

Sustainability Policy

West Country Wolves — Girls Basketball Development Programme

Last reviewed: 23.07.26 Next review: 23.07.26 Owner: Club Committee

1. Policy statement

West Country Wolves is committed to operating sustainably in two connected senses: reducing our environmental impact - which matters more for us than for a typical local club, given our regional footprint and international trips, and building a Community Interest Company that can support players, coaches and mentors for the long term.

2. Environmental practice

- Planning group travel to training days, leadership days and international trips as efficiently as possible, to reduce the number of separate journeys across the region
- Choosing travel options and providers with reasonable environmental credentials for international trips such as the Paris programme, where cost and practicality allow
- Being transparent with families about the footprint of international travel, and inviting suggestions for reducing it over time
- Minimising printed materials - forms and communications are handled digitally (Jotform, email) wherever possible
- Reusing and passing on kit rather than discarding it
- Reducing single-use plastics at training and leadership days, encouraging reusable water bottles

3. Organisational sustainability

- Completing our transition to a Community Interest Company (CIC), with independent governance members in place to meet Basketball England's affiliation requirements and support long-term stability
- Building a diverse and stable mix of income, including Sport England funding, National Lottery Community Fund grants, women's sport grants, sponsorship and the Paris programme, so the programme is not overly dependent on any single source
- Succession planning for key committee, coaching and mentoring roles, so the programme can continue smoothly through change
- Investing in coach and mentor development, including Basketball England qualifications, so capacity grows alongside the pathway
- Working toward paid roles for those doing the most significant work for the programme, so this remains viable as a long-term commitment
- Tracking how many players go on to play at higher levels or stay involved in the sport as coaches, mentors or officials after leaving the programme, as a measure of the pathway's long-term impact

4. Partnerships

We build relationships with feeder clubs (including Bristol Bulls) WEBBA and sponsors on a long-term basis rather than one-off transactions, so that the wider talent pathway across the region is stable and mutually beneficial over time.

5. Contact

Structure	Community Interest Company (CIC) — in formation
General contact	info@westcountrywolves.co.uk

6. Review

This policy is reviewed at least annually by the committee, alongside our other governance policies, and updated as the programme grows.