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**Criteria for Return to Participation Grant 2021**

**Club Criteria**

Meath Local Sports Partnership’s remit is to promote participation in sports and physical activity. This club grant is designed to support clubs, **to increase participation in sport and physical activity, particularly amongst the targeted groups outlined below.**

**Eligible applicants must:**

1. Be registered to an NGB & based in Meath.
2. Operate as a “not for profit”.
3. Have a club constitution or equivalent documentation that includes policies and practices that encourage participation regardless of gender, age, race or ability.
4. Where the club has membership under the age of 18, the club must operate under best practice for children in sport and be able to demonstrate certification in Child Protection & safeguarding.
5. Clubs/groups must have suitable insurance cover in place.

**Programme criteria**

1. Demonstrate how a successful application would increase **participation** in sport and physical activity.
2. Programme must be delivered over a minimum period of 6 weeks and can be a series of ‘Come & Try’ days.
3. Programme must demonstrate additionality either in terms of new participants, new activity or working with a new target group.
4. Outline how the programme provides a participation pathway into the club
5. Focus of the programme can include 1 or more of the following target groups

* Older Adults
* Women and Girls
* Men 35+
* People with disabilities
* Disadvantaged communities
* Ethnic Minorites
* Young People

**What applications are ineligible for this scheme?**

* Applications from individuals
* National/Regional/County Governing Bodies/ Statutory agencies
* For profit groups/commercial organisations
* Private facility owners
* Applications eligible for funding under other schemes will not be considered
* e.g. Go for Life, Sports Capital etc
* Clubs based outside of County Meath
* Clubs not affiliated with an NGB
* Costs such as entertainment
* Initiatives which are being used as fundraisers

**What we want to fund:**

Costs of programme to increase participant numbers of a new or existing club(s) and/or increase physical activity targeting one or more of: Older Adults, Women and Girls, Men 35+, People with disabilities, Disadvantaged communities, Ethnic Minorites or Young People.

Your programme is to include at least 1 of the goals below:

1. **New and innovative –** not a replica of a previous programme / initiative
2. **Include group(s) from target areas**
3. **Adds additionality –** adds a new element to an existing activity or by engaging a new partner

**Examples include:**

**Increasing participation:** Developing participation of a given target group through partnership approach of club and local school e.g. a programme is held in the school to provide a regular activity during school time, this progresses to bringing the children to the club to take part in tailored activities or a friendly tournament encouraging the children to join the club.

**Developing partnerships and participation:** A partnership approach between 2 clubs of different sports. For example, when the Basketball season finishes the GAA season begins. A GAA club and a Basketball club team up and run a programme in conjunction with one another, this programme focuses on participation and transferrable skills. At the end the GAA club & Basketball club may both gain new members through the partnership approach and combined focus on the transferrable skills through the two sports.

**Developing participation through an intervention-based programme**: Club partners, with a local agency together they identify young people at risk of engaging in anti-social behaviour. A Programme is run during peak anti-social hours. The programme serves the local community by combating anti-social behaviour while providing an outlet and diversion to young people and providing a pathway to joining a club.

**How much funding is available per club/organisation/project?**

Return to participation – maximum **€1,000** per club / application

Volunteer Support / Training and education – maximum **€1,000** per club

Small equipment grants – maximum **€500** per club

**Evaluation Report Form**

Applicants should note that successful clubs/organisations must complete and submit an evaluation report form (provided by Meath LSP at programme end).

**NOTE:**

Applicants should note that successful clubs/organisations must comply with any reasonable request regarding publicity from Meath LSP

**Closing date for applications: Thursday 14th October @4pm**

Where possible grant must be fully expended by Fri 17th December 2021

Date of full drawdown may be extended **ONLY** where clubs are availing of the volunteer support grant in support of the roll out of the participation grant