

## **MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR NETBALL COACHES**

### **PURPOSE**

The Cayman Islands Netball Association (CINA) is established with the following objects:

- (a) To promote, foster, develop, stimulate and control the game of netball in the Cayman Islands, in accordance with the ideals and objects of the International Netball Federation (INF), as mediated through the Americas Federation of Netball Associations (AFNA), Olympic and Commonwealth movements, and without any discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, religion, creed, political beliefs, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or trade union activity; and
- (b) To make, adopt, vary and issue byelaws and regulations, standing orders and procedural rules concerning all forms and aspects of the game of netball in the Cayman Islands, and to take such steps as shall be deemed necessary or advisable for enforcing them.

In light of these purposes, CINA is responsible for ensuring that the competence and quality of netball coaching is effective and meets certain standards of practice. In the licensing of netball coaches, there are expectations for prospective and certified coaches to meet certain standards, and as such, CINA has established some 'core minimum standards' that all netball coaches in the Cayman should adhere to.

This policy framework outlines the core standards that all CINA netball coaches need to adhere to and for which they will be monitored as a coach. They include the following areas:

- (a) Minimum age requirement coaching responsibilities
- (b) Appropriate qualification
- (c) Appropriate insurance cover
- (d) Child protection
- (e) Continuous professional development
- (f) Adherence and compliance with CINA's policies and procedures with respect to '*Registration and Licensing*' and '*Code of Practice*' requirements.

### **WHY ARE THESE IMPORTANT?**

To be an active recognised and licensed coach, it is important that all netball coaches meet the core standards contained in this guidance. This is important:

- to ensure coaches have the right level of qualification, knowledge and skills to undertake their coaching role;
- to safeguard coaches and participants alike within the coaching and learning context;
- to ensure coaches have the right level of insurance cover to practice as a coach;
- to improve the coaching opportunities and experience more widely, especially where this may be a longer-term career consideration.

The core minimum standards are just the starting point; ongoing continuing professional development and training relevant to the participants you are coaching will be required. While initial training includes the accumulation of knowledge and skills through formal coach education courses, independent research and the accumulation of relevant verifiable experience are just as relevant (e.g. workshops and/or seminars etc). Licensed 'coaches' will be supported through information sharing and/or discounted funding support to access additional training information as a requirement of retaining their license to practice.

## **THE CORE STANDARDS**

### **(a) Minimum age**

- *Level 1 - Assistant coach: 16+ years*

Assistant coaches work under the direction or supervision of a lead coach and as such, the minimum age recommendation is 16. *This age recommendation is also in line with the ending of the compulsory school age.*

- *Level 2 - Lead coach (someone coaching independently):18+ years*

Lead coaches will have considerable level of responsibility and a duty of care to those under their care. The minimum age is therefore 18yrs as this is also the legal age recognised as an 'adult'.

### **(b) Appropriate qualifications**

1. Assistant Coach: Level 1

To be an assistant coach, the Level 1 qualification is advisable and will licence the holder to assist a coach with a higher-level qualification (Level 2 and above).

2. Lead Coach: Level 2 or above

To coach independently, clubs, schools and governing bodies of sport usually require you to have a minimum standard of training, which will be the Level 2 qualification in netball coaching.

If a coach is found coaching without the appropriate level of qualification, in the event of an incident, you may not be insured.

### **(c) Appropriate insurance cover**

As a recognised and licensed coach, you will need an insurance policy that covers you for the coaching duties you carry out. This is to ensure both you and the participants you are coaching are covered for bodily injury to participants or members of the public, or accidental damage to third party property. Coaches will need to ensure that their insurance policy include public liability (i.e. protection from your legal liability for third party claims in respect of bodily injury to participants or members of the general public in respect of the activities coached and legal occupation of premises whether owned or hired).

Coaching activities may have an impact on car insurance premiums. You will need to check on any existing policy.

As a registered and licensed coach working with CINA, you will receive insurance cover for your netball coaching activities as part of the many benefits of your membership of the CINA netball coaching team.

