

Boveland touch to grassroots coaching

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BENGALURU: [Jude Felix Hockey Academy](#) (JFHA) has entered into a technical alliance with the Dutch-based [Boveland Hockey Academy](#) (BHA), founded by legendary penalty corner expert, Olympian and World Cup winner [Floris Jan Boveland](#), to develop grassroots coaching structure.

Two experts from BHA, Damien van der Peet and Ewout Pahud de Mortanges, will hold a five-day high performance clinic at the St Mary's Orphanage auditorium from July 20-24 in a bid to enhance the knowledge and skills of domestic coaches. As many as 50 coaches from across the country, including a woman, will take part.

JFHA secretary P Shanmugam said: "Coaches will learn about how to create a structure for successful coaching based on a strong talent development programme. The clinic includes theory as well as practical sessions," he added.

This will be the first such clinic in the state after Australia legend [Ric Charlesworth](#) held a course at the [Sports Authority of India](#) here in 2008. This is also the first time that the Netherlands-based outfit is hosting such an event in Karnataka.

Boveland, who was part of many exploits of the Dutch team in the 1980s and 90s, is also the member of the executive board of [One Million Hockey Legs](#) (OMHL), whose aim is to increase the number of children and adults playing hockey in India to one million by 2018.

Earlier this year, OMHL, in association with JFHA, had launched a hockey academy at Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu. The academy, with 40 children, is funded by OMHL while JFHA provides coaching and technical guidance.