Goalball UK Assistant Performance Coach

This voluntary post closes to applications at midday on Friday 12th April

# About Goalball UK

Goalball is a fast-paced, action-packed, 3-a side indoor game of attack and defence designed for people who are blind or partially sighted. It is a unique Paralympic sport, with no Olympic equivalent and is played by both men and women.

Funded by the National Lottery and Exchequer, through both Sport England and UK Sport, Goalball UK is the governing body, with charitable status, responsible for the sport of goalball in the UK.

We are about to launch our Empowering People Strategy: As a core part of this strategy, we are committed to developing players from within our sport and building a robust and sustainable talent and performance pathway.

If you join Goalball UK, you will work in a progressive, caring, inclusive, charitable organisation that takes pride in truly ‘Transforming People’s Lives’.

We pride ourselves on being bold in our words and actions in supporting the ‘Goalball Community’ on their transformational journeys.

We are committed to challenging other inequalities and reducing the barriers to participation and improving the life chances of all people with a visual impairment (V.I.).

It is an exciting time to join Goalball UK, both men and women’s Great Britain teams have retained their position in the European A Championships, and we will be working towards achieving World Championship qualification for 2026 with the longer-term goal of qualifying for the Los Angeles 2028 Paralympic Games.

This role will be integral to our success in these games and beyond.

# About the role

An exciting opportunity to work in our Performance Programme as an Assistant Performance Coach (Voluntary), building on the commitment and efforts of athletes, staff, and volunteers within our sport in the UK.

We are looking for skilled, enthusiastic, innovative people to develop the coaching programmes, system, and individuals throughout the next Paralympic cycle.

These exciting positions will play a pivotal role in supporting the development of the Performance Programme, as well as the performance culture within our sport.

Applicants need not have previous experience with goalball, and we are particularly

interested in hearing from coaches with high performance experience from other

sports.

We will provide full training and CPD opportunities to support.

# How to apply

Closing date is Friday 12th April 2024 (Midday)

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Gary Fraser, Goalball UK High Performance Lead at [gary.fraser@goalballuk.com](mailto:gary.fraser@goalballuk.com).

Please note that applications sent directly to this email address will not be accepted.

Please apply with a covering letter outlining your experience and skills for the role along with a current CV to Andrew Crawford at [andy@crawfordhr.com](mailto:andy@crawfordhr.com)

Interviews will be held online on a date to be confirmed in April 2024.

Successful candidates will be invited to a training camp on the weekend of the 18th and 19th May to meet players and staff and get a better understanding of the sport.

# Job description

Responsible to the Goalball UK High-Performance Lead.

Based at various UK and international tournaments and training camps.

The purpose of the role is:

* To assist the High-Performance Coaches in the creation and delivery of an athlete centred performance programme for selected players within our new Centre of Excellence.
* To support the design of the performance environment alongside the technical & tactical development of the players and teams enabling consistent success at World level.
* To work alongside high-performance coaches and support staff to support the design and delivery of high-quality training and competition to enable the preparation of players and teams.

Internal Key relationships:

* Athletes
* High Performance Lead
* National Talent Lead
* Programme Practitioners
* Goalball UK coaches, staff, and volunteers

# Key responsibilities

* To be a member of the Goalball UK Performance Coaching team, developing, and maintaining a high-quality training and playing environment.
* To support the technical, tactical, and physical development of selected players within the Centre of Excellence.
* To deliver individual or small group regional sessions for specific players in conjunction and in support of the High-Performance Coach.
* To support the development and monitoring of Individual Athlete Plans (IAP’s) for each selected player to enhance their performance in line with the programme plan.
* To develop relationships with all athletes and staff members across the Performance Pathway Programme.
* To support blind and visually impaired athletes on and off the court.
* To support the preparation and coordination of all aspects of the teams technical & tactical preparation for international competition.
* To contribute to the recruitment, evaluation and selection of athletes within the pathway.
* To support the support services required by the athletes, coaching, team management and sports science support.
* To learn, develop and be part of a growing coaching network within the sport.
* Any other duties identified by the Line Manager that are within the capabilities of the post holder and which enhance the developing needs of Goalball UK.

# Ongoing training and development

To fulfil the requirements of the role and to maintain continuous professional development (CPD) there will be the need to undertake additional training as identified or required.

