



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission



Busy netball mum learns online

Like most parents there are never enough hours in the day for club netball coach and official Andrea Hutton.

But despite a busy schedule she has managed to complete the Australian Sports Commission's online Introductory Officiating General Principles course.

'The best thing was being able to do the course on line in my own time. I could sit down for an hour and do some and then save it and come back a couple of days later. I think it really works well for people who are busy. You can wait until you have a quiet moment and sit down at your leisure.'

Andrea Hutton became involved in netball through her daughter, 15-year-old daughter Stephanie.

'When Stephanie first started playing netball I was basically just a mum on the sidelines helping out where I could, doing scoring and timing,' Hutton said. 'But I really enjoyed being involved and the next thing I knew I was a committee member and then found myself doing some assistant coaching.'

The next logical step for Hutton was to take on the role of a coach and she is now in charge of an under 16 and under 18 team for the Heritage Islanders Netball Club in Northern Tasmania.

Having taken on the new role, she was keen to do it properly and has used the Australian Sports Commission's online courses to set her on the right path.

'I started with the Beginning Coaching General Principles online course, which gave me a great insight into some basic coaching techniques. Then I saw the Introductory Officiating General Principles course in the Netball Australia newsletter and thought I'd do that as well.'

'I went online and checked it out and it looked good so I tackled it.'

Hutton found the two courses blended really well and complemented each other.

The officiating course increased Hutton's awareness of things like risk management and responsibilities.

'All the information was really useful, particularly the case studies and links to other resources and websites.'

Hutton plans to continue her coaching and officiating roles and is looking forward to being able to build on her knowledge online.

'The courses are very beneficial and worthwhile and will help me reach my potential. They cover all the basics you need to be able to carry out your job competently and with confidence,' Hutton said.

The online Introductory Officiating General Principles is available at the Australian Sports Commission's learning portal at <https://learning.ausport.gov.au>