

ENGLAND SQUASH & RACKETBALL FUNDING UPDATE

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ENGLAND SQUASH & RACKETBALL



England
Squash &
Racketball

Introduction

Dear all,

The 2009/10 squash season is now well underway and after a couple of months with little happening, the world of '*sports funding opportunities*' is beginning to wake as well - perfect timing!



Although there are no significant new funds to report on this month, I am delighted to announce the imminent reopening of three major funds that can offer financial support to **Capital Projects!**

This means that any club with a new project or, a revised application that has previously been turned down, has a great opportunity to attract some vital funding that could see a renovation or building project get off the ground!

The funds available are presented below and on the next page in order of the size of grant required, from **£5000** to **£100,000+**. Please ensure that you read all of the application guidelines before applying to ensure your project meets the minimum requirements and application criteria. All **pictures** and **Blue text** are hyperlinked so just click on them to be taken to the correct web page - good Luck!

Funding Opportunities

grassroots
grants

1) Grassroots Grants:

Not a new fund, but a very important one that can offer up to **£5000** for just about anything including facility renovations or repairs as well as general club development initiatives. Grassroots Grants is available through your local Community Foundation (or something similar), contact details for which are available from the Community Development Foundation website www.cdf.org.uk

As this funding pot is delivered locally, there is a reasonable chance that your club will be known to the decisions panel and therefore, that your project will stand a good chance of being awarded funding!

Maximum Award: £5000

For: Anything!

Match Funding Required?: No

Open: Now

2) Sportsmatch:

One of the key Sport England Funds that offers pound for pound match funding to clubs that have sourced funds through external sponsorship and are looking to increase grass roots participation. The minimum amount on offer is **£1000** and the maximum is **£100,000**. Sportsmatch can fund Capital projects however, they can only fund such projects if the total build cost is less than **£25,000**.

Sportsmatch has already closed for the 2009/10 funding cycle due to high levels of demand but will be reopening for projects starting after April 2010 in **December** this year - keep an eye on the Sport England Funding website for more information and check the FAQ section to see if your project is eligible!

www.sportengland.org/funding/sportsmatch.aspx

Max Award: £100,000
(£12,500 for Capital projects)

For: Anything!

Match Funding Required?: Yes

Open: December 09
(From Sponsorship)



**SPORT
ENGLAND**

Funding Opportunities Continued . . .

3) Sustainable Facilities:

When launched earlier in the year Sustainable Facilities was a novel and exciting fund that helped a number of major capital projects by awarding **£10 million** worth of funding. It is reopening on **26th October** and has a new **£10 million** budget for the 2010/11 financial year. Applications must be made via the Sport England website by **21st December** after which the fund will close until next year.
www.sportengland.org/funding/sustainable_facilities.aspx



There is a useful 'prospectus' document available on the website with more information about the eligibility criteria and it appears that the fund will favour larger projects that incorporate more than 1 sport! Significant match funding will be required and successful projects will need to demonstrate they are sustainable into the future!

Max Award: Unconfirmed **For: Capital Projects** **Match Funding Required?: Yes** **Open: 26th October -21st December**
 likely to favour major projects favouring multi-sport venues

4) Themed Round #2

The third funding opportunity available from Sport England is the 2nd Themed Round that again, will be open for applications in the near future. The 'theme' has not yet been published and until it is, I am unable to predict which clubs and projects will be able to apply. However, I can confirm that it is likely to have **£10 million** to distribute and, given that the first 'theme' was Rural Communities, the 2nd is likely to target a similar minority group. **Possible** themes include the following: *Women in sport, BME participation, disability sport or urban/city sports development*. Further information is likely to be published on the Sport England website later this month, so keep an eye out!
www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx



Good News Stories

Sometimes applying for funding can take a large amount of time and effort but, the rewards can be significant and make a huge difference to your club if your application is successful. The following examples show that all the effort can be well worth it and will hopefully inspire you to take a positive step forward!

Berko Show (off) Court -



Berkhamsted Lawn Tennis and Squash Rackets Club recently unveiled their impressive new show court and lounge area at a glittering open evening featuring 4 top pros and numerous junior workshops.

The majority of the **£300,000** renovation was paid for by a local private school who have negotiated a fair use agreement in return; and what a wonderful facility it is!

The new court has banked seating for about 70 spectators and was jam-packed by an enthusiastic crowd of members and invited guests to watch 2 top quality exhibition matches. Dominique Lloyd-Walter played Lauren Briggs before up and coming star Tom Richards took on local favourite Chris Ryder. Both matches were extremely entertaining, as were the player's Q&A sessions hosted by club captain Scott Rickard after each contest. As the crowd retired to the new lounge for some food, the 4 pros stayed on court for some mixed doubles action.

The new court has shown the ambition of the club to become the premiere squash venue in Hertfordshire and demonstrates what such an investment can do to rejuvenate a facility and engage a squash club with the wider community.

Good News Stories Continued . . .

Worcestershire Junior Squash Double up -

Worcestershire Junior Squash have had a double whammy of successful applications recently that are set to transform their whole development programme from grass roots to their top county teams. Their first success was a **£3480 Sport Unlimited** bid from their local **County Sports Partnership** for new after school sessions at 3 clubs. 210 children aged 4-13 will be introduced to squash as a result of the grant.

Their second success came from the Sport England **Small Grants Scheme** and will be used to run a new 'Excel' programme for the county's top young players. The **£5860** will also pay for 2 international player coaching clinics which will coincide with Club Open Days. The total of **£9740** will make a huge difference to the county and is largely down to the hard work and vision of Bett Dryhurst.

For information on **Sport Unlimited** contact your **County Sports Partnership** - details of which are at the following link.

www.sportengland.org/support_advice/county_sports_partnerships.aspx

For details on Sport England **Small Grants**, that can offer up to **£10,000** for club development, initiatives, check out the Sport England Funding website.

www.sportengland.org/funding/small_grants.aspx



Other Ideas to help you along!

Cant' find what you are looking for? Why not try the internet?

There are a huge number of funding opportunities out there but finding them can be a daunting task. Luckily there are also plenty of decent websites that can help. Some of the better (free!) ones are listed below.



Grantsnet have a good database of funding opportunities; but be sure to try searching with a few different 'key words' www.grantsnet.co.uk/

FUNDING CENTRAL

Funding Central have a good database of local funders and a search engine that only takes a couple of minutes to navigate - worth a look!

www.fundingcentral.org.uk/search.aspx



Funder finder offer some searches for free, others have to be paid for but they do sometimes have things other sites don't? www.funderfinder.org.uk/

Save the world and help your club!

The media and government are always looking for ways to encourage us all to do more to save the planet, drive down Carbon emissions and recycle as much as we can.

The problem is that doing all of that on your own can seem like a thank-

less task! Luckily there is a recycling company on hand that can help. **Reciproc8** are a new organisation that are offering sports clubs the opportunity to band together to collect more items and **trade them in for sporting equipment**.

The idea is very simple, your club registers, you get given a collection bin, people throw old ink cartridges, mobile phones etc into the bin, you send them off and receive points to be spent on all sorts of sporting goods.

Although squash is not one of the featured sports, there are training aids and rackets available that may be worth collecting for.

Visit www.reciproc8.co.uk/ for more information



Job done; planet saved!

I hope you found this information useful, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or funding issues!

Please continue to send me details of success stories from your area so I can share your experiences with a wider audience.

Finally, please contact me if you would like the latest copy of the National Funding Opportunities database!

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