



# Inspired Facilities Fund

## A short Guide for RYA Clubs

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## 1. What is the Inspired Facilities Fund?

Sport England is investing £50 million of National Lottery funding in up to 1000 community sports projects from 2011 to 2014 as Part of Places People Play, its programme to deliver a London 2012 legacy of increased mass participation in sport.

Funding will help refurbish or upgrade sports facilities, or convert an existing building into a venue suitable for sport and accessible to the whole community. Sport England want this to be different to previous capital funding, more simple, needs based and accessible to people that have not got the skills, experience, expertise or match funding to pursue other applications.

To qualify for a grant you will need to:

- ✓ Show how your project will keep and, ideally attract more people to sport.
- ✓ Demonstrate that it is needed and wanted by the local community.
- ✓ Explain how it will cover its running costs and remain open for sporting use for years to come.

In particular, they are looking for projects or organisations across the country that:

- ✓ Have not previously received an individual sports Lottery grant worth £10,000 or more.
- ✓ Offer local opportunities to people who do not currently play sport, or are the only public sports facility in the local community.

Sport England aim to make applying for an Inspired Facilities grant as straightforward as possible, with no specialist knowledge required. The application is only eight pages long. This is why, although they are not telling you what you need to invest in, they have pulled together a catalogue of typical facility developments and improvements. You can use the catalogue to help you work out costs, calculate your budget and gather the information you need.

## 2. How do you apply?

Community and voluntary organisations (most RYA clubs will fall into this category) and parish and town councils can apply for grants worth between £20,000 and £50,000. At least 70% of the total funding available is set aside for these groups.

Local authorities, statutory organisations, and education establishments such as outdoor education establishments can apply for grants between £20,000 and £150,000. You may only submit one application per organisation per round.

Sport England would prefer you to have some partnership funding – either cash or in kind. However, they know funding can be difficult for voluntary or community groups to raise so we won't rule out your application if you don't have any. You must apply online via Sport England's My Application website. Before you do this you need to work out your project plan and costs.

## 3. The dates for the funding rounds are:

Round 1: 1<sup>st</sup> August to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2011. There were seventeen successful sailing applications in this first round. Twenty three sailing projects were submitted in total. Total funding awarded = £861,361

Round 2: 1<sup>st</sup> February 2012 to 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012

Round 3: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2012 to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012

Rounds 4/5: Will take place in 2013/14 and the dates will be announced after the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

### **Four simple steps to applying for an Inspired Facilities grant**

Check your project is eligible



Find out what your club or community needs



Work out your project costs



Fill in your online application

[www.sportengland.org/inspiredfacilities](http://www.sportengland.org/inspiredfacilities)

#### 4. What sailing projects have been successful in round one?

There have been seventeen successful sailing applications in this first round. Twenty three sailing projects were submitted in total.

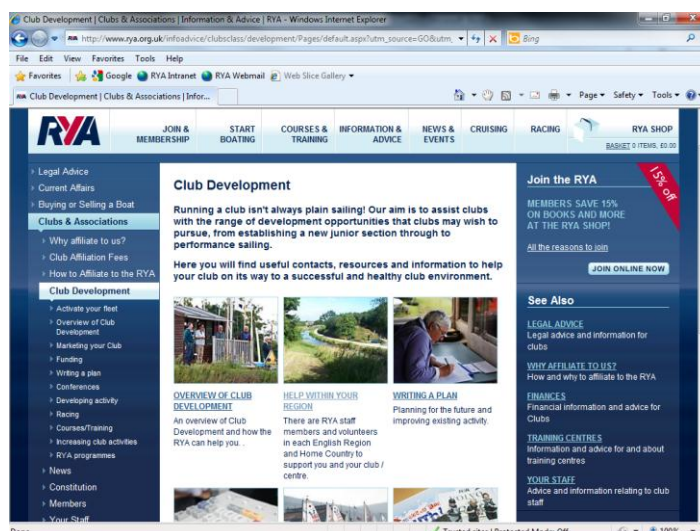
The table below gives an indication of the type of projects that have been successful.