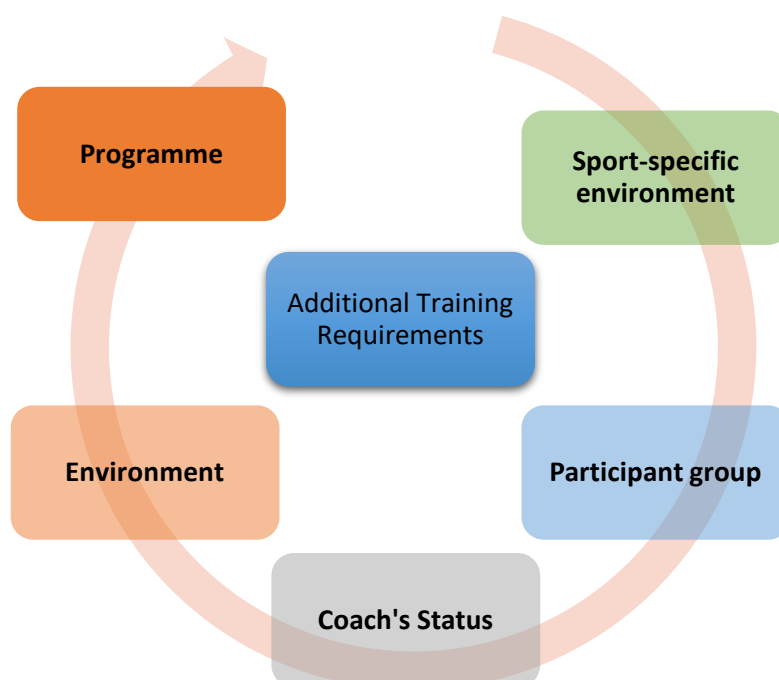
#### **(d) Child protection**

If you are coaching in Cayman you will need to comply with the requirements of the Child Protection policy in force, overseen by the Children and Family Services. This policy sets out the process to be followed by all National Sports Associations (NSA), such as CINA, in relation to child abuse matters. It seeks to meet the reporting requirements of the Children Law (2012 Revision) and provides the minimum standards for the vetting of Officials of all National Sporting Associations.

#### **(e) Continuing and Professional Development (CPD)**

The core minimum standards only establish the starting point for netball coaches. You might need to augment your initial qualification through additional training and development opportunities to support your coaching role. To retain your licence to coach (i.e. an 'active coach') you will need to undertake at least one 'additional training' programme of a minimum of 12hrs duration within the three years renewal period (4hrs per annum minimum). This will be recorded in your 'Log Book', which you will receive as part of the initial training.

To help decide on the appropriate additional training, please consider the following:



**Sport-specific environment:** this might include additional elements you need to comply with such as, for example, retaining licence to practise logged sessions, first aid training or additional technical training. All coaches will need to have a current and recognised first aid certification.

**Participant group:** You might be working with children and young people, for example, and therefore, you might require some additional suitable training relevant to this participant group (e.g. those with special needs)

**Coach's Status:** You may have different responsibilities depending on your role/qualification, such as, for example, if a lead coach, you may be mentoring other coaches and therefore training in this would be advisable. Alternatively, if a Level 1 coach with increasing responsibilities, you may be required to undertake a Level 2 programme.

**Environment:** Depending on the 'environment' you are coaching, you may need to know different things. For example, if you coach in schools in curriculum time, it would be advisable to have knowledge of the national curriculum or if coaching national squad, you may need to understand the requirements of how 'WADA' (World Anti-Doping Agency) operates or about conditioning training that is appropriate and relevant to elite athletes.

**Programme:** Different coaching programmes will have different aims and objectives such as, for example, if coaching those with disabilities, you may require additional support and training.

#### **(f) Policies and procedures**

As a registered and licensed coach, you will be required to comply with specific CINA policies and practices, the most important being:

- Code of Practice for Netball Coaches
- Child Protection Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Coach Education Framework

These policies contain information on best practice as well as guidance to help you fulfil the responsibilities of your coaching role fairly, safely and effectively.