

NEWS RELEASE

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Immediate release

Move over Beckham – England captain wannabes wanted at Birmingham Actionnaires

The Birmingham Actionnaires, a sports club for blind and partially sighted children, is looking for new members. The club, which is run by charity Action for Blind People, in partnership with Birmingham Focus on Blindness, meets every Saturday at Hamstead Hall Secondary School, and it's free!

Birmingham Actionnaires is open to visually impaired children and young people aged between eight and 16 years, along with their friends and family. Children have the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of sports including football, judo and swimming, taught by both specialist and mainstream sports coaches.

John Ellery, Sports Development Officer for Action for Blind People, comments:

“Actionnaires offers blind and partially sighted children from the Birmingham area the chance to enjoy a wide range of sports in safe, fun and encouraging surroundings. Whether a child is a budding World Cup hero, or has never tried sport at all, it doesn't matter! All visually impaired children are welcome to join.”

For more information on the club, please contact John Ellery, Sports Development Officer on Tel: 0121 665 4200, email: john.ellery@actionforblindpeople.org.uk

Action for Blind People is currently fundraising in Birmingham. Funds raised will pay for vital services run by Action for blind and partially sighted people, such as the Birmingham Actionnaires.

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For further media information please contact Zoë Patel, PR Officer, Action for Blind People on Tel: 020 7635 4898 or zoe.patel@actionforblindpeople.org.uk

Notes to Editors

- Birmingham Actionnaires meets at Hamstead Hall Secondary School, Craythorne Avenue, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, West Midlands B20 1HL. The club runs every Saturday at (11am until 1pm)
- There are currently 16 Actionnaires clubs across the UK in Huddersfield, Portsmouth, Essex, Sunderland, Blackburn, Coventry, Liverpool (2), Manchester, West London, South London, Hull, Birmingham, Southampton, Nottingham and Peterborough.
- The Birmingham Actionnaires has been funded through support from Lords' Taverners, Aga Food Services Group and The Primary Club, the cricketer's charity that raises money to provide sports and recreational facilities for the visually impaired.
- Action for Blind People supports over 20,000 blind and partially sighted people in the UK every year. Action for Blind People's National Freephone Helpline is 0800 915 4666.
- Action works to inspire change and create opportunities to enable blind and partially sighted people to have equal voice and equal choice and to live a full and valuable life.
- Action provides visually impaired people with opportunities through employment, housing, leisure and information and support.