

## **British Sign Language Service Available for Potential Deaf and Hearing Impaired Football Coaches to Access Coach Education**

Opportunities for children and adults with a disability to play football in Wales are growing at a rapid rate. Both pan disability and specific disability clubs are developing across Wales offering opportunities for individuals to play regardless of ability level or physical, sensory or intellectual being.

The Welsh Football Trust is committed to developing a grassroots structure which provides local, regional and national playing opportunities and competitions. Alongside the development of disability specific coach education to train coaches and volunteers with the eventual aim of providing opportunities for players to compete at an international level.

As part of the Welsh Football Trust's commitment to providing equal access to football, a **British Sign Language service** will be available on selected dates for all Level 1 coach education courses including the **Football Leaders Award**. The Leaders Award is a 15 hour course, compulsory for any prospective coach who wishes to work with young players. The Leaders Award provides an introduction to the organisation of football practices in a fun and safe environment with an emphasis on skill development.

The Welsh Football Trust hopes that through training more deaf and hearing impaired coaches this will encourage the growth of more deaf specific football opportunities and provide young players with positive role models. This initiative has been supported by the Sportsmatch Cymru scheme which provides match funding for commercial sponsorship of grassroots development initiatives.

A British Sign Language service will be available on the following courses throughout the second half of the 2006/2007 season:

- **Football Leaders Award** - Sunday 18th and 25th February (9 – 5pm) - Cardiff, Llanrumney Playing Fields – cost £40.
- **Football Leaders Award** - Sunday 13th and 20th May (9 – 4.30pm) - Wrexham, Darland Sports Centre – cost £40.
- **Goalkeepers Award** - Sunday 28th January (10 – 4.30pm) - Cardiff, Llanrumney Playing Fields – cost £30.
- **First Aid** - Tuesday 6th February (6pm – 9pm) - Cardiff, Maindy Swimming Pool – cost £25.
- **Welfare and Child Protection** - Monday 26th March (6 – 9pm) - Barry, Holm View Leisure Centre – cost £20.

- **Footballers with a Disability Workshop** - Tuesday 3rd April (6.30pm - 9.30pm) - Cardiff, Maindy Swimming Pool (TBC) - cost £20.

If you wish to register on any of the above courses or are interested in attending and would like further information please contact either:

Jamie Clewer - [Jamie@fawtrust.org.uk](mailto:Jamie@fawtrust.org.uk) or on 01443 228873 ext 20.

Or

Nicola Tennant - [Nicola@fawtrust.org.uk](mailto:Nicola@fawtrust.org.uk) or on 01492 575555

To register your interest in attending the Wrexham Football Leaders course contact Carl Darlington (Football Development Officer - Wrexham) on [carl.darlington@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:carl.darlington@wrexham.gov.uk) or 01978 297354.