



Nottingham sports project awarded prestigious London 2012 'Inspire' mark

A community sports project run by Radford-based charity the Partnership Council and Nottingham City Council has been awarded the prestigious London 2012 Inspire mark by the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games – as an outstanding example of a project that defines the Olympic spirit whilst encouraging more people to get involved in sport.

The nationally accredited Women's Sports Leadership Course was set up in October 2009 with the aim of recruiting, training and supporting more women and girls from under represented communities to become sports leaders and coaches.

The Inspire programme was set up by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games to officially recognise outstanding non-commercial projects and events inspired by the 2012 Games.

As well as sport, the Inspire programme also recognises culture, education, sustainability, volunteering and business opportunities.

As a result of the first Level 1 Women's Sports Leadership Course held in October 2009, 18 women took part and graduated in January 2010. Many of those involved are now taking part in the Level 2 course, which will take place in September this year. Plus further Level 1 courses are due to start in June.

Councillor David Trimble, Portfolio Holder for Communities, Leisure and Culture at Nottingham City Council said:

"Only the most inspiring and accessible projects are awarded the Inspire mark so it's fantastic recognition of our project. These courses are a great step towards encouraging more women to coach and lead sport and we hope this will in turn inspire more women and girls to participate in sport and physical activities in the future."

The course was the idea of Rukhsana Aziz from the Partnership Council's Base Camp project – a project that helps set up community groups and projects in Nottingham's South Asian communities: She says:

"It's great that the course is recognised as a project which lives and breathes the Olympic spirit. When I first realised that there was a shortage of South Asian women in sports coaching and approached Nottingham City Council for help to set up the course, I never realised just how successful it would be or that it would prove to be such an inspiration."

Hopefully now, the new generation of sports coaches we're training will go on to inspire other South Asian girls and women to get involved in sports and sports coaching – resulting in happier and healthier communities.”

To find out more please contact Rukhsana Aziz on 0115 970 8200 or email rukhsana@partnershipcouncil.co.uk

www.partnershipcouncil.co.uk

www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk