



BT Paralympic World Cup 2012 Education Pack – Football 7-a-side

This resource can be used in conjunction with the BT Paralympic World Cup website, www.btparalympicworldcup.com



Overview:

Football is one of the world's most exciting sports and the 7-a-Side version is no exception, combining speed, agility and impressive ball handling. This sport has been officially part of the Paralympic programme since the New York/Stoke Mandeville Games in 1984. This fresh and exciting new sport brings four world class international teams to compete in a gruelling four-day contest in Manchester. These teams are: Great Britain, Spain (tbc), USA, Brazil.

Football 7-a-side is an adaption of association football for athletes with cerebral palsy and other neurological disorders, including stroke and traumatic brain injury. Modifications to the FIFA rules include a reduced field of play, a reduction in the number of players, elimination of the offside rule and permission for one-handed throw-ins. Matches consist of two thirty-minute halves, with a fifteen-minute half-time break.

The four-day contest will see the four countries battle it out in an attempt to be the BT PWC Football 7-a-side Champions! The Teams will also be hoping to accumulate points for their BT PWC teams, namely Great Britain, the Americas, Europe and the Rest of the World in the race to win the inaugural BT Paralympic World Cup overall Competition Trophy which will be presented to the team with the most points across all sports on the last day of the BT Paralympic World Cup.



Football 7-a-side Activities

Activity 1: Classroom

1. Discuss why the FIFA rules need to be modified for the Paralympic version of Football 7-a-side (reduced field of play, a reduction in the number of players, elimination of the offside rule and permission for one-handed throw-ins)
2. Discuss how the players' disabilities (namely cerebral palsy and other neurological disorders, including stroke and traumatic brain injury) affect how they play the game. (This discussion ties in with the above modification of FIFA rules)
3. Research the Football 7-a-side players competing at the BT Paralympic World Cup. As a class, create a banner to cheer on your favourite player and bring it to the BT PWC in May.

Activity 2: Playing Field

- 1) Students must take turns attempting to score a goal in the posts with their hands behind their backs. After a few attempts, students must try score a goal with no constraint. This demonstrates how athletes with coordination and movement disabilities are restricted when playing the game.
- 2) Students to get into teams and attempt to play a short game of Football with their hands held behind their backs. After 10 minutes, they can resume play having full control of their coordination and movement.

Group: Discuss how having coordination and movement disabilities affect the overall performance of a player.



Activity 3: Classroom / wider study

- 1) Students to research any local Football 7-a-side players or clubs in your school or local area.
 - a) Invite a player to the school or follow their progress as they develop. It may be that you have a young athlete nearby who is on your local Gifted and Talented Programme.



- b) Invite the player or club to develop a local link to your school or become a school ambassador. Your local sports development unit may be able to help as part of their ongoing sports partnership work
- c) Order some free flyers and posters from the organisers (pwcenquiries@fasttrackagency.com) to distribute to your class and school to raise the profile of Paralympic Sport and get everyone excited about the BT PWC.

The following websites may be useful:

www.paralympics.org.uk or www.youthsporttrust.org

Class Quiz and Case Study

Please access the class quiz [here](http://www.btparalympicworldcup.com/competitions) (www.btparalympicworldcup.com/competitions) and download the athlete case studies [at this link](#).

Tickets for BT Paralympic World Cup

Complimentary school tickets can be ordered through the BT Paralympic World Cup website (www.btparalympicworldcup.com/schools). Each school is permitted up to 25 per session however these are on a first come first serve basis. You will also need a promotional code – please contact us at pwcenquiries@fasttrackagency.com.

Websites

All information and resources needed to complete these activities can be found following links from our website:

BT Paralympic World Cup website: www.btparalympicworldcup.com