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Future Champions  
Pursuit of Excellence

Funding Application

**Supporting sporting excellence in the tees valley**

**Guidelines:**

The Pursuit of Excellence Fund forms part of the Tees Valley Sport Future Champions programme and awards grants of up to £1,000 for young people aged 12 to 24 years and resident in the unitary authorities of Darlington, Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland, Middlesbrough and Stockton on Tees, who are excelling in their chosen sport and are in need of financial assistance to help them to achieve their aims. The funding will target the 44 sports funded through Sport England on the basis of their ability to increase the number of people playing and enjoying sport, and the creation of development pathways for those with talent. \*Ice Hockey & Roller Hockey are additional sports that we will also support. A full list of eligible sports is highlighted below:

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| Angling | Archery | Athletics |
| Badminton | Baseball/Softball | Basketball |
| Boccia | Bowls | Boxing |
| Canoeing | Cricket | Cycling |
| Equestrian | Fencing | Football |
| Goalball | Golf | Gymnastics |
| Handball | Hockey | \*Ice Hockey |
| Lacrosse | Judo | Mountaineering |
| Modern Pentathlon | Netball | Movement & Dance |
| \*Roller Hockey | Orienteering | Rounders |
| Rowing | Rugby League | Rugby Union |
| Sailing | Shooting | Snow Sports |
| Squash | Swimming | Table Tennis |
| Taekwondo | Tennis | Triathlon |
| Volleyball | Waterskiing | Weightlifting |
| Wrestling |  |  |

The Pursuit of Excellence Fund will support young athletes and players meeting the key criteria highlighted below;

**Excellence** – those who are likely to reach national and/or international prominence in a sport and in doing so bring credit to their home town. Furthermore, there should be clear signs of potential to progress to full national or international recognition at a senior level.

**Disadvantage** – One of the prime objectives of the fund is to address the needs of disadvantaged young people in the area and support them to achieve excellence that otherwise they may not be able to do.

**The Fund Process**

The Pursuit of Excellence Fund is co-ordinated by Tees Valley Sport in partnership and on behalf of Tees Valley Community Foundation. The fund is made up from The Foundations Endowment Funding with a contribution from EDF Community Fund and Teesside Power Fund.

The application process is highlighted below below:

1. Applicants complete the application form and return it to Tees Valley Sport at anytime during the year, it is important that all sections of the application are complete and that supporting documents have been included (reference and bank details).
2. There are four closing dates for the Pursuit of Excellence Fund:
   1. 31 March
   2. 30 June
   3. 30 September
   4. 20 December
3. On receipt of an application Tees Valley Sport will seek endorsement from the applicant’s National Governing Body (NGB) of sport to confirm the applicant is attending a regional or national squad programme and meets the excellence criteria. The NGB will also be asked to confirm any funding that the athlete is receiving from sport for example, the World Class Performance Programme.
4. A set scoring system is used to determine the outcome award funding to successful applicants against excellence & disadvantage and special circumstances where appropriate.
5. Applicants will be informed of the funding decision within 14 working days of the application closing date.
6. Payment will be made to successful applicants within 28 working days of the closing date of each grant round.
7. Applicants may only apply once in any twelve month period up to a maximum of five years running.

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**Before completing this form, please ensure that you have read the guidelines on the back page. Please complete the form as fully and clearly as possible.**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Applicant Name:** |  | **DOB** |  | |
| **Parent/Guardian:**  *(if under 18)* |  | **Title** |  | |
| **Telephone:** |  | | | |
| **Email:** |  | | | |
| **Address for correspondence:** |  | | | |
| **Post Code:** | | |  |

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| **Sport** |  |

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| **Record of achievement to date:** Please provide as much detail as possible and in date order. This is your opportunity to convince the panel of your excellence. If you have been awarded a previous grant from the Foundation you must demonstrate evidence of progression and improvement.  The Record of achievement should list such items as achievement of nationally recognised levels in the chosen discipline, competitions entered and the final placings achieved or the selection for certain levels of training only offered because of the applicant’s ability.  Copies of certificates, letters etc should be included.  *This section is important as it enables us to assess the level of excellence achieved. If necessary, please continue this section on a separate sheet.* |
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| **How much grant are you applying for?** | £ |

If applying for a specific amount, please enter value. Otherwise say *‘not specified’*. If the application is successful, there is still no guarantee that a specified amount would be awarded.