# Summary of terms and conditions

* **Contract type:** Volunteering agreement.
* **Contract start:** As soon as possible.
* **Anticipated commitment:** Upto 20 days per year. These dates will increase from April 2025 (Please read the rate of pay section below).
* **Working hours:** Goalball UK are not obligated to provide the volunteer with any work and the volunteer is not obligated to accept and work offered.
* **Working pattern:** The Goalball UK programme operates a camp-based model which affords flexibility to how this role may be fulfilled.
* **Rate of pay:** Voluntary, with expenses. We anticipate moving this to a day rate payment once upskilled and once we start the LA 2028 cycle (1st April 2025.)
* **References:** Appointments are made subject to satisfactory references.
* **Disclosure:** Due to the nature of the post the appointment will be subject to a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service disclosure.
* **Right to work:** It is a requirement that the successful applicant demonstrates their right to live and work within the United Kingdom complying with any request made by Goalball UK around this.

# Person specification

# Essential requirements

* A minimum Level 1 award and working towards level 2 in any sport.
* Able to communicate fluently in English, both verbally and in writing.
* At least 2 years coaching experience within an athlete development, pathway, or performance programme.
* Have an understanding of performance sport programmes.
* Have an understanding of athlete development plans.
* Demonstrate coaching and leadership qualities.
* A good understanding of how individual players are motivated with the ability to vary approaches to develop best performance and to bring the best out of existing talent.
* Able to motivate and influence behavioural change to have a positive impact on performance.
* Willing and able to sign, adhere to and work within all policies and to commit to undergo relevant training as identified necessary by your Line Manager, including but not exhaustive to selection, anti-doping, safeguarding, equality, and data protection.
* Wiling to learn and continue personal development as a coach.
* To act in the best interests of Goalball UK through developing and maintaining a good understanding of our culture and values.
* Flexibility to work irregular hours and a commitment to travel and attend training camps as advised by Goalball UK that include overnight stays and weekend working.

# Desirable requirements

* Experience of working with people with sight loss.

# General information about recruitment

Please let us know if you require adjustments making at any stage or to any aspect of this process or provide us with any information that you feel relevant whilst the process is ongoing.

If selected for interview, we will ask if you have any access needs or if you require any reasonable adjustments to be made.

We will be supportive in discussing reasonable adjustments at all stages of this process and if you have any questions or feedback about our recruitment and selection practices you can contact our external Human Resources Partner in confidence at [andy@crawfordhr.com](about:blank).

* **Entitlement to work in the UK:** Any job offer, be that on an employed or contractor basis, will be conditional, subject to confirmation that you are permitted to work in the UK in accordance with the provisions of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996. You will be asked to provide evidence of your entitlement to work in the UK.
* **Experience, knowledge, skills, and abilities:** The person specification lists minimum requirements for this post. When shortlisting, the selection panel cannot make assumptions and are only able to assess the person specification against the information contained in your CV and/or on any application form that has been used.
* **References:** Any offer that is made to you, be that on an employed or contractor basis, will be conditional, subject to satisfactory references who can each comment on your suitability to the role.
* **Criminal convictions:** Anyone who applies to work with us, be that on an employed or contractor basis, will, at some stage, be asked to disclose details of unspent convictions. Having a criminal record does not necessarily bar you from working with Goalball UK but this of course depends on the nature of the conviction.
* **Data Protection:** The information provided in your CV and on your application form will be held in confidence. We process this information in line with our privacy policy. If you are successful, the information will be used to administer your employment or your contract for services with us. By signing any document where an offer is made to you, we assume that you agree to the processing of your data in this way.
* **Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion:** Our aim is to have a workforce that reflects a diversity of talent, abilities, and skills. In line with the Equality Act 2010, we will monitor the composition of our workforce to ensure it is representative and that staff are treated equally and fairly. Recruitment of staff and engagement of contractors will be made solely on the basis of ability and individual merit as measured against the criteria for the job.
* **Other Policies:** We have a range of policies and processes in place to protect you, to protect us and to safeguard those who use our services. Should a conditional be made to you and be that on an employed basis or through a contract for services, you commit to work within and promote these at all times.

They include, but they are not exhaustive to Health & Safety, Data Protection, the General Data Protection Regulation, Information Governance, Safeguarding, Performance Management, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, Confidentiality and a range of Personnel and Financial Processes.