



Netball Dorset
Coaching Director Report
March 2025

At the beginning of February I sent out my first email to the list of club contacts from the ND website and to any coach I already had details for in the area. The email is due to be a monthly newsletter that includes details of any clubs looking for coaches, coaches looking for clubs and any CPD opportunities I am aware of (online, in person and also out of county). If any coaches are not currently receiving it and would like to please contact me directly with your details.

Through some of the responses and conversations I've subsequently had with clubs, I am aware of at least 3 clubs that have players wanting to train and play but a lack of coaches to support them. Not only does there seem to be a lack of volunteers but also a lack of available coaching courses when people are identified as willing to help. There has been some discussion over Europe Netball courses which seem to be more readily available than the England Netball courses. The reality is some clubs appear stuck between not having the staff and feel they are not able to use these courses to have volunteers obtain qualifications as they aren't recognised in any way by England Netball or their insurance. Debates continue on social media platforms (most recently on Facebook groups) with a focus on insurance, which Europe Netball have responded to advising coaches to obtain individual insurance to cover themselves. I feel it would be beneficial for the board to consider a formal stance on this to help guide clubs as to whether they can use these courses or not and what they need in place if they wish to do so.

The actions carried over from the previous board regarding a possible coaching conference and sessions will be something I intend to look at later on in the year, once the playoff events and summer tournaments are out of the way. The hope is that we can then provide an opportunity for when most coaches have the availability to attend to ensure a good turnout.

Sam Shewbridge
Coaching Director
Samshevie-24@yahoo.co.uk