



GAZ GETS CAMP

Camp Series - Part One

POLLY CAMP 2020

Celebrating Officiating Series - Part One

Polly Camp 2020 in Newcastle
Friday 12 until Sunday 14 June

Word by Rebecca Orleans | rebecca_orleans@hotmail.com

Polly Camp is a fantastic opportunity for table officials and referees whether an established Level 2 right through to experienced Level 3s wanting to hone their skills and be given constructive feedback from expert observations whilst officiating at the prestigious GB Masters tournament.

Previous attendees from the West Midlands Region include; Kim Humphreys, Karen Seleshe and Liz Grinnel who all passed their Level 3 theory exam as campers. Following a successful weekend and great observational feedback Emma Owen and Claire Atkin were invited to join the BBL group of officials and were included in the very first Level 4 fast-track group, which they both passed with flying colours and are now enjoying their second season tabling at BBL game. You may have seen them both officiating the recent BBL Mens Cup Final at Arena Birmingham last month!

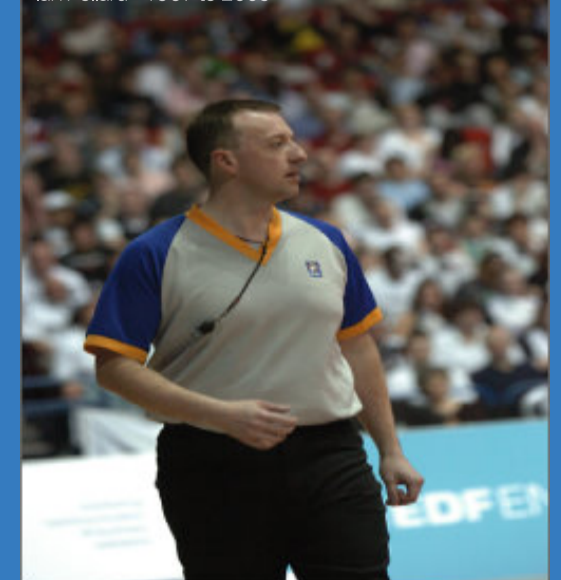
So whatever your aspirations this camp is great exposure and a great stepping-stone in whatever direction you choose to go with your officiating pathway.

Speak with anyone named above or contact Rebecca Orleans for their story or to book yourself on this years Polly Camp.



Ian was a FIBA referee of eight years with an appetite to be the best not only for himself but for others. He refereed over 100 FIBA games and several international tournaments. He was an outstanding BBL referee, officiating BBL Championships, Cup and Trophy finals as well as working BE competitions. He officiated 369 national league games.

Ian Pollard - 1967 to 2009



As part of his legacy, the 'Polly Fund' was created to support the development of Basketball officials. The fund significantly subsidises the camp to ensure that costs are kept to a minimum.

The organisers like to see current Level 2 officials who want to or who are due to attend a level 3 course. A level 3 official who is looking to improve their confidence and skills. Aspire to advance to the next level and have an appetite to learn and implement the feedback given over the camp.

The tuition comes from active International Officials with high quality classroom sessions and recourses. With the opportunity to officiate at a major tournament in the form of the British Masters. There will be opportunities to progress to the next level in your officiating career.

It is a great opportunity to expand your knowledge and get great feedback in the process.



Word by Gareth Harrison | g.harrison@ybl.org.uk

Four coaches from within the YBL talk about the benefits of running basketball camps during school holidays.

There are seven staple reasons why running a basketball camp is beneficial:

1. Health and fitness
2. Technique skills
3. Responsibility and work ethic
4. Tolerance and cultural awareness
5. Social skills and intercultural communication
6. Self-esteem and confidence
7. Enjoyment and renewed love for the sport.

These seven things should all be considered when organising a basketball camp. There are many other benefits to having your club host a camp and we are pushing for more clubs to try and run one. Benefits include; new players coming to have a go, money that can be reinvested in to your clubs set up, a fun environment showcasing what basketball is about and also development for any aspiring coaches within your club or community. Camps help participants on and off-court with their behaviour and mindset.

I have spoken to a four clubs who have provided a camp this week or has ran many during the season.



"Clubs run camps to keep players entertained during the holidays and also to give them something to do with their friends outside of the club and school environment. We like to think we are an extended family too them all, provide help to parents during holidays rather than kids being home alone!

"Our camps are good for the kids who are looking to join a team, come along give it a try without the team pressures." EJ Gardner from Worcester Wolves Academy starts us off. Liam Sheridan from West Brom Basketball adds; "We run our holiday camps to provide young people in the local community with something positive to take part in. It provides a lot of young people with an introduction to basketball as well as our club." Matt Coles from Stourport Spartans continues... "Gives the kids something to do and what better than to be on a basketball camp. Plus being half term a lot of the children are at home and available." Rob Palmer from City of Birmingham Rockets concludes; "We deliver holiday camps for the following reasons:

- We know how unique a positive camp experience can be. Providing a fun activity for young people to take part in is at the heart of our camp objectives.
- Camp allows the players and our coaches the opportunity to spend quality time working on new and existing skills. Players and coaches get a great buzz when a new skill set is mastered.
- Camp brings the competitive edge out in players. We love to see players pushing themselves out of their comfort zone to achieve their full potential. Camp competitions are so much fun and bring out the best in young people!"



If you could name one thing that makes your camp successful what would it be?

Matt Coles starts us off with; "Well organised and at the right price."

"The coaches put a lot of planning into every camp they deliver, they keep everyone busy and active throughout the day, working on individual skills as well as team based training. Also being about to deliver the camps at the right price is important." EJ continues.

Liam Sheridan adds; "Our coaches do a great job of engaging with young people and providing them with a positive and challenging experience."

"The success of our camp is based on the environment our coaches create. Our coaches are meticulous in planning suitable content for each and every camp the club deliver. Campers work hard but have great fun in the process!" Rob Palmer concludes.



Like everything at club level. Basketball Camps are a lot of extra work. But the benefits that everyone receives following a successful camp is tremendous.

Do you have any advice for any clubs that are looking to start running some camps?

Rob Palmer starts; "Camps aren't easy to deliver but they are very rewarding. Be ready for tiring days! Decide what the ethos of your camp is and stick to that. Ensure your delivery is suitable for participants but challenging and fun too! Matt Coles adds; "Get as many people involved from within the club. Parents, coaches and kids! EJ said; "Any club looking to run camps I'd say go for it! Make sure you have help and support from others within your club, players see coaches in a different environment and coaches do the same. Its valuable time for players and coaches to develop. It's also so much FUN!" Liam Sheridan finishes with; "My advice to clubs looking to start doing camps.. DO!"

