

# Community Sport Recovery Package

## GUIDELINES





## About the Community Sport Recovery Package

The NSW Government has announced a \$27.3 million Community Sport Recovery Package to support the sport and recreation sector get back on its feet. The Community Sport Recovery Package is intended to ensure sport and recreation organisations survive the crisis and NSW residents can resume the activities they love.

COVID-19 has significantly impacted sport and recreation organisations across NSW. Many organisations have financial obligations, paid staff, and assets to service and maintain. The package includes financial support for all levels of sport from community sport to the elite pathway.

### The following components make up the Community Sport Recovery Package:

**Sport and Recreation Support** - The Office of Sport formally recognises 95 State Sporting Organisations (SSOs) and State Sporting Organisations for People with Disability (SSODs) in NSW. The Sport and Recreation Support program (\$13.782 million) includes direct payments to SSOs and SSODs. The program will provide a range of up to \$275,000 for larger organisations through to \$29,000 for smaller organisations according to organisations' classification. The program also includes PCYC and Surf Life Saving NSW, which are not recognised as SSOs but provide sport programs.

**Grassroots Sport Fund** - The Grassroots Sport Fund (up to \$12.5 million) will provide a one-off grant of up to \$1,000 to around 12,500 eligible local clubs and associations across the State to assist them when community sport resumes from 1 July 2020. The Fund will be administered by the Office of Sport through SSOs and SSODs who will be supported to assess the eligibility of their affiliated clubs and associations and make payments to eligible clubs and associations. The Fund will assist organisations with fixed costs incurred between March and June 2020, where they have not already received financial assistance or relief from local, state or Commonwealth governments or others. Payments to local clubs and associations can be used for the fixed costs such as insurances, power, telephone and internet, fixed vehicle or equipment costs (lease, registration), and other base operating costs including affiliation fees, EFTPOS and banking fees and IT support arrangements and essential equipment.

**Regional Academies** - There are 11 Regional Academies of Sport across NSW. The NSW Government has supported the Regional Academies since 1987. An additional \$1 million will be provided across all the Regional Academies of Sport to assist in covering operational expenses.



## Objective of the Community Sport Recovery Package

The key objective of the Community Sport Recovery Package is to *provide financial support to the Sport Sector of NSW to assist in their recovery from the impacts of COVID-19 and in preparation for the recommencement of community sport on 1 July 2020.*

## Available Funding

The Community Sport Recovery Package is approximately \$27.3 million and consists of:

Sport and Recreation Support	Grassroots Sport Fund	Regional Academies of Sport
<b>\$13.782 MILLION</b>	<b>\$12.5 MILLION</b>	<b>\$1 MILLION</b>

# Eligibility for Funding

The following criteria must be satisfied to be eligible for the Community Sport Recovery Package:

## 1. For the Sport and Recreation Support:

- a. the SSO or SSOD must be recognised by the Office of Sport as such before 11 June 2020;
- b. the SSO or SSOD must be registered or have a registered business address in NSW;
- c. the SSO or SSOD was financially impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions between the period of March – June 2020;
- d. the SSO or SSOD demonstrates future organisational viability; and
- e. clause (a) does not apply to PCYC and Surf Life Saving NSW.

## 2. For the Grassroots Sport Fund:

- a. the local club or association must be a legal entity and have been affiliated with an SSO or SSOD before 11 June 2020;
- b. the local club or association must be registered in NSW or have a registered business address in NSW;
- c. the local club or association must have registered members and participants;
- d. if the local club or association is a school it must offer programs to the public;
- e. the local club or association was financially impacted by the COVID-19 restrictions between the period of March – June 2020; and
- f. the local club or association will use the payment for an approved purpose and has not already received assistance with this expense from local, state or Commonwealth government or others.

## 3. All eleven academies are eligible for the Regional Academies of Sport allocation.

# What is the process?

The Community Sport Recovery Package will be administered by the Office of Sport, with assistance from State Sporting Organisations and State Sporting Organisations for People with Disability.

The Office of Sport will commence the process by sending an email and form to all SSOs, SSODs, PCYC, and Surf Life Saving NSW. The form requests confirmation of eligibility, that the organisation has been impacted by COVID-19, and requests details of the number of local clubs or associations for all State Sporting Organisations and State Sporting Organisations for People with Disability. This form is to be completed and returned to the Office of Sport. The Office of Sport will follow up unopened emails with a telephone call to the relevant organisation(s).

The Office of Sport will then prepare and enter into funding agreements with eligible organisations.

The funding agreements will require eligible State Sporting Organisations and State Sporting Organisations for People with Disability to distribute their allocation of the Grassroots Sport Fund to their eligible clubs and associations with the assistance and support of the Office of Sport.

The maximum amount of funds available to each club or association under the Grassroots Sport Fund is \$1000. All eligible payments are to be completed by 31 July 2020. All unspent funds must be returned to the Office of Sport.

Documentary evidence of eligibility assessments and payments made under the Grassroots Sport Fund must be provided to the Office of Sport by 31 January 2021 or before payment of their respective 2020/21 Sport Development Grant payment, whichever occurs sooner. Failure to repay unspent Grassroots Sport Fund amounts may result in these amounts being deducted from future Sport Development Grant payments to the SSO or SSOD.

The Office of Sport will develop and implement an audit and assurance strategy for the broader package with a mix of random and targeted audits of payments made as part of the Grassroots Sport Fund.





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