Coach Tracking Survey

Produced February 2015
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What is it?
Active Sussex asked coaches who had received funding from the Active Sussex Coach Bursary to complete a survey in January 2015. The aim of the survey was to:

- Influence a positive behaviour change in coaches through a CPD programme
- Track the number coaching hours being delivered by bursary coaches.

Major findings

- Coaches are wanting to do more coaching or continue to sustain their current activity for at least another 12 months
- 88% of coaches have coached at least once a week in the last season
- All coaches who left a comment unanimously agreed the bursary is essential and has been vital for clubs to thrive and increase membership and personal development.

Methodology
Active Sussex carried out the survey via email, and coaches were given from 8 December – 12 January 2015 to respond. In total 35 coaches responded to the 2014/15 survey. Previous data from the same survey sent in 2012/13 and 2013/14 has also been used. 90 coaches responded to the surveys in those years, in total 125 coaches have taken part in this survey since 2012.
The Results

What sport do you coach?

- Fencing
- Rugby
- Boccia
- New Age Kurling
- Football
- Athletics
- Triathlon
- Table Tennis
- Softball
- Gymnastics
- Netball
- Swimming
- Basketball
- Badminton

2013/14 the most popular sport was basketball and in 2012/13 the most popular sport was football, gymnastics and table tennis

What is your coaching qualification level?

2014/15
- Level 1: 63%
- Level 2: 23%
- Level 3: 6%
- Level 4: 9%
- Other: 9%

2013/14
- Level 1: 64%
- Level 2: 25%
- Level 3: 5%
- Level 4: 6%
- Other: 0%

2012/13
- Level 1: 61%
- Level 2: 17%
- Level 3: 17%
- Level 4: 5%
- Other: 0%
Over the last 12 months have you typically coached in an unpaid/voluntary, paid part-time and/or paid full-time capacity?

- Unpaid/voluntary: 65%
- Paid part-time or paid sessional: 35%
- Paid full time over 30 hours: 0%

Unpaid coaching has risen from 49% in 2013/14 to 65% this year.

On average, how often have you coached in the last 12 months or, if applicable, in the last season?

- At least once a week: 25
- Almost every working day: 5
- At least once a month: 3
- At least once in the last year: 1
- At least once every six months: 0

At least once a week has been consistently the most popular response since 2012. Almost every working day has dropped over the last year its peak was 31% last year now it is at its lowest at 14%.
On average, how many hours do you coach per week over the last 12 months or, if applicable, in the last season?

- 2 - 4 hours: 14
- 1 - 2 hours: 10
- More than 10 hours: 3
- 6 - 10 hours: 3
- 4 - 6 hours: 3
- 0 - 1 hours: 1

2-4 hours has emerged as the most popular in the last 2 years.

Do you expect to do more, about the same, or less coaching over the next 12 months?

- About the same: 22
- More: 10
- Less: 2

Good news coaches are looking to do more or about the same amount of coaching in the next 12 months.
Further Comments

Response 1
Very worthwhile.

Response 2
I have thoroughly enjoyed being involved with the children and building relationships through sport.

Response 3
The funding has helped increase numbers within the Club.

Response 4
Over the past 12 months my coaching hours has increased significantly with me taking on a coaching role at Brighton College which has allowed me to experience coaching other sports such as hockey, athletics and rounders. I have also been able to start up a new netball school for Year 3-9 this year which is providing additional netball for 50 girls. Overall, since qualifying I have made coaching more of a career and have been able to gain experience coaching a wide variety of players from young girls to women returning to the sport. Thank you!

Response 5
I'm enjoying it more and more as the years pass.

Response 6
I have qualified as a Level 1 Badminton Coach with Badminton England (UKCC). I did a few months of assistant coaching after gaining the award but have yet to lead a session myself. I will be doing the Level 2 coaching award in April at Inspire Leisure.

Response 7
Through the bursary I was able to complete my Level 1 coaching qualification in badminton, which enabled me to start coaching and gain employment.

Response 8
I would like gain a Level 3 Basketball qualification. I also get enjoyment from coaching athletes and their future.

Response 9
I enjoy coaching very much but think it would be better if there was a standardised payment structure for clubs to follow. We have recently tried to recruit a head coach with little success as the club cannot afford to pay the salary many coaches expect.
As a result the whole club is being run by volunteers which leaves the club in a vulnerable position should any of us decide to leave suddenly. It would be nice to be paid, as the amount of hours and commitment given is the same as a job. If clubs were supported with funding for staff costs maybe the quality of coaching would improve? Just a thought.

Response 10
Along with the other coaches at our club, I do so for free. As the junior/youth section of our club expands we need even more coaches in order to meet the demand, so these coaching bursaries are essential. Without them our club could not afford to put enough coaches through the relevant qualifications and, as a result, provide high quality experiences for the athletes. So thank you!

Response 11
I am doing more non-coaching work now so I don’t have the time to coach.

Response 12
Continue to gain experience. I’m now a lead coach of one of the squads in our club, and it continues to go from strength to strength.

Response 13
Really enjoy working with the junior players. It is nice to be able to give something back. Working with the women/girls at East Grinstead has been very rewarding.

Response 14
Very productive.

Response 15
Having the bursary helps all sports clubs to get more coaches for clubs, athletics coaches are limited and we always need more. Keep going with the financial support it really helps.

Response 16
I really enjoy my involvement in encouraging youngsters to play our wonderful game.

Response 17
I’m coaching at the Grace Eyre session for people with learning disabilities: great guys, great experience!
Survey Conclusions

- 35 coaches completed the survey across 15 different sports in 2014/15. Compared to last year 36 coaches across 17 sports in 2013/14 survey.

- Number of Level 2 coaches has remained at a steady 63% compared with last year 64%.

- Unpaid coaching has risen from 49% in 2013/14 to 76% this year.

- 93% of coaches wanted to do more coaching or continue their current commitment to coaching in the next 12 months. This is a decrease of 2% compared to the 2013/14 survey.

- 14% of coaches who responded to the survey coach almost every working day this is a 17% decrease from last year. However the number of coaches coaching at least once a week has increased to 73% from 64% last year.

Trends

Coaches who took part in the survey are likely to deliver more coaching or continue their current commitment which is of great impact and value to the coaching workforce in Sussex. Previous tracking surveys in 2012 and 2013 have recorded the same information reaffirming this trend.

Coach Bursary Stats

Funding Spent to Date
2011/12 = £1,378.50
2012/13 = £10,440.90
2013/14 = £17,200.50
2014/15 = £7,718.75
TOTAL = £36,738.65

Number of Coaches
2011/12 = 9
2012/13 = 68
2013/14 = 112
2014/15 = 57
TOTAL = 246

Recommendations

The survey's results will now be used by Active Sussex as part of an ongoing coach tracking study that will inform local coaching plans in 2015/16.

Active Sussex will continue to track and monitor the Coach Bursary Scheme to demonstrate impact against Sport England objectives.

For further information on the survey please contact Anthony Statham, Sports Development Manager at Active Sussex – astatham@activesussex.org or Gina Rogers Sports Development Officer at Active Sussex – grogers@activesussex.org.