

Coaching Futures 2021 - 2023

Introduction

Following the successful implementation of the “Coaching Futures” coach apprenticeship opportunity in 2012 and 2016, Scottish Swimming is looking for interested clubs, programmes and centres to form partnerships for the next iteration of the programme: 2021- 2023.

Background

Coaching Futures is **sportscotland’s** performance athlete-to-coach apprenticeship scheme. The aim of the programme is to assist Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport to utilise the experience of performance athletes and create opportunities for them to transition into coaching. The apprenticeship provides a unique opportunity to ‘earn while you learn’ by focusing on the development of coaching practice. Apprentices will be given time to learn through guided-study and by working alongside experienced coaches with support from a coach developer. Above all, Coaching Futures provides the opportunity to learn actively through experience and gives the apprentice the tools to self-direct and regulate the development of their emerging coaching practice.

The apprenticeship usually takes the form of a full-time coaching post, employed by Scottish Swimming and seconded to a performance development/performance environment.

Who is the partnership opportunity for?

In order to maximise the Coaching Futures opportunity, Scottish Swimming is looking for up to three interested clubs/programmes/centres from the aquatic community to partner on the project. Successful programmes will be expected to.

- Contribute financially to the partnership
- Support the secondment of the Coaching Futures apprentice through day-to-day management and mentoring
- Fully embrace the “learning AT work” coach development philosophy of Coaching Futures
- Work closely with the Scottish Swimming National Coach to deliver a meaningful learning programme

Potential environments will be determined collaboratively between the Scottish Swimming Performance Director and National Coach.

Outcomes

Working collaboratively, the aim of the programme is to develop coaches who can.

- Display knowledge, skills, behaviour and attitude associated with effective coaching practice across coaching domains
- Demonstrate self-awareness, reflective practice, effective communication and leadership
- Develop competence to effectively manage the complexities of the coaching environment and inter-disciplinary practice

- Contribute to the development of self-regulating and self-determining athletes
- Evidence their 2-year learning journey and future development plan

Expression of Interest

Interested clubs/programmes/performance centres should in the first instance.

- Provide an expression of interest, made in writing, via email to the Scottish Swimming National Coach, Alan Lynn a.lynn@scottishswimming.com, stating why they are interested in hosting the apprenticeship. Expressions of interest are to be received no later than **12 noon on Monday 14th June 2021.**
- On receipt of the above, the National Coach will organise an opportunity for an informal discussion around all potential areas of the apprenticeship
- Selected clubs/programmes/centres will be invited to a formal discussion with the Scottish Swimming Performance Director, National Coach and sportscotland representative, upon which a final decision on the successful partners will be made.

Successful programmes will be informed by Friday 25th June 2021.