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# Darebin Sports Grants Program 2021/22 Guidelines

Round 1  
September 2021

## CITY OF DAREBIN

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## OVERVIEW

The **Darebin Sports Grants Program** is part of Darebin Council's Community Grants program to support rebuilding the capacity of local sports clubs and organisations to respond and recover to the impacts of COVID19, as well as create inclusive environments and programs that allow residents of all ages, genders, abilities and backgrounds to get active, socially connect and participate in community sport.

This is a competitive grants program with grants of up to \$2000 for participation and club capacity building initiatives, or up to \$5000 for minor facility improvements (at Council owned venues). The grants program is available to eligible sports clubs and organisations who best address the focuses and criteria outlined in these guidelines.

## FOCUS AREAS

The focus areas of this grants program for community sport are:

- Improving our community's physical and mental wellbeing through organised, beginner-friendly community sport activity with a strong focus on inclusion.  
In particular, breaking down barriers to play for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, women, girls, LGBTIQ communities, people with a disability, and multicultural and diverse communities.
- Rebuilding sports club capacity to respond strongly from COVID impacts to better operate and deliver community sport activity and build inclusive club cultures/environments.

## HOW TO APPLY

1. Review this program guidelines document.
2. Check if your club is eligible to apply, and your project is something that might be funded.
3. Plan your project and grant submission, review application checklist, get together relevant electronic quotes, attachments and letters of support as required.
4. This year's application is online using the Smarty Grants platform, making it easy to put together your application and attachments.
5. Apply online for Round 1 (2021-22) at <https://darebin.smartygrants.com.au/>
6. Submit your application by the closing date for this round.
7. Council will contact you as to whether you have been successful or not.

## TIMELINES (ROUND 1)

Grant applications open (Round 1)	Monday 30 August 2021
Grant applications close (Round 1)	Monday 27 September 2021 (midnight)
Selection panel conduct assessments	October 2021
Notification sent to all grant applicants & Payments made to successful applicants	late October / November 2021
Project to be completed	1 June 2022

## WHO CAN APPLY?

- Clubs/organisations that did not receive funding in the Darebin Council Community Grants program 2021-22.
- Tenant sports clubs who have a license or seasonal agreement to use a Darebin City Council recreation reserve and/or sporting pavilion, with no debt to Council.
- Non-tenant sports clubs or sporting organisations based in Darebin, such as Darebin Community Sports Stadium, or play outside of Darebin but have more than 50% of Darebin residents as participants.
- Sport/recreational clubs, associations or organisations that are an incorporated association or a not for profit organisation.
- Peak/state sporting bodies partnering with one or more Darebin-based clubs on a project/program

## WHAT MIGHT BE FUNDED

Projects and activities that are eligible and might be funded under the Darebin Sports Grants program include, but are not limited to:

PROJECT TYPES	FURTHER INFO & EXAMPLES
<p><b>Sport activities that focus on inclusion, new or returning players</b></p>	<p>Apply for participation activities, events or programs (and associated costs) that target cohorts/people facing disadvantage and barriers to starting or returning to sport activity. These include women and girls, juniors, older adults, people with a disability, culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) background, LGBTIQ, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted sport programs (such as <a href="#">Walking Football</a> for seniors 50+ or <a href="#">Auskick</a> , <a href="#">Mini Roos</a> for juniors)</li> <li>• Adult beginner (social) sport programs such as <a href="#">Soccer Mums</a>, <a href="#">AFL 9s</a>, <a href="#">Open Court Sessions or Cardio Tennis</a>, <a href="#">Bowling with Babies</a>, <a href="#">Rugby Switch 7s</a>, <a href="#">Cricket Sixes</a> etc.</li> <li>• Come and try session/s, introductory clinics and related promotions.</li> <li>• Cultural or community awareness events/programs that feature sporting opportunities for a Council priority target group e.g. <a href="#">LGBTIQ Pride Cup</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Club capacity building initiatives</b></p>	<p>Apply for paid professional services that enhance the delivery of club operations and participation programs. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional financial or business advice to help club planning and operations. For example: <a href="#">Clubmap</a>, <a href="#">Sports Community</a>, <a href="#">Leisure Networks</a> services.</li> <li>• Training courses to develop club volunteers, new coaches and officials from accredited providers</li> <li>• Going digital - such as setting up a new website, cashless payment/finance systems setup/subscription such as <a href="#">Square</a> or <a href="#">Xero</a>, member/club management systems such as <a href="#">TidyHQ</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Player support programs</b></p>	<p>Apply for funding to support players facing financial hardship, build inclusive club cultures, improve player welfare and connection, or improve attitudes towards <a href="#">gender equality</a> and <a href="#">healthier masculinities</a>. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Player subsidy or scholarship program to help players who can't afford to pay their fees to play or purchase essential equipment to get started.</li> <li>• Training courses such as <a href="#">mental health first aid</a></li> <li>• Education sessions for teams/players from providers such as <a href="#">SALT</a>, <a href="#">Tackle Your Feelings</a> (AFL), <a href="#">Outside the Locker Room</a>, <a href="#">Tomorrow Man</a> , <a href="#">Man Cave</a> and others.</li> <li>• Setting up a <a href="#">player support program</a> and related costs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Minor facility improvements or essential sporting equipment</b></p>	<p>Apply for essential sporting equipment or minor sporting infrastructure improvements that will enhance club capacity to deliver direct participation outcomes. This might include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Book A Court system for tennis court hire bookings</a></li> <li>• Essential sporting equipment or training aids</li> <li>• Minor upgrades to cricket nets</li> <li>• Upgrades to synthetic cricket pitches, or <a href="#">Flicx roll out pitch</a></li> </ul>

## WHAT WON'T BE FUNDED

Projects that won't be funded under the Sports Grants Program and don't relate to the grant focus areas include:

- ✘ **Minor facility improvements** that don't directly link to sport participation, such as pavilion refurbishments, storage cages, scoreboards, behind the goals safety nets, maintenance etc.
- ✘ **Major facility improvements** such as pavilion redevelopments and sports field lighting
- ✘ **Funding for Council fees, SSA/league affiliation or utilities** for tenant clubs playing at council facilities.
- ✘ **Community events** that may target council priority groups, but do not help them get active with sport or recreational activities.

