



Helping to provide
and protect Sport
& Children's Play
since 1926

THE HAMPSHIRE PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

The Orchard, White Hart Lane, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4AF

Tel: (01962) 779334

E-mail: John.Coney@thehpfa.org

President:
Sir James Scott Bt

Registered Charity No. 302005

Chairman:
Cllr. Mike Evans

GRANTS AND LOANS POLICY

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 The Hampshire Playing Fields Association (HPFA) was established to improve sports, recreational and children's play facilities within Hampshire by advising and supporting parish/town councils and voluntary clubs and groups and by distributing grants and low interest loans.

1.2 Resources are limited but even relatively small grants and loans from the HPFA often assist applicants in seeking other grants when it is evident that the HPFA has examined applicants' proposals and deemed them worthy of support.

1.3 This paper outlines the policies and guidelines which will be followed by the Grants and Executive committees when considering applications, but applicants should note that in very exceptional cases some variation may be possible with the approval of the Executive Committee.

2. PRIORITIES

2.1 The protection of existing facilities which are well used, followed by the acquisition of land for sport and the provision of new facilities where none exist or where there is significant under-provision, will attract grants and loans which will be accorded High, Medium or Low priority depending on whether the need is deemed to be essential, important or helpful.

2.2 Emphasis will be placed on schemes which have the widest possible benefit to the community and where there is evidence of significant local effort in fund-raising and/or self-help.

2.3 Other criteria which will be considered when determining priorities include:

- a. Anticipated level of participation and intensity of use.
- b. Sustainability, including long term agreements and financial viability.
- c. Realistic plans for other funding for the proposed scheme.
- d. The timescale for completion of the project.
- e. Current fund balances.

3. AMOUNTS AVAILABLE

3.1 Grants may be available up to a maximum of £2,500 although schemes in excess of £100,000 will only attract a maximum grant of £1,000. However, a sum of £6,000 has been set aside for any very high priority and innovative scheme considered worthy of support.

3.2 Loans are limited to a maximum of £20,000 repayable over 3 years, but exceptionally this could be exceeded and repaid over 5 years.

3.3 Grants should be 'spent' and loans taken up within 2 years of the date of the award. It may be possible to extend this term by an additional 12 months with prior HPFA agreement.

SUPPORTED BY



Hampshire County Council



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4. APPLICANTS

- 4.1. Applications will be considered from bona-fide voluntary clubs and groups, including parish councils, located in Borough/District geographical areas where the local authority supports HPFA, and from members of the HPFA. Applicants' Constitutions must be democratic and non-restrictive. Applications will not normally be considered from County or Borough/District councils or from the 'Education Sector', although groups which use educational facilities may be eligible for a grant if written proof can be shown of a 'lease' or other long term community agreement.
- 4.2. Successful applicants may only normally apply for further financial assistance 2 years or more after any grant or loan has been paid.
- 4.3. Grants will not normally be awarded for:
- Schemes which have been started without prior HPFA consent.
 - Equipment for loan or hire to the public, or expendable equipment such as clothing, balls, rackets, or furnishings or office equipment, other than for new clubs in the process of 'setting up'.
 - General running costs and maintenance.
 - Landscaping, ornamental shrubs etc.
 - Public toilets other than those required solely for playing fields.
 - Staff costs apart from holiday play schemes.
 - Access roads, car parks and footpaths.
 - Individual requests for sponsorship etc.
 - The promotion of events.
 - Commercial firms.
 - Social accommodation.

5. APPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Applications are invited from members and non-members of HPFA.
Please note, non-members will be charged a non-refundable £50 administration fee.
- 5.2 Application forms for Grants and Loans, Membership Forms and additional information may be obtained from the Manager or downloaded from the website. Potential applicants are advised to make initial contact by telephone with the Manager (John Coney) on 01962-779334.
- 5.3 Please ensure that you put **sufficient postage** on your application. Applications often come with insufficient postage and this results in excess charges and delays in processing your application
- 5.4 If you are not a current member of HPFA please enclose a cheque for the administration fee or annual subscription, or ensure electronic payment has been made in advance.
Without this your Application cannot be processed.

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