



Bruce French takes part in a drill during a England Nets Session at Emirates Old Trafford on August 04, 2020 in Manchester, England. (Getty Images)

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## Bruce French to retire from coaching role

After 11 years as National Lead Wicketkeeping Coach, Bruce French has retired from his role to spend more time with family.

The former Nottinghamshire stalwart joined the England & Wales Cricket Board coaching team at the National Cricket Performance Centre in 2009.

French, who played 16 Tests and 13 ODIs for his country, has been pivotal in the development of England's wicketkeepers over the past decade ensuring that English keepers are regarded amongst the best in the world. He has done

an outstanding job in the career development of Matt Prior, Jonny Bairstow, Jos Buttler, Ben Foakes and Sarah Taylor.

French, 61, is to continue providing coaching needs across the game as a part-time consultant.

Mo Bobat, Performance Director, England Men's Cricket, said:

"English cricket owes a huge debt of gratitude to Bruce for the fine work that he has done over a number of years. For some time, we have been able to select from an oversupply of excellent wicketkeepers and Bruce has played a significant role in developing those players.

"There is much that Bruce should be proud of and this includes numerous memorable victories in both home and away series for England and of course, our historic World Cup win in 2019. Bruce has also ensured that his coaching insight has been effectively shared across the game through our Coach Development programmes.

"I wish Bruce every success in his future endeavours and have no doubt that he still has much to offer as a coach in the game."

Ashley Giles, Managing Director, England Men's Cricket, added:

"I would like to thank Bruce and those that are leaving the performance department for their contribution to the elite set-up over the past few years.

"It has been a challenging time for all, but I am very proud of the efforts of every individual and the loyalty they have shown in maintaining England cricket at the forefront of international sport and competition.

"I have worked alongside some talented people and the dedication and professionalism shown is renowned across the sport. Those that are leaving the ECB can look back on having made a significant positive impact that will be remembered for a long time. I wish everyone all the success in the next chapter of their personal lives and careers."

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