

British Gymnastics

# Sources of Funding

Individuals Funding

## Sources of Funding Individuals Funding



Welsh Gymnastics



Updated October 2007

## **SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR INDIVIDUAL SPORTSMEN AND WOMEN**

Whereas there are potentially many sources of funding for clubs and organisations, the vast majority of charities and trusts do not fund individuals. This makes it very hard on enthusiastic and dedicated gymnasts who want to progress, but who are limited by their personal finances. It is more difficult for their families who have to fund not just kit and club membership fees, but also all the other expenses which inevitably increase as the gymnast improves in ability and may progress from club, to local, to regional, to even national representation.

At this point there may be opportunities for some funding but only to a few and often the funding is small apart from for the elite level.

There may also be funding opportunities or subsidised training courses for volunteers and coaches. Local Authority sports teams will detail any opportunities in the area.

### **Lottery Funding – UK**

Potential funding is for Olympic disciplines only – Men's Artistic Gymnastics, Women's Artistic Gymnastics, Trampoline Gymnastics. Rhythmic Gymnastics is an Olympic discipline although at the moment UK Sport does not directly support the gymnasts.

The funding criteria are either determined or approved by UK Sport and are subject to change. British Gymnastics (BG) puts names forward to UK Sport, based on the achievement of the stated criteria.

Men's Artistic Gymnastics – the TOP Programme; funding is primarily based on the results of the British Championships as well as performances throughout the year and is aimed at the very elite level of National Squad from Juniors upwards (aged 14 years).

Women's Artistic Gymnastics – Start, Potential, and Performance levels – funding is primarily based on the results of the British Championships.

Trampoline Gymnastics – Development and Podium. For Development, funding is based on the results of selected competitions, Grade 1 and culminates in the British Championships and testing day. For Podium, funding is based on world-level criteria approved by UK Sport.

### **SportsAid – England**

SportsAid helps talented young sports people at a time when they may not be eligible for funding from other sources.

The awards are made to individuals who live and train in England and who are between 11 and 16 years of age and in exceptional cases up to 18 years of age. They are for elite level only i.e. in principle the top 5 in England in their discipline.

BG is allocated approximately 20 applications in January each year and invite gymnasts to apply. Gymnasts are nominated by the Technical Director or equivalent National Coach of the relevant discipline and are only for gymnasts not already lottery funded. Awards are either £250 or £500.

There are also regional opportunities – SportsAid has 10 regional offices, which work solely for funding in their region. Criteria and funding levels may differ between regions. Applications should be available from Regional SportsAid.

### **Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS) – England**

TASS is a government-funded programme that represents a unique partnership between sport and higher or further education. The programme awards scholarships and bursaries to talented athletes who are committed to combining their sport and education. It aims to reduce the drop out of talented athletes from sport, supporting and developing the talent of today for the sporting success for the future.

National Governing Bodies are requested to identify and nominate the athletes who they would like to receive a TASS award; however BG makes this available to all applicants who fulfil set criteria approved by TASS.

Gymnasts should look out for the letter and information posted on the BG website mid-year, which details the current criteria for eligibility.

Applicants should note that benefits are not in the form of cash, rather in the form of service provision.

It is not certain how long TASS will continue in its current format.

### **Additional Athlete Support (AAS)**

While the awards TASS makes to athletes help support their sporting costs and support services, gymnasts may have a number of equally important goals, such as their academic development. Therefore with the support of private donors and SportsAid, TASS has established the Additional Athlete Support (AAS) Fund to provide additional support to TASS athletes in non-sporting areas. The purpose of the fund is to financially assist TASS athletes who are experiencing difficulties that may result in them dropping out of the TASS programme or education. Grants will normally be awarded up to the value of £1000.

Applications for an award from the AAS can be made by individual athletes, parents/guardians, coaches or a representative from a National Governing Body.

#### Type of Awards

All TASS Athletes are eligible to apply for hardship assistance and in addition: -

- Grants are available for educational support - grants can be awarded to athletes to allow them to remain in education if they are experiencing financial difficulties. The grant can be used to assist with course materials and/or travel to college
- Grants are available to enable an athlete to remain in education by paying for living costs, accommodation and course equipment. Applications cannot be made to the fund until the athlete has exhausted all other support routes, such as student loans and hardship grants. The grant can be used to pay for living costs, accommodation and course equipment
- TASS disabled athletes - grants are available to all TASS disabled athletes who require an assistor/carer in order to train or compete in their sport. The grant can be used to pay for an assistor's time, travel, accommodation and food. The funds for these awards are provided by SportsAid

- TASS will also consider applications for other non-sporting costs an athlete may occur

A TASS athlete will only be entitled to one AAS award per year. The TASS operational year is from 1st August to 31st July.

