



Aspire Conference 2020

Danny Williams | West Midlands Aspire Lead
The second Aspire National Conference will take place on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at Loughborough University.

The event is open to all coaches and those part of the Aspire programme for career development opportunities and will involve a host of different speakers with experience in the game.

Charlie Ford, Talent Programme and Pathway Manager said: "One of the key strands of our talent plan is to provide the basketball workforce with opportunities to learn from leading experts in sport and basketball as well as providing the opportunity to interact, network and share ideas."

"Building on the success of last year's inaugural event we are pleased to invite university coaches to join us as part of our commitment and intention to work closer with Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) to enhance delivery to players competing in BUCS competitions."

Conference speakers:
Elliott Newell - Senior Performance Pathway Scientist at the English Institute of Sport. **Andy Gilbert Dunnings** - Qualification Development Manager at Active IQ, one of the UK's leading awarding organisations for the active leisure, learning and wellbeing sector. **Len Busch** - GB U18 Women Head Coach for the Summer 2019 programme and WBBL side Sevenoaks Suns Head Coach. **Claire Harper** - East Aspire Girls Head Coach. **Gordon MacLelland** - CEO of 'Working with Parents in Sport'. **Meehra Gorasia** - Basketball England's Talent Programme Officer, leading on Athlete Lifestyle Support within the Talent pathway. **Sam Messam** - Co-author of the Player Development Framework, will deliver an on-court session.

Reserve your place here
<https://basketballengland.wufoo.com/forms/mmhztu60urt1v6/>

Courses for Development August

The month of August becomes the YBL's training ground as we host a number of courses to help facilitate the growing demand for officials and coaches.

This gives clubs and individuals the opportunity to gain their next or new qualification in the sport they love. Giving back to their club and the YBL helps all the children and adults that brace their club. The environment is welcoming and friendly and the courses run by qualified and extremely passionate officials.

- We are looking to run, a;
- Level 1 Referee Course**
- Level 1 Table Official Course**
- Level 2 Referee Course**
- Level 2 Table Official Course**
- Level 3 Table Official Course**
- Level 1 Coaching Course**
- Level 2 Coaching Course (with Safeguarding and First Aid)**

We now need to look at the numbers for those courses. If you are interested then please go to our website (Courses & Events Page) and fill out the Interest Form.

Spartan's New Women's Team

Gareth chats with Stourport Spartans Women's Head Coach Kim about the new Women2 team



Firstly, congratulations on getting the interest from both the girls and the women that make up your team. How have you found the difference in age ranges and the compatibility within the team?
I don't actually think the age ranges make any difference to the team dynamics, if I'm honest I think it's actually quite refreshing.

We have a great team who have developed well over the past season. Every player is unique, having their own style and level of ability, they all work hard to play individually and as a team. They support and encourage each other in training and games but most importantly we laugh and have fun together.

I like the fact that the juniors mix with the senior players, it shows junior players that there is a pathway and somewhere they can play basketball if there are no junior girls teams at their age group. It is so important that we all encourage girls to keep playing, basketball not only keeps us physically fit, it gives us opportunities to make new friends, develop our confidence and help with our mental wellbeing.

What would you say has been your biggest learning curve from the season so far?

It has been the challenge of making the training sessions inclusive for all of the team regardless of a players age or ability. I don't want players to feel they cannot join in because things are too difficult but I also don't want players getting bored.

You have a high participation at the moment and more girls and women are getting interested in the sport. Do you think in the next couple of seasons you will be looking to expand to have maybe two teams in the league and have A and a B team?

Our attendance levels do fluctuate due to work, family commitments and it's now the time of year for exams but we do have a regular core of players. It would be great over the next couple of seasons for the team to continue to grow. There are some younger junior girls who can step up over the next couple of years. Matt Coles does a lot of promotional work on social media and I have a lot of players who have sons or daughters playing in the academy so who knows some more mums, sisters, aunts or grandmas might feel like giving it a go. It would be amazing if in a couple of years time we had a team in each of the YBL Women's leagues.

If there's one thing you would like to suggest to improve the league you've been in the season what would it be?

This season we only had one game before Christmas, and now have a few to play before the end of the season. I would have preferred the games more evenly spaced so that we could work on developmental points from a game to then take forward to the next game.

What is the main thing you do to make sure that all the different levels of players you have still get the same enjoyment out of the game?

It's not what I do it's what they do. I just facilitate a training session or game. They are the ones that go on the court and put in 100% effort, as a result they come off court happy that they played to the best of their ability. We are supportive of the players on the court and encourage each other. It's important that all the players get game time, it boosts their confidence and is a huge factor in their development. The team were even happy when they lost a game recently, to listen to the conversations after the game you would have thought they had won. They are just such a good fit.

"...basketball not only keeps us physically fit, it gives us opportunities to make new friends, develop our confidence and help with our mental wellbeing." Coach Kim

Gareth Harrison | g.harrison@ybl.org.uk

YBL Senior	Women two	League Standing	Played	Won	Points For	Points Against	Point Difference	Points
		2 of 4	3 of 6	2 & 1 Lost	112	101	11	7

Game Stats		
29-40	A +11	Shrewsbury Storm
44-28	A -16	West Brom Basketball
44-28	H +11 +16 +27	Shrewsbury Storm

Forthcoming Fixtures		
Sun 23 Feb 17:00	H -16	West Brom Basketball
Sat 28 Mar 16:00	A -	Birmingham Mets
Sun 5 April 17:00	A -	Birmingham Mets

DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL
it's your basketball league

on the door tickets

SINGLE CHILD £2.00	SINGLE ADULT £4.00	Family Pass £10.00 (two adults & up to 3 children)
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Advanced Semi-Final Tickets and Advanced Final Tickets

SINGLE CHILD £1.00	SINGLE ADULT £2.00	Family Pass £5.00 (two adults & up to 3 children)
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@ybl_basketball

ADVANCED TICKET SALES VISIT ybl.org.uk



CHAMPIONSHIPS 2020

UNIVERSITY OF WORCESTER - ST. JOHN'S

TICKETS GO ON SALE 2 MARCH 2020

SATURDAY 16 & SUNDAY 17
SATURDAY 23 & SUNDAY 24 MAY 2020

REFRESHMENTS, TEA & COFFEE & SNACKS - DJ & COMMENTATOR