
AWARDS TO
INDIVIDUAL SPORTSMEN
AND WOMEN

Sports Award Scheme

East Lothian Council offers awards to individual sportsmen and women which are designed to support talented individuals in their training and competition programmes to enable them to progress from regional to national, to international standard. The intention is to supplement, rather than replace, voluntary efforts and initiatives and to work in close collaboration with sports' National Governing Bodies.

Guidance notes detailing the assistance offered are contained within this leaflet and these should be read carefully before completing the application form.

Within the Sports Award Scheme, assistance is also available to individual coaches and officials and, in the form of special awards, to individuals/clubs/groups. Separate information leaflets detail the conditions under which applications can be made in these two categories.

If you have any further questions about any aspect of the Scheme, please contact:

Principal Officer (Sports Development)
Meadowmill Sports Centre
Meadowmill
Tranent
EH33 1LZ
Tel: 01875 619068

WHO CAN APPLY?

The scheme is open to all sports persons who are:

- (a) resident in East Lothian, or
- (b) normally resident in East Lothian but attending a university or college outwith and
- (c) currently competing successfully at a level no lower than regional standard (ie placed in the first eight in East of Scotland Championships or equivalent).

WHAT ASSISTANCE DOES THE SCHEME OFFER?

Assistance under the scheme will take the form of a Sports Pass and, at the higher levels of competition, a Training and Competition Grant also; the actual level of assistance varying according to the standard achieved by the individual. All applications are graded following consultation with the National Governing Body responsible for your sport and, based on performance in the previous year, successful applicants will be placed in one of the following categories:

- A — Scottish Champion at senior level or competing in the full Scottish National Team.
- B — Placed in first three (or reaching semi-final in knockout events) in National Championships (individual events only), or competing for a Scottish team at any level.
- C — Placed in first three (or reaching semi-final in knockout events) in East of Scotland Championships (individual events only), - or equivalent - at any level, or East of Scotland - or equivalent - team member at any level.
- D — Placed in first eight in East of Scotland Championships - or equivalent - at any level.

(Please note that the above grades are only appropriate where a minimum of 12 competitors have taken part in the Championship event. Where this is not the case, the grade may be adjusted.)

Sports Pass

All successful applicants to the scheme are awarded a Sports Pass which gives the individual free use during normal public sessions of facilities associated with the applicant's sport (but excluding the cost of any coaching), and general training facilities, such as weights, body conditioning equipment and swimming. The Sports Pass can be used in the wide range of sports and recreational facilities operated by East Lothian Council.

Training and Competition Grants

Grants are available to individuals graded A - C to help meet training and competition costs associated with their higher level of performance. Club training sessions and competition costs are not eligible.

Awards are based on 50% of the applicant's costs incurred while attending appropriate events within the UK only, where expenses have not been reimbursed by any other body. (For events outwith UK please see separate leaflet - Sports Award Scheme - Special Awards)

Grants will not exceed the maximum levels for each category which are currently:

Grade A £300 Grade B £200 Grade C £150

HOW DO I APPLY?

New Applicants

To make an application, you should complete Section A of the enclosed form, attach a passport size photograph to the form and then pass it to your sport's National Governing Body for completion of Section B. They will then forward the application to East Lothian Council. You can submit a new application at any time of the year. Notification as to whether or not you have been awarded a Sports Pass and whether or not you are eligible for a Training and Competition Grant will be made as soon as possible after we receive your application.

Individuals accepted on to the scheme part way through a year may only be awarded a grant for the appropriate proportion of the year. Grants are only paid once a year, in late March/early April, for expenses incurred in the period 1 February - 31 January.

Sports Passes and Grants are awarded on an annual basis and, once accepted on to the scheme, individuals must re-apply each year at the appropriate time, as detailed below.

Annual Re-application by Existing Award Holders

All awards are made on an annual basis and, if you are holding a current Sports Pass or if you have received a Training and competition Grant in the past year, you must re-apply in line with the following timetable:

Renewal application forms and, where appropriate, claim forms (for the claim year 1 February - 31 January) will be issued to you automatically in late January.

These forms must be forwarded by you to your National Governing Body for grading, endorsement of facility use outwith East Lothian, if required, and, where applicable, for verification of expenses.

Completed forms should then be submitted to East Lothian Council no later than 31 March.

You will then be notified as soon as possible after this date of the grade you have been awarded for the coming year.