### **Believe to Achieve**

Believe to Achieve with Kelly is a campaign from Dame Kelly Holmes, supported by the Youth Sport Trust.

Funds raised will support young talent aged between 15 and 18, helping with costs like equipment, coaching, training and medical treatment. The campaign will also deliver Kelly's Camps for young athletes and coaches, teaching participants about the world of elite performers and the life skills necessary to help them achieve their goals.

The scholarship programme selects a limited number of young people to receive funding that goes towards the costs of their sport. The athletes also receive support and guidance from the Youth Sport Trust's Sport Performance team.

### **Regional Funding or County-wide Schemes**

These will vary from region to region and therefore the grant-seeker will need to do his/her own research and find what may be available in his/her area. County councils and local authority websites may offer various funding opportunities, which will have their own particular criteria. Councils will have a sports development team who should be able to offer advice and guidance on current funding opportunities.

There may also be other types of benefit available, such as access to physiotherapy and sports science and education services such as nutrition, conditioning, psychology and biomechanics.

Gymnastic home country websites will give contact details for their regional and county development officers, who will be aware of local funding opportunities, some of which will only be available short-term.

### **Junior Sports Bursaries**

These awards are for exceptionally talented young people in their chosen sport, who are aged between 11 and 19 years and in full time education and must be resident in the county that has been applied to.

### **Other Sports Bursaries**

- Some universities operate bursary schemes. Further information can be found on their websites. Applications will usually require a letter of support from the governing body
- Other bursaries may be offered for people wishing to become qualified coaches

### **Free Access for National Sportspeople (FANS)**

The scheme is a county development initiative that aims to provide support and encouragement to leading talented and elite sports performers. The scheme aims to

provide national level sports people with free access to a number of the county's sport and leisure facilities at designated off-peak times for personal training and development.

The scheme is open to sportsmen and sportswomen of all ages (including those with a disability) who currently perform and compete at a national level.

They must currently be:

- A member of a national team or squad
- Listed in the top 10 of any national age group ranking

Priority will be given to junior age groups and full senior internationals.

Sports supported by the FANS scheme are: Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Baseball/softball, Basketball, Boccia, Boxing, Canoeing, Cricket, Cycling, Equestrian, Fencing, Girls Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Judo, Lacrosse, Modern Pentathlon, Mountaineering, Netball, Rowing, Rugby Union, Sailing, Skiing, Squash, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Triathlon, Volleyball. All summer and winter Olympic and Paralympic disciplines not listed are also eligible.

Anyone who meets the above criteria and who resides in a Local Authority that operates the scheme could be eligible for FANS.

#### Free Access for County Sports People (FACS)

The FACS scheme is a county sports development initiative, which aims to provide county level performers the support and encouragement they require to help them reach their full potential. The scheme provides limited free access to a number of the county's sport and leisure amenities at designated times. Applicants should check with their local authority leisure team or relevant county sports partnership whether the scheme is operated by their local authority and for any conditions.

The scheme is open to sports people who are:

- Between the ages of 16 -18 and who currently perform at county level or above
- Currently a member of a county team or squad

Sports supported by the FACS scheme are: Archery, Athletics, Badminton, Baseball/softball, Basketball, Boccia, Boxing, Canoeing, Cricket, Cycling, Equestrian, Fencing, Girls Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Judo, Lacrosse, Modern Pentathlon, Mountaineering, Netball, Rowing, Rugby Union, Sailing, Skiing, Squash, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Triathlon, Volleyball. All summer and winter Olympic & Paralympic disciplines not listed are also eligible.

#### Dickie Bird Foundation

The foundation was established by Dickie Bird in March 2004, with the aim of helping disadvantaged young people, nationwide, to participate in sport.

The vision of the Foundation is to assist financially disadvantaged young people under 18 years of age to participate, to the best of their ability, in the sport of their choice irrespective of their social circumstances, culture or ethnicity and to ensure that, in doing so, they improve their chances both inside and outside sport.

There may be occasional short-term funding opportunities available, which may be restricted to particular areas or postcodes.

### The Lindford Christie Trust

The Trust is a scheme for financial assistance to young sportsmen and women, who have attained or are hoping to attain, high standards of excellence in sport. The scheme may cover small pieces of equipment, contributions towards coaching, competition or travel and training expenses.

Applicants must be under 23 years of age and resident in the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham for a minimum of one year at the time of applying for the grant. Applications involving team sports are not encouraged.

The normal, maximum individual grant is up to £350 to be made on a one-off basis. At all levels a reference from a coach, governing body or club is essential. References from teachers, unable to confirm sporting ability, will not be accepted. References from relatives/friends are also not accepted.

