

Grants FAQ

Q: Who can apply?

A: Clubs who are voting members of the RFU and play at level 5 or below of English league.

Q: How much can my club apply for?

A: You can apply for a grant of between £500 and £1,500 for a Helping Hand grant or £1,500 and £5,000 for a Groundmatch grant which is matched against the club's own contribution to the project (either from club funds, sponsors or external grants).

Q: What can my club apply for?

A: Capital improvements to the club's facilities which will support the retention and recruitment of players. These can include pitches (land purchase, pitch construction, drainage and levelling), clubhouses (all areas apart from bars), floodlights and equipment which supports the playing of the game (grounds maintenance, goalposts and perimeter fencing). The RFF will not fund works that would be classified as annual maintenance, such as end of season pitch renovations.

Q: How does my club apply?

A: Complete and return the RFF Helping Hand or Groundmatch Application Form along with any supporting documentation outlined in the form.

Q: When will I hear if we have been successful?

A: The Awards Panel meets six times a year to consider all current applications put forward by the Case Officers. Clubs will be notified by email within 10 days of the meeting of the result of their application. The dates of the 2016/17 Awards Panels and application submission deadlines are below. For an application to be considered, all supporting documentation must be included in the submission by the deadline date. The RFF reserves the right to defer an application at the Case Officer's discretion.

Awards Panel	Submission deadline
3 August 2017	14 July 2017
21 September 2017	1 September 2017
23 November 2017	3 November 2017
25 January 2018	5 January 2018
22 March 2018	2 March 2018
24 May 2018	4 May 2018

http://www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9&Itemid=116

Q: When can my club deliver the project?

A: If successful, the club will receive an award letter and terms and conditions, both of which should be signed and returned. At this stage the club can commence the project. The RFF will not accept any retrospective applications for work that has already taken place.

Q: How do I draw down the funds?

A: Once you have returned the signed grant acceptance form and completed the project, the club should send a copy of the invoice to the RFF at Twickenham Stadium (address below). Providing any award conditions have been fulfilled, payment will be made to the club by BACS.

Q: How often can my club apply to this fund?

A: A club can apply for a maximum of £5,000 over a 24 month period. The 24 months is calculated from the date of the final drawdown of any previous RFF award. This may be a combination of Helping Hand and Groundmatch grants.

Q: Can I discuss my application with someone?

A: You can discuss your application with your local RFF Case Officer

Q: Can I apply for a RFF loan to fund the same project as my grant application?

A: No, only one RFF funding stream may be used for each project – you cannot combine a grant and a loan application.

Q: Can my club pay players?

A: Grant applications will be ineligible if the players receive remuneration or expenses. Where intelligence suggests a club is paying players, they will need to provide a declaration signed by four officers confirming the position.

Q: Anything else I need to know?

A: Any club wishing to apply to the RFF for funding for any kind of pitch improvement works must have a groundsman registered with Rugby Groundsman Connected. To register or for more information please email groundsmenconnected@rfu.com.

A: The maximum contribution the RFF will give towards a goalpost application is £1,500.

Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
Cornwall	Middlesex	Kent
Somerset	Hampshire	Surrey
Devon	Oxfordshire	Sussex
Dorset and Wilts	Buckinghamshire	Essex
Gloucestershire	Berkshire	
Jon Bendle	Jason Bowers	Rick Bruin
JonBendle@rfu.com	JasonBowers@rfu.com	RickBruin@rfu.com
07753 881272	07703 466773	077380 29211

Area 4	Area 5	Area 6
NLD	Lancashire	Northumberland
Eastern Counties	Cheshire	Durham
Leicestershire	Staffordshire	Yorkshire
East Midlands	North Midlands	Cumbria
Warwickshire		
Pete Shaw	Tom Bartram	Alex Bowden
PeterShaw@rfu.com	TomBartram@rfu.com	AlexBowden@rfu.com
07734 070674	07841 156806	07764 336701