

## **STEP INTO SPORT - Leadership & Volunteering**

### **What is it?**

Step into Sport (SIS) is one of the eight strands of the joint Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and Department for Education and Skills (DfES) Physical Education, School Sport and Club Links (PESSCL) Strategy.

Sports Leaders UK (formerly the British Sports Trust), Sport England and the Youth Sport Trust work jointly on this project, building upon their current work within the area of leadership and volunteering.

SIS has been designed to establish a simple framework of co-ordinated opportunities at a local level, to enable young people to begin and sustain an involvement in leadership and volunteering through sport.

The programme helps provide clear pathways of opportunities to train, support and deploy young people into appropriate, safe and rewarding sports leadership and volunteer activity.

### **Who is it for?**

SIS focuses on young people aged 14-19 years and aims to encourage them to undertake an involvement in sports leadership and volunteering that will continue in later life.

The programme delivered and support through School Sport Partnerships (SSP) and the 45 County Sports Partnerships (CSP) will provide opportunities for young volunteers to undertake a volunteer placement in an appropriate local club and work towards a national SIS award for 50, 100 or 200 hours of volunteering.

### **How does it work – The SIS Pathway**

#### **Step 1**

Young people engage in a programme of Sport Education at School.

#### **Step 2**

Young people move on to undertake a nationally recognised Junior Sports Leader Award (JSLA) – accredited.

#### **Step 3**

Young people gain practical experience in volunteering through planning and running a TOP Links sports festival for primary aged children.

#### **Step 4**

Young people undertake community sports leadership training and sports specific leadership training – accredited.

#### **Step 5**

**Young people, supported by a teacher mentor, engage in a programme of volunteering in their local community. County sport partnerships provide help and support to sports clubs to ensure volunteering opportunities are available and appropriate.**

**Why get involved?**

### **Benefits to Your Club**

- Provides access to a new network of volunteers with an interest in, and commitment to, sport and their local community.
- Provides training and resources to prepare you to receive and support sports volunteers.
- Provides formal links to the school sport partnerships involved in the project – potential new members and volunteers.

### **Benefits to SIS volunteers**

- Develops life skills, e.g. confidence, communication, organisation and self-esteem, transferable work skills and a chance to participate in action based learning.
- Provides increased opportunities to undertake sports leadership training and volunteering.
- Provides accreditation/certification and recognition for volunteering through SIS awards.
- Provides opportunities and experiences to help students become better citizens, enhancing career and job prospects.

### **Getting ready to receive SIS Volunteers**

Community volunteering – Step 5 of the SIS pathway is the stage in which young people have completed sports leadership training e.g. CSLA and then go on to commit to undertaking volunteering in a local sports club or association.

Although SIS volunteers have completed leadership training they may not necessarily want to coach or assist the coach but want to get involved in other ways such as;

- Organising events/competitions/festivals/tournaments
- Help with the general running of the club – administration duties
- Fundraising, obtaining sponsorship
- I.T support – developing/maintaining the website/database
- Marketing and promotion

Whatever role they undertake it is important that they receive good opportunities and experiences in a high quality environment. Therefore, to help achieve this, the following criteria has been set.

**Criteria:**

- Clubs must have Volley 1/Clubmark accreditation or be actively working towards achieving accreditation.
- Must have and adhere to the EVA Child Protection Policy (copies can be obtained from [www.volleyballengland.org](http://www.volleyballengland.org) or by calling 01509 631 699).
- Coaches must hold appropriate coaching qualifications.
- Must have an identified Volunteer Co-ordinator to provide support to SIS volunteers.

**How your Club can get Involved**

If you are interested in being involved with the SIS programme and can offer placements by meeting the criteria above, then simply fill in the SIS registration form and send it back to English Volleyball Association, Suite B, Loughborough Technology Centre, Epinal Way, Loughborough, LE11 3GE or e-mail [info@volleyballengland.org](mailto:info@volleyballengland.org).

The information you provide will also be forwarded on to your County Sports Partnership who are also involved with the SIS programme and help place SIS Volunteers in clubs/organisations. Your County Sports Partnership will also contact you.

## Registration Form – Step into Sport

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Club Venue: \_\_\_\_\_

### Volunteer Co-ordinator Details

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Criteria

- Does your club have Volley 1/Clubmark accreditation?  
Yes  No
- Is your club actively working towards achieving Volley 1/Clubmark accreditation?  
Yes  No
- Does your club have and adhere to the EVA Child Protection Policy?  
Yes  No
- Do coaches hold relevant coaching qualifications? (a SIS volunteer may assist with coaching, therefore coaches must have the appropriate coaching qualifications).  
Yes  No
- What volunteer opportunities are available at your club for Step into Sport Volunteers?

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**Completed registration forms should be returned to Kelly Knowles at the English Volleyball Association, Suite B, Loughborough Technology Centre, Epinal Way, Loughborough, LE11 3GE or e-mailed to [kelly@eng-volleyball.demon.co.uk](mailto:kelly@eng-volleyball.demon.co.uk).**

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