Categories for guidance:

- Up to £100: Where a young person is at the start up stage and promising in terms of commitment and skill, but not yet competing
- Between £200-£250: Where evidence is provided of ability and standard of commitment of young people. This is particularly important where equipment is requested
- £350 (or above, subject to Trustees agreement): For those competing at County, National or International level

### Steve Redgrave Trust

The Trust was established to improve and enhance the quality of young people's lives. The Trust provides funding for individuals, small charities and groups to encourage their development and to help with the provision of facilities - with a particular focus on improving opportunities for children and young people in their communities.

### Talented Individual Fund

This type of funding may be available locally through the local authority sports council – with criteria for who and what they fund.

### Businesses / Organisations

Some local businesses or organisations may be interested in sponsoring young sports men and women. They are probably more likely to sponsor gymnasts who are doing well in the sport than ones who are not progressing. However, to access this potential support, gymnasts may have to write a suitable letter outlining their background and the assistance they need and why. Applicants should bear in mind that businesses will probably receive a large number of requests for funding, so gymnasts should spend some time making sure that letters are well written and it may give them an edge if they can show that they have researched the business. It might be necessary to write to many companies before finding one that is willing to offer sponsorship.

Sponsorship may not be cash – it could be goods or services in kind.

If a condition of sponsorship is the wearing of the business or organisation's logo on the gymnast's clothing e.g. leotard, tracksuit etc, gymnasts should make themselves aware of any rules about the displaying of such logos when entering competitions, particularly of national or international standard.

General rules and guidelines can be found in the BG's Members' Handbook. This explains the F.I.G. rules about commercial signage on competitive attire.

## CONTACTS

### HOME COUNTRY GYMNASTIC ASSOCIATIONS

Home Country	Contact Details
English Gymnastics	Tel: 0845 1297129 <a href="http://www.englandgymnastics.org.uk">http://www.englandgymnastics.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:info@englandgymnastics.org.uk">info@englandgymnastics.org.uk</a>
Welsh Gymnastics	Tel: 029 2043 1240 <a href="http://www.welshgymnastics.org">http://www.welshgymnastics.org</a> <a href="mailto:office@welshgymnastics.org">office@welshgymnastics.org</a>
Scottish Gymnastics	Tel: 01324 886505 <a href="http://www.scottishgymnastics.com">http://www.scottishgymnastics.com</a> <a href="mailto:info@scottishgymnastics.com">info@scottishgymnastics.com</a>
Gymnastics Northern Ireland	Tel: 02893 369391 <a href="http://www.northernirelandgymnastics.org">http://www.northernirelandgymnastics.org</a> <a href="mailto:admin@northernirelandgymnastics.org">admin@northernirelandgymnastics.org</a>

## OTHER

<p>UK Sport 40 Bernard Street London WC1N 1ST</p>	<p>Tel: 020 7211 5100 <a href="http://www.uk sport.gov.uk">http://www.uk sport.gov.uk</a> <a href="mailto:info@uk sport.gov.uk">info@uk sport.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>SportsAid 3rd Floor Victoria House Bloomsbury Square London WC1B 4SE</p>	<p>Tel: 020 7273 1975 <a href="http://www.sportsaid.org.uk">http://www.sportsaid.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:mail@sportsaid.org.uk">mail@sportsaid.org.uk</a></p>
<p>Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme City Sports Centre Off Northumberland Road Northumbria University Newcastle upon Tyne Tyne &amp; Wear NE1 8ST</p>	<p>Tel: (0191) 243 7356 <a href="mailto:info@tass.gov.uk">info@tass.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.tass.gov.uk">http://www.tass.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>The Grants Officer The Dickie Bird Foundation 47 Ripon Road Earlsheaton Dewsbury West Yorkshire WF12 7LG</p>	<p>Tel: 01924 417391 or 01924 430593 <a href="http://www.thedickiebirdfoundation.org">http://www.thedickiebirdfoundation.org</a> <a href="mailto:dbfgrants@btinternet.com">dbfgrants@btinternet.com</a></p>
<p>The Linford Christie Trust Children's Services Town Hall King Street Hammersmith London W6 9JU</p>	<p>Tel: 0208 753 5447 <a href="http://www.lbhf.gov.uk">http://www.lbhf.gov.uk</a></p>
<p>Adrian Milne Steve Redgrave Trust PO Box 200 Petersfield Hampshire GU32 2ZX</p>	<p>Tel: 0870 458 0045 <a href="http://www.steveredgrave.com/charity">http://www.steveredgrave.com/charity</a> <a href="mailto:adrian.milne@ntlworld.com">adrian.milne@ntlworld.com</a></p>
<p>Youth Sport Trust Sir John Beckwith Centre for Sport Loughborough University Loughborough Leicestershire LE11 3TU</p>	<p>Tel: 0150 922 6600 <a href="http://www.youthsporttrust.org">http://www.youthsporttrust.org</a> <a href="mailto:info@youthsporttrust.org">info@youthsporttrust.org</a></p>