

COACH MENTOR



NAME

Ahmed Ali

LOCATION

Birmingham

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ABOUT ME

I am currently at Aston Villa Football Club and I have been coaching for 11 years. I completed a MSc in Football Coaching and Analysis and currently undergoing my UEFA A License. I have coached in 7 different countries across 4 continents. In my spare time I enjoy taking part in a community running challenge and learning new languages.

Dave Lawrence

COACH MENTOR

WEST MIDLANDS REGION



NAME

Dave Lawrence

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Birmingham/ West Midlands

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ABOUT ME

As a coach, Director of Football, and an avid learner, I am a huge advocate of mentorship as a strategy to improve. This is not necessarily always in football coaching, but in aspects of life too.

In my current role, I have an opportunity to support coaches in all different stages in their journey. I love nothing more than conversing with them about their strengths, areas to develop, and how to integrate even more effective coaching practice in to their delivery.

Part of this pride and commitment to this coach education or development element is that of recognizing that coaches often arrive with us, or reach out to us with a varied set of experiences in coaching and in life. Some of these life experiences, and rationale for becoming a coach may be due to their values, ethnicity, experiencing challenges, or an 'ignition' moment, where a coach realises that they want to be highly intentional. A result of such a variety of experiences, offers diversity and perspective which is a fantastic learning opportunity for us all.

I hope to use these experiences and opportunities to create passion and drive with intentional coaches, and support their drive to reach their potential

COACH MENTOR



NAME

Jasbir Batt

LOCATION

Birmingham

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ABOUT ME

I have over 20 years experience coaching and learning the game (that I love) from grassroots to elite professional game.

From a Disability context perspective, in 2008, I became a coach (by chance and chucked in the deep end as they say) at the FA Disability Centre of Excellence which then went onto become FA Player Development Centre. Through passion, commitment, and wanting to make a difference, I ended up becoming Head Coach.

For 4 years, I was Technical Director for The FA Regional Centre of Excellence (overseeing the West Midlands area focusing on the following impairments; Cerebral Palsy, Deaf, and Partially Sighted).

I have been Football Development Officer (Disability) at Birmingham County FA for 5 years. My work consists of having a real focus on creating and sustaining participation.

I am currently lead coach for the Regional and National Emerging Talent Camp supporting a number of impairments across the game. Alongside, this I am a FA Talent Pathway Scout identifying players with disabilities across the mainstream and impairment specific game which has seen huge successes over the years.

I am grateful the beautiful game has given me so many opportunities that I wish to share my knowledge, skills and experiences onto others.

COACH MENTOR



NAME

Mark Knight

LOCATION

Staffordshire, West Midlands

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ABOUT ME

I have over 10 years of experience coaching football at various levels within mens, women & girls, and disability football. I currently work as a foundation phase coach at Kidderminster Harriers F.C., and in my day job I work within Sports Development, facilitating learning and development for the professional workforce and volunteers within the sports sector.

This is my first position as an official coach mentor with the F.A. and I am looking forward to working with and learning from the coaches within Staffordshire. I previously worked within Staffordshire for the county F.A. and I'm looking forward to getting around the county again!

My coaching philosophy looks to empower my players to make decisions and enable them to drive their learning and development, and my aim for this role is to support the development of people from backgrounds currently underrepresented within the coaching environment.

COACH MENTOR



NAME

Martin Harrison

LOCATION

West Midlands

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ABOUT ME

I have worked in and around the female game for 20+ years. With a wealth of experience in supporting and developing coaches.

I have worked as technical director at both Aston Villa and Manchester City women's academy programs, where I worked with coaches and the wider multi-disciplinary teams in supporting players with their development and progression within the female pathway.

My current full-time role is a lecturer in Football Coaching and Performance at the University of Wolverhampton. In this role I can support students to gain practical experiences required to succeed in a highly competitive football coaching market.

My role at The FA currently, is to support intentional female coaches to develop the skills required to be confident to progress in their chosen area. I am based in Birmingham County FA but will also engage with coaches from other County areas.

COACH MENTOR



NAME

Rajab Noor

LOCATION

Birmingham

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ABOUT ME

Rajab has been involved in grassroots football for fifteen years, starting as a volunteer at his local club and then studying sports coaching at College and University. Currently Rajab is a UEFA A licenced coach who is passionate about supporting coach development through mentoring.

Rajab is also a Youth Development phase coach at a local professional club, as well as a Talent Identification reporter for England Youth teams. Previous to this, Rajab was an FA Skills coach working in schools and clubs to increase the participation in football and deliver CPD to grassroots coaches. Rajab played locally for Cradley Town, Causeway United and Sporting Khalsa, at the same time as coaching the Youth teams at Halesowen Town and Tamworth FC.

Rajab has been fortunate to experience being a mentored throughout this career and taking part in a year long placement on the FA Elite Menteeship. This in turn allowed Rajab to work across different departments at the FA and even work with the England U17 and U20 Teams.

In his spare time, he enjoys playing tennis and volunteering in local community initiatives. With strong values at his core of his mentoring Rajab believes that mentoring should be bespoke to the needs of the club, mentee or community and that the process of learning is connected and personal to find new, creative and appropriate ways of working.