



# CARDIFF DRAGONS

## Pathway Head Coaches (U17 & U19)

June 2024

## **Introduction**

Cardiff Dragons are looking to recruit two inspirational and motivated individuals with excellent coaching and leadership qualities, and proven experience of working within high- performance netball to help us deliver on our ambitious aims as a Franchise as part of NSL 2.0.

We are looking for an U17 Head Coach and an U19 Head Coach to lead our Pathway Squads in the NPL competition. The Head Coaches will work collaboratively to develop our Pathway athletes at U17/U19 age group, leading and preparing athletes both on and off the court for performance competitions, and supporting their evolution as athletes as they transition through the Cardiff Dragons Pathway.

The successful candidates will have a proven history of developing talent, along with the ability to demonstrate both technical and tactical competence appropriate to the U17 or U19 age group. The Head Coaches will plan, lead, and deliver high-quality netball sessions for the U23 squad on a weekly basis in accordance with the 'Cardiff Dragons Way' and will lead the squad in the NPL U17 & U19s Competition. They will also work closely with the U23 Pathway Lead/ Head Coach and their respective Assistant Coaches to ensure a sustainable over supply of athletes for the Cardiff Dragons Pathway Programme to and ensure success for the future. The successful candidates will benefit from professional development opportunities.

## **Role Description**

**Role Summary:** We are looking for 2 x inspirational Pathway Head Coaches to lead our U17 and U19 programme, leading, managing and preparing athletes both on and off the court for performance competitions, and supporting their evolution as athletes as they transition through the Cardiff Dragons Pathway.

## **Typical Responsibilities**

### **U17/ U19 Programmes:**

- Plan, lead, and deliver high-quality netball sessions for the U17 or U19 Squad in preparation for the competition.
- Undertake the necessary planning for each session to ensure progression throughout, aligned with the Cardiff Dragons Way.
- Lead and coordinate the wider support team for the U17 or U19 Squad i.e., the multi-disciplinary support team (i.e., sports science and medicine).
- Work closely with the NSL Head Coach and Assistant Coach to establish rapport and effectively support the transition of athletes between the U17 or U19s and NSL squads.
- Work with the Performance Operations Lead, and the Team Manager, to co-ordinate and ensure that the provision of U17 or U19 squad training and competition requirements.
- Support Pathway athletes through all requirements of anti-doping and drug testing prior, during and post international competitions.
- Lead and support the delivery of coaching workshops and mentor sessions for Cardiff Dragons Pathway coaches, schools, colleges, universities, and clubs as required.

### **Other:**

- Support and maintain the successful image and profile of the Cardiff Dragons Pathway, and

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its athletes, and contribute to promotional activities as required.

- To ensure that all activities are conducted in an appropriate way in accordance with health and safety, safeguarding and duty of care policies within Cardiff Dragons, NSL and Wales Netball.
- Engage in productive and cooperative working relationships with Wales Netball, England Netball and NSL.
- Undertake such duties as requested by the Head of Performance as may be required from time to time as are consistent with the responsibilities of the post. This job description is not to be regarded as exhaustive.

### Key Competencies

Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
○ UKCC Level 2 qualification	✓	
○ UKCC Level 3 qualification		✓
○ An undergraduate degree (or equivalent) in a relevant Subject		✓
○ Current certificate in Safeguarding and Protecting Children		✓
○ Current First Aid Qualification		✓
Skills & Experience	Essential	Desirable
○ Experience of working in a high-performance netball environment	✓	
○ An athlete centred approach to ensure effective development of individuals athletes	✓	
○ The ability to articulate tactical changes and technical improvements to players in a pressurised situation in a concise and meaningful manner appropriate to the U17 or U19 age group	✓	
○ Demonstrable recent experience of leading or supporting an elite age grade netball team	✓	
○ Excellent and up to date knowledge of netball technical and tactical requirements at high performance and elite level	✓	
○ The ability to lead and work within a multidisciplinary team	✓	
○ Experience of collaborating with other volunteers i.e. Team Manager and Assistant Coaches	✓	
○ Ability to create a high-performance culture with transparent and honest leadership	✓	
○ An athlete centred approach to ensure effective development of individual athletes	✓	

○ An understanding of the benefits of Sports Science and Medicine and Performance Analysis, and their application to performance netball	✓	
<b>Other</b>	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Desirable</b>
○ The ability to provide logical solutions to problems and to seek referral when necessary	✓	
○ The ability to communicate effectively with volunteers, athletes, and performance personnel, both orally and in writing	✓	
○ Initiative-taking, enthusiastic, and organised	✓	
○ Ability to travel extensively across the UK for competitions	✓	
○ Flexible working – including regular evening and weekend working	✓	

## Terms of Appointment

**Job Title:** Pathway Head Coach (U17 or U19)

**Contract:** Volunteer position with an honorarium payment. September 2024- August 2025.

**Location:** Cardiff, with some travel across the UK for the NSL competition

**Closing date:** The closing date for applications, 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2024

**Interview dates:** Interviews will be held the week of the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2024. All interviews will be conducted virtually.

**Key Information:** Candidates should ideally be available to attend the Cardiff Dragons U17 / U19 Trials on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2024, as well as all training sessions and games during the season (dates are still TBC):

- U17 Trial – 21<sup>st</sup> September
- U19 Trial – 22<sup>nd</sup> September

## How to apply:

Please send your CV and covering letter outlining how you meet the essential and desirable criteria to [info@cardiffdragons.com](mailto:info@cardiffdragons.com)

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact Sara Moore (Head of Performance) by email: [sara.moore@walesnetball.com](mailto:sara.moore@walesnetball.com)