopefully help clubs apply for money to benefit their club. Recent funding opportunities and sports scheme updates have included Sportivate, Mars Refuel and the

Asda Sporting Chance Programme. If you are not on the distribution list and would like to be included please let Marie know or tell me at the end of tonight's meeting.

Finally if I can finish off by asking members to activate their ESR memberships by going online and clicking on the "Activate" button. Basically members who activate their membership can receive special offers for example 2 for 1 entries to theme parks, museums etc and discounts off hotel bookings. Activating your membership takes approximately 1 minute and provides members a whole host of benefits including whether they want to receive the squash player magazine 3 times a year.

Should anyone have any queries or questions please do not hesitate in contacting Amanda.