

Liz Clarke
Nominated for Development Director at 2016 AGM

If elected as Development Director at Volleyball England (VE), I would be able to bring the following experiences, skills and qualities; all of which would enable me to fulfil the role to the best of my ability.

My involvement in English volleyball spans many years. I am a founder member of Tameside Volleyball Club. We are now in our 23rd year of competing in the National League. We are a club that is passionate about and fully committed to junior development. Tameside's successful record in the National U15, U16 and U18 Championships is vast. Our success at junior level has led to 12 Tameside girls going on to win recognition at junior and senior international level. The club's success is based on a team of committed club volunteers; all involved in delivering shared, strategic objectives. As part of that team, over the years I have fulfilled roles such as: team manager for every age group at local, regional, national and international level; qualified coach and referee; club secretary; treasurer and welfare officer.

I have a good working knowledge of volleyball in England at junior and senior level. Without hesitation, I offer to organise and host initial rounds of junior national championships annually. I have been team manager at inter-regional championships and for England North at the UK/Sainsbury's School Games; fully endorsing the VE development pathway.

Over the years I have developed and maintained strong, transparent relationships with officers at VE and with other regional and local organisations and clubs. Working alongside other directors, commission/committee members, staff and volunteers, I would confidently contribute towards evaluating the impact of actions undertaken to date against the VE strategic plan. I am a resilient person who can provide support but also reasoned challenge in order to effect change and bring about agreed outcomes.

As a volunteer, I have been involved in the Catholic Schools Sports Federation of Great Britain for 28 years. As an executive committee member for 20 years, I organise GB's participation in multi-sport events throughout Europe. I have been proud to be part of a team that has provided several of our Country's elite athletes with their first taste of international competition and success in volleyball, athletics, swimming and football.

In my everyday work, my interpersonal, communication and negotiation skills are exercised on a daily basis. I have strong intellectual and analytical abilities and am able to focus on key issues to be addressed. My roles and responsibilities demand integrity, objectivity, openness and honesty. I am a reflective person who is able to provide leadership and vision, together with the ability to work well within a team.

I have a strong belief that participation in sport helps people to develop skills for life. My current voluntary sporting commitments, particularly in volleyball, enable me to work alongside other like-minded, enthusiastic, talented people; together we are having a massive impact on the life chances of others. Becoming the Development Director at VE would be an extension of this commitment.