

RETURN TO CRICKET GRANT SCHEME GUIDANCE NOTES FOR CLUBS AND LEAGUES

The recreational game will face post-season financial challenges and assistance is available to help Cricket Clubs and Leagues. Changes to the Return to Cricket grant scheme made in July included the removal of the recommended turnover limit, and differentiation in grant level between clubs with junior sections and adult only clubs. Clubs and leagues can apply for a maximum grant award of £3,000. Eligible costs for the scheme include adapting to comply with COVID-19 guidelines and pitch renovation costs as well as ongoing fixed/contracted costs.

1. Aims

- 1.1 The ECB Return to Cricket Grant Scheme 2020 aims to support affiliated Cricket Clubs and Leagues within England and Wales, during the COVID-19 crisis, by providing funding to cover any shortfall in the preparation, essential day-to-day running and maintenance costs of facilities following the resumption of recreational cricket.
- 1.2 The scheme is designed to help those Clubs and Leagues in financial difficulty, and it is not intended to provide assistance to those able to afford to service their ongoing commitments.
- 1.3 The scheme is funded by the England and Wales Cricket Trust (EWCT), a wholly owned charitable subsidiary of ECB.

2. Eligibility

Applicants will need to have the following documentation:

- Affiliation to ECB* via its CCB in 2019 or 2020
- Constitution (or equivalent governing document)
- Valid Buildings and Contents Insurance (Club only)
- Public Liability Insurance
- Security of Tenure – Freehold, Leasehold or Rental Agreement (minimum of one year) (Club only)
- Current bank statement
- [Safe Hands Policy](#)** (Club only)

**Includes Clubs and Leagues which affiliated to ECB nationally, via the African Caribbean Cricket Association (ACCA) or National Asian Cricket Council (NACC), in 2019 or 2020.*

***Where a Club does not currently adhere to ECB's Safe Hands Policy, the Club shall, within 12 months of the date on which recreational cricket resumes in the United Kingdom be required to adopt the policy and appoint a Club Welfare Officer. This will be made a condition of the grant award.*

3. Costs which may be applied for

Whilst this is not an exhaustive list, ECB will consider applications for costs for a period of up to 12 months from the launch date of this scheme. The Club or League should calculate its estimated shortfall in the following expenditure areas:

3.1 Facilities Preparation Costs

- Adapting to comply with COVID-19 guidelines
- Pitch Renovation

3.2 Essential Fixed and/or Contracted Costs

- Utility or Service Costs
- Rental charges
- Staff costs (employees - not coaches or players)
- Cleaning or maintenance commitments
- IT Licences
- Security
- Insurance
- Equipment orders that can't be deferred or recovered
- TV / Broadband Subscriptions (where it is not suspended)
- Affiliations
- Any other reasonable fixed and / or contracted costs

3.3 Before applying for costs, it is important organisations seek to either negotiate, defer or suspend payments where possible.

4. Ineligible Costs

- Loss of forecasted income
- Purchase of non-essential goods / equipment

5. Amount of Award

5.1 Each application will be based on an assessment of need up to £3,000.

5.2 ECB reserves the right to amend these amounts in exceptional circumstances.

5.3 This grant cannot be partnered with the ECB Emergency Loan Scheme.

6. Key Dates

- This fund will open on Monday 20 July 2020
- This fund will close on Monday 15 March 2021

7. The Application Process

- 7.1 The Application Form will be available from your [County Cricket Board](#).
- 7.2 The Club or League will be required to submit the completed application form to the relevant Cricket Board* for consideration.
- * Please note that Clubs affiliated to the ACCA and cross-border Leagues will need to obtain their Application Form from, and return it directly to, the relevant ECB RFPM. Clubs and Leagues affiliated to the NACC can forward their application to either their local Cricket Board or directly to the NACC (see Section 9).*
- 7.3 If the application is supported by the Cricket Board, Part 2 of the application should be completed before forwarding it on to the ECB RFPM for processing.
- 7.4 Following an initial assessment, the ECB RFPM will contact the Club or League to request additional evidence to support the application. As a minimum, this will be a copy of the Constitution (or equivalent governing document) and a current bank statement.

8. If an Application is Successful

- 8.1 The ECB will aim to issue a Grant Offer Letter and Claim Form, by email, within 10 working days of receipt of all documentation.
- 8.2 To accept the Grant Offer, two Authorised Signatories of the Club or League will need to sign the Acceptance Form and Claim Form and return them both to ECB within 30 days of the date of the Grant Offer Letter, to grantmanagement@ecb.co.uk
- 8.3. ECB will aim to arrange payment of the grant direct to the Club or League bank account, by BACS transfer, within 10 working days of receipt of both the completed Acceptance and Direct Debit Forms.

9. Contacts

- 9.1 Should you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact the relevant Cricket Board. In the event that the Cricket Board cannot respond due to furlough or ill health, please contact the ECB Regional Facilities Planning Manager (RFPM) for your area.
- 9.2 Once you have submitted an application, all further queries should be directed to grantmanagement@ecb.co.uk

Name of RFPM	Email	Regions Covered	Counties Covered
Duncan Jenkinson	duncan.jenkinson@ecb.co.uk	London South Central	Essex Sussex Middlesex Surrey Kent Buckinghamshire Isle of Wight Hampshire Oxfordshire Berkshire

Ged McDougall	ged.mcdougall@ecb.co.uk	West Midlands The East	Staffordshire Shropshire Warwickshire Worcestershire Herefordshire Cambridgeshire Hertfordshire Cricket East (Beds & Hunts) Norfolk Suffolk
Neil Higginson	neil.higginson@ecb.co.uk	South West Wales	Dorset Devon Somerset Gloucestershire Cornwall Wiltshire Wales
Sue Redfern	sue.redfern@ecb.co.uk	East Midlands The North	Derbyshire Leicestershire Lincolnshire Northamptonshire Nottinghamshire Cumbria Northumberland Durham Lancashire Cheshire Yorkshire