<b>Club and Centre</b>	<b>Sport England Region</b>	<b>Funding for</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Broxbourne Sailing Club	East	Waterfront Refurbishment/protect shoreline which is crumbling	£50,000
Brightlingsea Sailing Club	East	Changing rooms extension and refurbishment	£50,000
Cobnor Activities Trust	South	Upgrade Facilities	£50,000
Combs Sailing Club	East Midlands	Install mains electricity supply	£35,579
Coquet Shorebased Trust	North East	Facility Development	£50,000
Deben Yacht Club	East	Slipway replacement	£50,000
Docklands Sailing and Watersports Centre	London	Refurbishment of Changing rooms and toilets	£50,000
Doe Park Water Activities Centre	Yorkshire	Building improvements. Local Authority Centre	£84,689
Harwich Town Sailing Club	East	Refurbish clubhouse and changing rooms provide secure storage	£45,992
Helford River Sailing Club	South West	Extend and improve existing club house	£50,000
Hykeham Sailing Club	East Midlands	Improve launching facilities	£50,000
Minima Yacht Club	London	Upgrade clubs facilities, including disabled access	£50,000
Queen Mary Sailing Club	South East	Refurbish and modernise existing club house	£44,439
Sailing Club	South	Club house renovation	£50,000
Swanage Sailing Club	South West	Extend and improve existing clubhouse	£49,662
Staunton Harold Sailing Club	East Midlands	Expansion and refurbishment of club changing rooms	£50,000
West of England School Sailing Association	South West	Improvements to existing facility.	£50,000

## 5. Top tips on applying for the fund

Howard Nelson Regional Club Coach and RYA East Midlands Regional Chair assisted with two successful applications in the first round. Howard offers some top tips below:

- ✓ Have a good development plan in place to help with the application (see [www.rya.org.uk/go/clubdev](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/clubdev))
- ✓ Have clarity on what you are proposing - we took lots of pictures and included them in the application so it was clear to Sport England.
- ✓ Demonstrating community support - we had loads of letters of support. The hardest thing was not filling in the application but getting the supporting documentation together.
- ✓ Read the help box on the form which pretty much says what you have to write.
- ✓ Use the Sport England Market Segmentation info ([www.rya.org.uk/go/kyc](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/kyc)) to support your application and demonstrate how the proposal will help meet these
- ✓ Have clear targets and avoid waffle!
- ✓ Have someone read through your application - ideally your Regional Development Officer



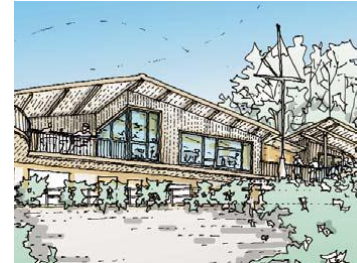
Lots of advice on club development can be found at  
[www.rya.org.uk/go/clubdev](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/clubdev)

## 6. Interview with a successful applicant

**Garth Weaver from Helford River Sailing Club in Cornwall successfully applied for £50,000 in round.**

Q. What did you apply for?

The Club applied for the grant scheme because we thought our plans were consistent with the fund's criteria. We had produced a development plan and were looking to extend and modernise our club house. We applied for a £50,000 grant towards modernising the club house as this was a focus of the grant and our funding plans needed boosting.



Q. What was the application process like?

The application process was pretty straightforward. We were fortunate enough to get some really sound advice from the RYA Sport Development Team. It is an online process and it was necessary to get a number of documents together such as: the club's constitution, bank statements, title deeds etc. Whilst the application only took 3 to 4 hours to complete, I would recommend registering and starting the process early - at least 4 weeks before the cut-off date.

Q. What advice would you offer any other club thinking of applying?

I would recommend starting the process early. Try and produce some sketch plans of what you are trying to achieve, use the website to formulate your budget and try to obtain some good data on how the improvements to your facilities could produce positive outcomes in terms of keeping people in your sport or attracting new members. Also have a chat with your RYA Development Officer.



Helford River's old facilities, struggling to cope with a growing membership.

## **6. More advice and information**

Sport England Inspired Facilities web site

[www.sportengland.org/inspiredfacilities](http://www.sportengland.org/inspiredfacilities)

Club development section of RYA web site

[www.rya.org.uk/go/clubdev](http://www.rya.org.uk/go/clubdev)

### **RYA Regional Development Officers**

If you would like to discuss a project please contact your RYA Regional Development Officer.

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