

What is the Together Fund?

The Together Fund exists to help to reduce the negative impact of Covid-19 and help community groups working with target audiences to grow and help more people.

The Together Fund is a continuation of the Tackling Inequalities Fund (TIF) that was set up in April 2020 as part of Sport England's support package to help the sport and physical activity sector.

The Together Fund will be spent on these priority audiences:

- Lower socio-economic groups (LSEG);
- Culturally diverse communities;
- Disabled people;
- People with long-term health conditions.

Since its launch, TIF has enabled community groups to continue to exist and engage with their communities, supporting people to be engaged and active. The Together Fund is intended to help further growth and recovery of community organisations working with target audiences.

Who can apply?

All registered clubs within the BJA's English Areas are eligible and can therefore apply for a one-off grant award.

How much funding can I apply for?

A maximum of £10,000 per club, although Sport England expects that the vast majority of grants (80%) will sit below £5,000 with the current average award being £3,500.

When should funding be spent?

All funding must be spent by 30th September 2023, the aim of the fund is to address the recovery and long-term impacts from the Covid-19 crisis and the associated cost of living crisis. As opposed to funding any longer-term projects.

What if I have already received Sport England / National Lottery Funding?

You cannot apply for funding which has already been received for the same items or projects.

Applications cannot duplicate any funding which has been received already from Sport England / National Lottery.

What is the funding criteria?

Clubs must be working with at least one of the four target groups:

- Lower socio-economic groups (LSEG);
- Culturally diverse communities;
- Disabled people;
- People with long-term health conditions.

When applying please ensure you consider the following questions when submitting your application, as this is what Sport England ask BJA to consider when we assess applications:

1. Will this investment impact upon at least one of the four target groups?
2. Has the requirement arisen as a direct result of this audience being adversely affected as a result of Covid-19, and the associated cost of living crisis?
3. What issues does the funding help to resolve in improving access to take part in sport and physical activity for the target audience?
4. Will this investment help a club to recover and grow or continue to survive as a result of hardship? If hardship, please set out in the application how this investment will enable the club to continue beyond the immediacy of this short-term investment which will run out on 30th September 2023.
5. Is this project directly funding the provision of physical activity or if not, how will it support the delivery of physical activity in the immediate future?

What costs can I apply for?

The following items may be claimed for in your project, you must itemise the costs in the appropriate place on the application form:

- Equipment Hire / Purchase
- Coaches Fees / Expenses
- Hire of Facilities
- Promotion / Publicity
- Staff Costs
- Transport / Travel

Is there anything I cannot apply for?

There are certain items that are not eligible for funding they are as follows:

- Activities or costs which are already covered by other government funding
- Capital works including construction and refurbishment, temporary buildings or land improvement
- Activities promoting religious or political beliefs
- Where there is personal benefit to an individual
- Loss of Sponsorship or loan repayments
- Replacement of general equipment for reasons unrelated to the Together Fund (its broken, tired, torn etc)
- Contingency costs and VAT organisations are seeking to recover
- Retrospective costs including purchase of equipment, where clubs have already purchased items prior to funding being agreed
- Vehicle purchases or leases
- Any project where the main beneficiaries are under the age of five.

This list is not exhaustive but gives a guideline on what not to ask for.

How long will we have to spend the funding?

The funding must be spent by 30th September at the very latest.

How can I apply, what is the process?

1. Complete the application form on our website
2. We shall send you an email confirming receipt of your application and will request further due diligence documentation
3. You will send us an email with the further documentation requested
4. On successful completion of your application and further due diligence documentation received the BJA Grant Approval panel will review your application within three weeks
5. You will be contacted by a member of BJA staff who sits on the Grant Approval panel should any further information or amendments be required **or** advise your application has been declined by the BJA Grant Approval Panel within four weeks of your full submission
6. If successful at point 5, your application will be submitted to Sport England for approval. A Sport England decision takes normally around one to two weeks. We shall advise you the outcome of this ASAP
7. If successful at point 6, you will be sent a grant approval letter and an award agreement for you to complete. Once returned the agreed funding will be transferred to your specified club bank account within two weeks

8. You will have until 30th September 2023 at the very latest to deliver your project

What further due diligence documentation do I need to send?

Sport England and the BJA require the following:

- Governance document such as a valid constitution
- Safeguarding policy
- Recent dedicated bank statement for the club (must be in the name of the club and not a personal bank account)

These must be emailed to our dedicated BJA Together Fund mailbox togetherfund@britishjudo.org.uk

What Monitoring and Evaluation is expected?

Clubs will be expected to keep BJA fully informed of the progress of the project on an ongoing basis throughout the term of the project, both in response to requests from BJA and on a pro-active basis.

A mid-point review survey will be undertaken and on certain projects a site visit may be arranged.

Clubs shall keep all invoices, receipts, account records and any other relevant documents and these must be produced on request from the BJA.

An online survey and evidence of total spend for the project (receipts etc.) must be provided on request from the BJA. This is a fundamental condition of the grant and if not this could result in the awarded funds being clawed back.

Another key condition is that clubs will actively encourage and facilitate the completion of a "Together Fund Participant Evaluation Survey".

Clubs are also expected to participate in the activity of producing a case study on the request of the BJA on completion of the project.

Can I apply for funding for a project that has already taken place?

No, we are not able to fund projects that have already started prior to funding being approved.

Am I allowed to appeal the decision of the BJA Grant Approval Panel or Sport England?

There will be no appeals, by entering the process applicants agree to this condition.