

## **The Person Profile,**

**Name** : Steve Nelson



**Job Title** : Partnership Director

**Place of Birth** : Birmingham

### **Background** : (Career)

I was lucky enough to have a career as a basketball player, playing at the top level in the UK for 15 years. During that time, I played for some of the most successful teams in the country, winning a number of league, cup and play-offs, in European competition, captained the world student games basketball team and represented England 18 times. I combined this with coaching in a range of environments (schools, clubs, etc).

I went back to study (university) in my mid twenties, at the end of which I got my first job in sports development, working for a small council in Sussex. After 3 years, I combined what I'd learnt in this job, with a lifetime of playing basketball to take up the role of National Development Manager for England Basketball. After nearly 4 years there, I was appointed as Sussex Sports Partnership Manager, where I stayed until my appointment to my current post with the West of England Sports Partnership in March 2005.

### **Main Duties** :

I am the strategic lead, responsible for the direction of my organisation, developing its' structure and ensuring we link effectively to other organisations whose roles impact on sport, physical activity and active recreation - a big challenge!

### **Hobbies** :

I have an interest in coaching, working at National league level until recently, and away from sport, I have a passion for sci fi movies and books (when I have the time to read non-work items!), and wild life programmes. I'm still a "big kid" and will happily sit watching cartoons with my son and daughter aged 10 and 8.

**Likes :**

Sci fi, cartoons, coaching, laughing, working with people from different backgrounds

**Dislikes :**

Running (without something to chase - i.e. a ball!), marmite and slippers!

**Top 3 Qualities :**

I like to enjoy my work, and for those who work with me to enjoy their roles also

A good communicator - from working with children to politicians!

I'm sure I have others, but can't think of one!

**Advice to teachers :**

There is a real need to coordinate the use of resources (people and finance) from within schools, to community including the role of the many voluntary organisations that deliver sport and physical activity in the community. Getting the balance right in relation to competition between organisations (schools, sports, clubs, etc.) and cooperation in order that the people of our communities get the maximum benefit is a challenge I share with you, and hope we can work on this together.