Berkshire Rugby Football Union

SUPPORT FUNDING FOR BERKSHIRE CLUBS

Following my e-mail of 2nd April, the small sub-committee that Berkshire RFU assembled, have met and discussed the best way of supporting our Clubs during this very difficult time. We agreed to draw up a package of measures that we could make available, not just for the immediate, urgent short-term issues you may be facing, but also looking forward a few months to enable you to sustain the Club , and help you hit the ground running when we do get back to some normality.

We would also like to place on record our sincere appreciation of the wonderful gesture the Berkshire Referee's Society have made in cancelling all Match Official invoices to Berkshire Clubs from 1st January 2020. If you have already paid some of these, the Society will be in contact to arrange a refund. Thank you.

We have available;

Grant Funding

- £40,000 with potential uplift to £50,000
    - We are looking to increase to £50,000 subject to accessing additional funds from the Berks RFU Trust Fund which normally provides funds to support clubs with their capital development projects.
- Subject to levels of financial support requested in the short term, we are looking to also provide monies to clubs to create a Get Back To Rugby event at each club.

How to apply

- Clubs must have exhausted all other government and sport bodies funding sources before applying to this fund and also undertaken relevant financial housekeeping with regard to termination or suspension of unnecessary services (eg Sky/BT Sport packages, waste disposal, etc).

- Primary support funding:

    Gov.uk - https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses
    Additional information attached to this email

    Sport England - https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/community-emergency-fund

- RFU Emergency Loan Scheme
  All clubs can apply for interest free loans on between £2,000 & £10,000 via the www.emglandrugby.com website, as of Monday 6th April. You can request a 6 month repayment deferral to help with cashflow and pay back over 3 years.

- Applying for Berks CB funding
  Complete and submit the attached CB Immediate Support Fund spreadsheet.
  Specify the amount of funding support you are requesting along with specific areas that it is required for.
  Please ensure you refer to the LRP Process document which gives helpful guidelines as to area's that qualify and actions that can be taken to reduce short term costs.

Please Note: Every application to Berkshire RFU will be treated in the strictest of confidence and will be judged independently on its own merits.

There are also some very informative pages on www.englandrugby.com . Here are a couple of links to the relevant pages.

https://www.englandrugby.com/dxdam/c2/c251e1e1-ee1c-45c3-a51a-b74948f6882b/COVID%2019%20-%20available%20support.pdf

https://www.englandrugby.com/dxdam/f3/f37f862f-d0e1-4bdf-be10-533b42e8c310/Rugby%20Club%20Support%20Guide%20to%20COVID-19.pdf?utm_source=030420CGU&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=030420CGU&utm_content=Mens&spMailingID=9088620&spUserID=MjY5ODA2NzI4ODg5S0&spJobID=1490371667&spReportId=MTQ5MDM3MTY2NwS2

Finally, news may well have reached you that Nicola McCombe our Rugby Development Officer has been furloughed as part of the RFU internal measures until the end of May 2020. We look forward to seeing her back then, but in the short term we will be sharing the services of an RDO with other Counties. Details to follow.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information

Steve Bough 07887 656165 sbough@maidenheadrfc.co.uk
On behalf of Berkshire RFU

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