## HOW WILL COUNCIL ASSESS APPLICATIONS AND WHAT IS THE CRITERIA?

Our team will assign a panel to assess applications based on the following criteria. When responding to questions in the application, be clear and concise in responses including relevant attachments to support your application.

<b>What/Why/ When</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What and When:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clearly identifies what the program or initiative is,</li> <li>○ Proposes relevant outcomes that link to grant focus areas (inclusive sport participation, club capacity building).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Why:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Shows a genuine need for funding and related insights</li> <li>○ Puts forward a good solution/s to address the barriers, issue/s or problems faced by club and/or participants.</li> <li>○ Clearly outlines benefits and potential positive impact to both the club and community.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>How</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly outlines how this program/activity will be delivered with a basic project/program plan or run down</li> <li>• Adds funding or delivery partnerships (as required) that will further help deliver the project and its outcomes.</li> <li>• Shows clear timelines that can be delivered this financial year</li> <li>• Shows a clear and basic budget for the project/program</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusive Participation Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified one or more disadvantaged participation cohort/s or group/s identified, and specifically how they will be targeted in the program or initiative.</li> <li>• The amount of people the project will impact in local community.</li> <li>• Partnership with a community group or agency identified.</li> <li>• Any links to <a href="#">Doing Sport Differently framework from VicHealth</a></li> </ul>
<b>Who</b>	<p>Applications will score strongly under this criteria if they have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrate they are a community focused sporting club</li> <li>• Not received funding from Council in the past 12 months.</li> <li>• 50% or more Darebin residents as members/players</li> <li>• Achieved Gold/Silver/Bronze in Performance Subsidies Program last season or year (tenant clubs only).</li> <li>• Submitted a basic club plan with this application or as part of most recent tenant club allocation process.</li> </ul>

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- ✓ Your club or organisation is eligible to apply.
- ✓ Identify an idea, program or initiative that links to projects that 'might be funded' and relates to inclusive sport participation or club development. Ensure you don't apply for something on the list of 'what won't be funded'.
- ✓ Explore partnerships to help delivery or participation outcomes, this will enhance the success of your project and any additional funding sources will also be beneficial in your application.
- ✓ Plan your project/program with quotes and research related facts/insights to ensure its realistic to achieve for the budget and timeline.
- ✓ Choose one or more population groups (age, background, ability, gender) to meaningfully engage and target for your participation program/initiative, and tell us how your program/initiative will break down barriers for them and help them to get active and socially connected.
- ✓ Complete all questions in online application with clear and concise answers, addressing the selection criteria areas where possible.
- ✓ Attach the desired list of attachments throughout the application. Particularly a basic club plan, project plan, related quotes.
- ✓ Refer and make plans to adhere to the terms and conditions (fine print) of the grant below.

## WHAT IF I STILL NEED HELP AND SUPPORT?

If you have any further questions or would like to discuss your grant idea further, please contact our Council's contact for this grant program:

Adam Feiner

Sport Development Officer, Leisure Services Team at Darebin Council

Phone: [8470 8138](tel:84708138)

Email: [Adam.Feiner@darebin.vic.gov.au](mailto:Adam.Feiner@darebin.vic.gov.au)

Please also refer our website for related council information at <http://www.darebin.vic.gov.au>

## THE FINE PRINT

Terms and Conditions of applying and receiving funding support in the Darebin Council Sports Grants Program are:

- A maximum of one successful application will be considered (per applicant) each financial year, however the club can apply for more than one project/program/initiative within that application.
- Council may provide funding less than the amount requested by an applicant and make special conditions for the funding to be provided.
- Projects or programs will not be funded retrospectively.
- Projects must be completed by the end of the financial year in which funding was secured unless Council has agreed to an alternate date in writing.
- Successful applicants must complete the online funding agreement form to confirm their grant and agree to conditions for payment to be processed and made to recipient.
- At the conclusion of their grants program, successful applicants must provide a brief (acquittal) report to Council on the project demonstrating its completion, impact and use of funds. Failure to do so satisfactorily, may lead to the club/organisation needing to return funding back to Council.
- Non-tenant clubs, associations or organisations must prove their identity and status as a not-for-profit organisation. Ideally as an incorporated association.
- Council recommends successful applicant obtain an Australian Business Number (ABN) for tax purposes.
- Applicants must provide proof of Incorporation and Public Liability Insurance.
- All projects/programs must be completed by a registered practitioner/coach/deliverer with the required or relevant qualifications and insurance.
- Quotes or invoices should be provided where relevant in the application
- Any facility related works (such as Book A Court system) funded through this program are to become the property of Council. Any funding for permanent infrastructure, must be related to council owned or managed land.