

Sport Birmingham Virtual Learning & Networking Sessions

Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th June 2020

Session Summary

Overall, it was great to have so many of you sharing your experiences of the last few months with us and to hear about the ways in which you have adapted and confronted challenges along the way. There has been lots of new learning which has come out of working differently and adapting to the situation we been faced over 3-4 months

Key things which came out of the sessions:

Positives

- We heard of how lockdown has provided opportunity to make new contacts and strengthen existing ones,
- How time spent in meetings and on calls has been more focused and productive,
- New ways in communicating has provided space for more personal interaction and open conversation both internally and externally,
- And with new challenges has come new learning and adaptability,
- Some of you have been able to access funding support, enabling facility and running costs to be taken care of and helping keep your club or organisation afloat.

Challenges

- Others have found it harder to access or know where to start with funding,
- Some have experienced feeling as though you have had to 'start all over again',
- A main challenge which came up has been the readjustment to home working,
- Along with the challenge of having the appropriate equipment to move to online or adaptive working; this is also an issue in reaching participants who may have little or no internet coverage or technology to join in with sessions,
- And keeping participants engaged and interactive, with many of you highlighting drop-off as time has gone by – 'the novelty has worn off'.
- How do we get our participants back, whilst keeping our organisation staff/volunteers safe?

Ideas

- To share online engagement ideas within the network; participant challenges, fundraising & charity events, goal setting and competitions,
- To share the feedback gained from conversations with your participants and community,
- To join up working to strengthen delivery offers and capture the needs of different audiences,
- And where clubs and organisations are struggling to find facilities to work from, whether those with capacity could look at opening up their facilities for other groups to use and support the continuation of clubs within their communities.

We look forward to continuing these conversations and would be interested to hear of any which you continue with each other and across the network. Thank you for your input in kicking these off.