

Coaching Director's AGM Report

I have decided to issue a single report to cover the period since the 2019 AGM as this seems to me to be the best way of presenting a meaningful account of the status of coaching within the ESMBA.

As all of you are aware the level of ability to coach on a face-to-face basis has been to say the least extremely limited, however this has not meant that coaching has hibernated during this time.

We currently have 27 active Coaches on our web site all with DBS certificates,

2 are Coachbowls Level 2

19 are Coachbowls Level 1

Leaving just 6 with the original ESMBA coaching qualification.

It is also pleasing to inform the meeting that 2 of the Level 1 are halfway through their Level 2 course and a further 2 started theirs in May.

Numerous meetings have been held with Coachbowls via zoom, including Question and Answer sessions for the 'bowls family', and CEAG (Coaching education advisory group) on which I sit as the representative for Short Mat.

We have written a considerably basic module entitled 'An Introduction to Short Mat Bowls' this has been submitted and recently ratified by Coachbowls. It is ESMBA/Coachbowls branded and will become part of the training pack for future membership initiatives as well as a coaching module for beginners.

A more advanced module has been written and it is hoped that we will be able to trial this in August before submitting this for ratification through the Coachbowls framework.

We still need a lot more of our members to attain qualifications to coach, (the ESMBA have continued to refund the attendance cost of these Coachbowls led courses) especially as we will undoubtedly need to be attracting new players to the sport in the coming years. Coaches have an especially important role to play in the wider promotion and development of the game at all levels.

I make no excuses in repeating the closing statement of my 2019 AGM report which was 'Coaching as with all roles within the ESMBA is a voluntary role and relies heavily on individuals to give up their time and effort to 'put something back into a sport they love'. I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all those volunteers whoever and wherever they are who do just that'.

Brian Baker - ESMBA Coaching Director