



CRICKET IRELAND – Sport Ireland COVID 19 GRANT SCHEME 3: Funding Guidelines & Application Process

Guidance for Funding to Clubs, Branches & Affiliates:

Under this scheme Sport Ireland will not fund Clubs, Affiliates, Provinces or Branches directly and funding will be accessed through an application to Cricket Ireland.

To ensure good governance and strong oversight Cricket Ireland have establish a sub-committee to evaluate all applications and make recommendations to the CI Board for final award.

Below are the list of criteria that will be used when assessing and prioritising applications:

- Verifiable evidence of need (COVID 19 related losses to sporting activity income only, i.e. excluding Bar, hospitality revenue etc)
- As recommended by SI, the level and scope of engagement of programmes/activities aligned with National Strategy.
- Levels of activities to counteract the loss of earnings
- Risk of insolvency
- Funding is only available to Clubs, Affiliates, Provinces or Branches based in the Republic of Ireland only.
- Funding cannot be used for Capital Works. This includes the completion or resumption of work that may have been disrupted due to COVID 19.
- Clubs, Affiliates and Branches with significant reserves should not be supported.

Further Guidelines are:

- Funding allocations to clubs under the new scheme will be determined following a robust grant application and assessment process conducted by Cricket Ireland and approved by Sport Ireland.
- Cricket Ireland will distribute primarily to recognised affiliated cricket clubs.
- Cricket Ireland must be fully satisfied that the grant is absolutely required.
- The funding is targeted at issues arising from COVID 19.
- Principles of fairness will apply.
- No upper or lower limits are in place. This can only be determined when the extent of the demand of the schemes is known.

FAIRNESS, EQUITY & INCLUSION

Cricket Ireland recognises that Provincial Unions and certain cricket clubs have been disproportionately impacted by the COVID 19 crisis.

The stated aim of the Schemes means that the outcomes will be based on identified need. That means the extent of applications can be estimated but is not knowable in advance. Nor can it be known how many valid applications will be received.

Cricket Ireland will endeavour to ensure that the investment is distributed fairly. Every effort will be made to ensure that the wider cricket community benefits from the schemes. Limits on grant amounts may be put in place. That can only be done when the extent of the demand for the scheme is known

PROCESS & TIMELINE

- The closing date for applications will be **2nd February 2022**
- Applications and supporting documentation should be sent to grantapplications@cricketireland.ie
- Late applications cannot be accepted
- Final decisions will need to take into account the level of demand across the schemes.
- Depending on the level of submissions, the outcome of those deliberations will be communicated to sports organisations late February/early March 2022.
- Subject to approval and standard Terms & Conditions, the process of payment will begin thereafter.

RECOVERY AND RENEWAL PLANS

The COVID 19 Grant Schemes are designed to ensure cricket clubs can maintain operations, avoid insolvency and prepare for a return to productive activity in good financial health.

Any financial recovery of the sector or an individual organisation will comprise of a number of elements.

1. Return to operations – repair and maintenance of existing infrastructure and equipment
2. Ensuring ongoing income (increase/retention of members and affiliations fees)
3. Attraction and retention of volunteers, coaches and officials.
4. Access to other horizontal State supports (e.g. Rate holidays, Salary subsidies, grants etc) will be taken into account if relevant.
6. Cost reductions/mitigation measures

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

When assessing applications, Cricket Ireland will review a number of areas including:

- A. Technical Merits of the Application (i.e. verifiable evidence of need)
- B. Likelihood of meeting the primary objective of the scheme
- C. Agree to be audited in relation to funds received from the Grant
- D. Signed off by Club Chair/President and Treasurer
- E. Adherence to Terms and Conditions as set out by Cricket Ireland

Submissions should include:

- Latest available financial report including a reasonable estimate of financial support required
- Details of actual reductions on income with supporting evidence
- Verifiable evidence of requirement for maintenance needs and programs including cost outlay required.
- Details of any cost savings on expenditure; details of any income increases arising from increased membership
- Notes on access to horizontal supports such as the Government wages subsidy scheme, rate holiday