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| **What is the grant required for?**  Here you should give details of what the grant will pay for e.g. special clothing, travel, accommodation, entry fees, training/tuition/coaching costs etc. Please be specific and provide a clear budget breakdown. You should bear in mind that the Foundation will not award a grant for items or expenses that have already been paid for.    *If necessary, please continue this section on a separate sheet.* |
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| **What are your annual costs?**  *Please enclose an fairly accurate annual budget breakdown estimating what costs the applicant would incur in pursuing their specialist activity* | £ |
|  | |
| **When do you require the Funds?** |  |
| **Have you applied to the Foundation for funding previously?** |  |
| **If YES, please give reference number(s):** |  |
| **If the Foundation funds are only part of your requirements how is the remainder to be financed?**  *Explain here how your project/activity will be funded if*  *you are not applying for all the money you need, or if you are not awarded all the money you have applied for* |  |

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| **Please tell us about your family circumstances that indicate the need for financial assistance:**  It is important that you make a statement here that allows the advisory board to understand the personal/family circumstances surrounding this application. This could mean the level of financial disadvantage. | | | | |
| **Dependants:** *(please provide details of any dependants still living at home)* | | **Name:** |  | |
| **Relationship to Applicant:** |  | |
| **Age if living at home:** |  | |
| **Wage Earners:** *(please provide details of household income in table below)*  Please provide us with details of all of the wage earners in the house including their name, the type of earning e.g wages, maintenance, CSA, pension, JSA, disability benefits etc. | | | | |
| **Name of Earner:** | **Type of Earning:** | | | **Annual Income:** |
|  |  | | | £ |
|  |  | | | £ |
|  |  | | | £ |
|  |  | | | £ |
|  |  | | | £ |
| **Total Annual Income** | | | | **£** |

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| **If you are successful in receiving a grant may we contact the media?** | | YES / NO |
| **If NO, please state reason:** |  | |
| From time to time Tees Valley Community Foundation may contact you with information about the foundations activities or pass your details on to other potential funders that might be interested in your projects/activity. If you do NOT wish to contacted for these purposes please tick this box | |  |

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| **Please read the terms and conditions (overleaf) and sign the declaration and return your completed form, independent reference and any other supporting documentation to:**  **Tees Valley Sport, Brittan Building, Teesside University, Borough Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 3BA.** |

**References**

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| **INDEPENDENT REFEREE**  *Please attach an independent reference from an accredited coach or a representative from your sports governing body in support of your application. Your referee must comment on your current level of excellence, your commitment to the sport and your future prospects (please see note)* | | | |
| **Referee 1** | | | |
| **Name of Referee:** |  | **Name of Governing Body:** |  |
| **Relationship with Applicant:** |  | **Referee Qualifications:** |  |
| **Referee Telephone:** |  |
| **Referee Email:** |  | | |
| **Referee Contact Address:** |  | | |
| **Referee 2** | | | |
| **Name of Referee:** |  | **Name of Governing Body:** |  |
| **Relationship with Applicant:** |  | **Referee Qualifications:** |  |
| **Referee Telephone:** |  |
| **Referee Email:** |  | | |
| **Referee Contact Address:** |  | | |

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| **TEES VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION** Registered Charity No. 1111222 Registered Company No 5478088 **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**   * **I will only spend the grant for the purposes outlined in the initial application unless I have received written confirmation from Tees Valley Sport (hereinafter referred to as TVS) that I can make a variation of spend.** * **If the information in the application changes in any way I will inform the TVS.** * **I agree to return any unexpended balance of the grant not used for the agreed purpose to the TVS.** * **I accept that TVS will, under no circumstances, be liable for any damage, injury or loss of any kind whatsoever to any property or persons occurring as a result of activities undertaken with this grant.** * **I understand that whilst TVS has approved the purpose to which the grant may be applied, I am entirely responsible for entering into any necessary contacts or agreements and for compliance with any relevant law.** * **I acknowledge I cannot sell or dispose of any equipment or other assets funded or part funded by TVS without first receiving written permission. If any equipment or assets are sold within their working life without such undertaking, TVS can ask for a percentage of the original grant to be re-paid.** * **I agree to acknowledge the support of TVS and Tees Valley Community Foundation and the fund/donor that has made the grant possible in publications, press releases and elsewhere as appropriate.** * **I agree to complete a grant monitoring report (which I will receive with our cheque) and return by a prescribed date together with copies of all project invoices and receipts.** * **I give permission for TVS and the Foundation to record the information in this form electronically and to contact me by phone, mail or email with regards to this application.** | | | | | | |
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| **DECLARATION** | | | | | | |
| **I have checked that all sections of this application form have been completed.**  **I confirm that the information in this application is correct and that any grant made will be used for the purpose stated in this application.**  **I have read the terms and conditions (above) and agree to manage any grant in accordance with them.** | | | | | | |
| **Cheques payable to:** | |  | | | | |
| **Signature\*:** |  | | **Name\* (print):** |  | **Date:** |  |
| **Relationship if not Applicant\*:** | | | | | | |
| ***\* Signature should be that of parent/guardian if applicant is under 18*** | | | | | | |