

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Sportsmatch

Sport England is delighted to announce the return of Sportsmatch in May 2008 with the new web based facility enabling applicants to apply online.

Designed to encourage new or additional sponsorship investment from businesses, trusts and private individuals, Sportsmatch, funded by Sport England, will continue to offer pound for pound matched funding to sporting stakeholders* for projects that encourage sports participation at grass roots level.

The scheme's criteria for awards has been amended to provide greater flexibility for applicants. From May 2008 onwards partnership funding from Trusts and Private individuals becomes eligible for match funding. In addition, applicants will now apply online with telephone support available from Sport England on 0845 850 8508.

All projects applying in 2008/09 will need to ensure that they are able to deliver their project in its entirety by 31st March 2009. This will ensure that the benefits of the project are received at the earliest opportunity.

Sportsmatch reinforces Sport England's commitment to community level sport. Launched in November 1992, Sportsmatch, together with commercial sponsorship, has invested more than £102 million into 5784 community sports projects across England.

Minister for Sport Gerry Sutcliffe said:

"Sportsmatch has proven to be a great initiative over the years and has encouraged businesses to support grass roots sport projects up and down the country. I hope that it continues to go from strength to strength as we look to create a world class community sport system that encourages people to play sport for life."

* Clubs, National Governing Bodies, Charities, Local Authorities, County Sports Partnerships, Schools and voluntary organisations

If you have any general questions regarding Sportsmatch please contact us using the details below:

E-mail: info@sportsmatch.co.uk

Tel: 0845 850 8508

If you have a press enquiry regarding Sportsmatch please contact Andrew St Ledger on Tel. 020 7273 1593 or via e-mail: andrew.stledger@sportengland.org

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