**Goalball UK – Club Minimum Standards**

# 2. Qualified Coaches

To meet the Goalball UK Club Minimum Standards, you are expected to have at least 1 qualified coach at every training session who has completed the Goalball UK Club Leaders course, completed a Goalball UK DBS check (or provided an existing DBS to Goalball UK if it is on the ‘live update’ service (see Minimum Standard 3. DBS)), completed the relevant Safeguarding training (adult and child), and have an up to date First Aid qualification (issued within 3 years).

To ensure safe and effective training sessions are delivered, it is important to consider ratios. The number of coaches present at a training session needs to be appropriate not just for the total number of players but also the number of players aged under 18, the number of players registered as B1, and the number of players with additional disabilities or support needs.

It is also beneficial for clubs to have some members who have completed the Goalball UK School Leaders course so they can then deliver age and ability appropriate taster sessions to school and community groups. (See Minimum Standard 15. Partnerships).

Dates and locations of open courses, together with more information about the content of the courses, can be found on the Goalball UK website (<https://goalballuk.com/the-sport/coaching/>). If there are 8 or more people connected to 1 club that are interested in attending a course, it may be possible for a closed course to be arranged.

The Club Leaders course is 6 hours delivery time, and the School Leaders course is 4 hours delivery time. Both are practically based, so are good fun! No prior knowledge or experience of goalball is required for either course, so new volunteers, as well as family members and friends, can be encouraged to take part. There are also online courses available with useful information, such as the UK Coaching / British Blind Sport ‘Coaching Blind and Partially Sighted People’ course (<https://www.ukcoaching.org/our-courses/courses/coaching-blind-and-partially-sighted-people/>) plus the goalball sport specific module available as a bolt-on, this might be particularly useful for new members of the club if there isn’t an immediate Club Leaders course available.

## Officiating

It is also beneficial for clubs to have some members who have completed the Goalball UK Introduction to Officiating or Refereeing course. They are then able to help out at training sessions and friendly tournaments as well as Goalball UK competitions. Goalball UK also deliver an annual Referee Course to progress those interested in officiating to be able to referee at competitions, more information can be found on the Goalball UK website (<https://goalballuk.com/work-with-us/goalball-uk-referee-course/>).

### **Introduction to Officiating Course**

This is an online course available to introduce members of your club to the basics of officiating the game. By completing the course, they will feel prepared to goal judge and table officiate (with support) at a Goalball UK competition as they will have:

* Basic knowledge of the sport of goalball
* An understanding of the different officiating roles required to run a game
* A basic understanding of the rules and how they are applied within each officiating role
* Greater awareness of people with a visual impairment

More information on how to access the Introduction to Officiating course can be found on the Goalball UK website (<https://goalballuk.com/work-with-us/intro-to-officiating-course/>).

## Additional information

Should you need any additional information in relation to coaching and officiating qualifications please contact our enquiries email, and a member of the development team will get back to you – [enquiries@goalballuk.com](mailto:enquiries@goalballuk.com)