

Facilities case study

Project: Pegasus Gymnastics Club
Type: Industrial unit conversion
Cost: £837,000



Pegasus Gymnastics Club opened in 1987 where they operated from a school hall. By 1993, the club was looking at a dedicated facility for its growing membership. With the assistance of a mortgage, the club was able to purchase an empty warehouse in November 1994. By 2009 the club was actively looking for a new facility having outgrown the existing one some five years before.

Project overview

The club decided to work towards a huge conversion project (26,270sqft²) that would see them take on three separate training spaces, as well as community and dance areas. This would enable elite gymnasts to have further time to train whilst being able to cater for the large waiting lists. Once agreed, a building was identified and the club completed financial calculations to ensure that the project was sustainable.

The Project

Phase 1 (January 2014) – Club converted two units to become fit for purpose using club funds, British Gymnastics Facility Funding and Sport England Funding. This enabled the Gymnastics for All gym to be completed in one unit, a dedicated freestyle gymnastics area and half of the squad equipment set up in the second unit. This took seven months to achieve and involved careful timetabling in order for the space to be used by all effectively.

Phase 2 (March 2015) – Club converted and equipped the third training area which would become the squad gym – this increased both the competitive and recreational participation and groups available, and enabled further coaches to be sought for both training spaces.

Phase 3 (January 2016) – Club completed the structure to the first training space to have a community/warm-up floor, large freestyle gymnastics area as well as a café and weightlifting activities.

Impact

- Increase from 350 to 1773 members.
- More classes introduced including: 13 Gymnastics for All with six groups per class, two My Club, six preschool gymnastics, one adult, six FreeG, two men's artistic groups, three women's artistic groups and four floor and vault groups.
- New coaches – twelve Level 1, eight Level 2, one Level 3, one Level 4 and one Level 5 and 27 volunteers recruited and retained.
- Club performance level increased with two senior medals at the European Championships.
- School groups using facility in term times.

Project cost

The project was funded through a number of partners for the £603,000 building costs and £234,000 in equipment – this included the following:

Sale of Previous Gym - £190,000

Bank Loan - £124,000

Lidl (Owners of the Units) - £82,000 towards the repair of the building

British Gymnastics - £100,000 facility funding, £37,000 of FreeG equipment and £25,000 for phase 2

Sport England - £40,000

Club fundraising events, sponsorships, private investment and smaller grants - £100,000

Running costs

Expenditure	£/month
Rent	£8,000
Loans	£4,250
Staffing	£33,000
Utilities	£3,000
Service	£3,000
Other	£10,500



The future

The club is now looking to develop their café area in order to provide both hot and cold food for the gymnasts and parents/spectators. A Disability Programme will be implemented and additional adult gymnastics classes added to meet the demand for beginner and advanced sessions. Further school and community links will be developed.

Top tips

- Have a strong and solid team in place – the new facility project would not have been completed without the dedicated staff and volunteers.
- The club thrived from having a strong business and development plan in place with a clear vision for the future.
- Research the local area and understand the club's unique selling point. It's important not to try and provide every activity, which may affect the quality of the delivery.

Do you require support with a facility project?

Contact us at: participation@british-gymnastics.org