

- DO wait for the players to stop and look at you BEFORE you explain why there is a penalty / free pass as players need to lip-read the beginning of the sentence for it to make sense. Players cannot hear you shout or comment from behind.
- DO use flags simultaneously as blowing the whistle to give a visual indication to start or stop play and give deaf players an opportunity to participate in the game on an equal par as their hearing peers i.e. Stop play – both hands raised above umpires head / Start of play – swing flag down
- DON'T speak with a whistle is in your mouth / while chewing gum / have a pen in your mouth as it is impossible to lip-read when that happens.
- DON'T repeat single words if you are not understood – rephrase your sentence, as the context is easier to pick up in sentences.
- If a sign language interpreter is present always address the Deaf person directly and be aware that there will be a slight delay in the information coming across from spoken English to British Sign Language (BSL) and vice versa.
- BSL is a language of its own right with a different grammatical structure from English and for some Deaf people BSL is their first language hence English is their second language.

USEFUL WEBSITES:

England Netball

www.Englandnetball.co.uk

UK Deaf Sport

www.ukdeafsport.org.uk

UK Deaf Sport can provide tailor made sign language and deaf awareness courses for all sports contact Stewart Harrison on sharrison@efds.co.uk

Secretary of Deaf Netball

deafnetball@hotmail.co.uk

To register with Deaf Netball egroup. To find out more about any deaf netball teams to join in. Provide advice and information for any deaf netball clubs.

British Sign Language

www.british-sign.co.uk

English Federation of Disability Sport

www.efds.net

www.Englandnetball.co.uk

INFORMATION COMPILED BY:

England Netball and
the West Midlands
Deaf Netball
Association.
3 June 2005

England Netball
Netball House
9 Paynes Park
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1EH