

Opportunities for Archers and Coaches

If you are a coach, knowledgeable in Archery GB's Olympic coach's Drills & Skills, or you are an archer who aspires to reach the Podium then read on. The Grand Western Archery Society (GWAS) recently approved funding to help towards the running costs for monthly Training Groups. These will help juniors prepare for the Archery GB [Talent Selection](#), and provide coaching during the '20 Week Programme' and between monthly Academy Camps for those successful. Exceptionally, seniors may be considered. To join you will have to show that you have the determination to work hard to improve your archery and are prepared to pay a modest upfront contribution of £5 per session for a block of sessions (juniors). In return GWAS will expect you to enter county and regional championships when asked.

The Archery GB Performance Pathway Manager has been working with me to organise some of this work as it is part of the pathway evolution and positioning for 2017+. Ceri Ann Davies, Performance Pathways Manager Archery GB Performance says:

"Any activity which encourages and supports archers to develop their talent under the guidance of quality coaches is supported by Archery GB. We are delighted to be working with key partners to develop our performance pathway, which will allow us to deliver archers of the right quality and number needed to our World Class Performance Programme. Archers need solid performance foundations to succeed on a World Stage, and proactive work in long term athlete development, which can be undertaken by regions and counties can only enrich our performance pathway as activity at grass roots is the backbone of our sport."

Archers

If you want at some stage to enter the Archery GB [Talent Selection Programme\(click\)](#), please fill in the form. [Send me](#) a copy as soon as possible if you wish to join a Training Group. GWAS will then work with interested coaches to include you. We will do our best to minimise travel for all involved, ideally with a limit of 30 miles each way.

Coaches

All interested coaches are invited to attend a meeting with Ceri Ann Davies and Harry Heeley (Central Performance Academy Talent Coach) to discuss how we can move forward to set up Training Groups. Harry has been running the 'Lichfield Squad' which resulted in eight out of nine juniors getting into the World Class Performance Programme. He will tell us more about his experiences, answer your questions and will be available to give us on-going advice and guidance as part of his Talent Coach remit. The provisional date for the meeting is the evening of Monday, 24 June at a venue that is central to the region and those wishing to attend. If you would like to attend please [email me](#).

GWAS Coaching sees this programme as key to the development of archery in the region. Whilst initially, Training Groups will be staffed by coaches who understand how to teach Drills & Skills, other coaches who have the determination to progress will be invited to attend and learn. Training Group Coaches will be paid expenses at the prevailing rates (e.g. 35p/mile currently). Those who are L1 coaches should see this as the next step to take before progressing to L2.

It is GWAS Coaching's intention to run a one day Coaching Event in the autumn possibly at Taunton covering aspects of developing Talent including Drills & Skills. Whilst no assurance can be given at the moment, I am in discussions with Ceri Ann Davies to have Archery GB Performance members involved in the delivery of sessions. Your suggestions on what might be most of interest to you are welcome. We envisage a fee of £10 for this event which will be subsidised by GWAS. It would be appreciated if you could [respond](#) now indicating your interest in attending.

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