



GBR

## Gordon Neale OBE

I started my involvement with volleyball for the physically impaired in 1984. Those who had the greatest influence on my development in the sport were Pieter Joon, Len Softley and Richard Callicott.

My introduction to standing Volleyball occurred at Stoke Mandeville in 1985 when I assisted Trevor Morgan (Coach) with standing whilst also coaching/developing the sitting game.

I became GBR's first International Referee when I successfully completed the ISOD/WOVD course in Tel Aviv, Israel in 1986.

Major standing events at which I refereed included:

- 1986 - World Championships – Tel Aviv, Israel
  - 1987 - European Championships (Open) – Paris, France
  - 1989 - European Championships - Zielona Gora, Poland
  - 1990 - Euro Cup – Leverkusen, Germany
  - 1991 - European Championships – Nottingham, England
  - 1992 - Paralympics – Barcelona, Spain
  - 1993 - European Championships – Amilly, France
  - 1994 - Euro Cup – Bratislava, Slovakia
  - 1994 - World Championships – Bottrop, Germany
  - 1995 – European Championships (Open) – Olsztyn, Poland
  - 1996 - Paralympics – Atlanta, USA
  - 1998 - World Championships – Olsztyn, Poland
- 1998 was my last International referee appointment.





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#### Additional roles:

Appointed Marketing Director for WOVD in 1990

Appointed Vice President of WOVD - retired as VP 1997

Organised the European Standing Championships in Nottingham in 1991

Organised an International Referees Course in London 1992

Member of the British Paralympic Association representing Disabled Volleyball and ensuring opportunities were made available for athletes and officials to take part in disabled volleyball, including standing.

#### Award received:

In 2002 was awarded an OBE (The Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by the Queen for my outstanding contribution to disabled sport, which included standing volleyball.

