

DEVELOPMENT GRANT



MEMBERSHIP REBATE TO LOCAL LEAGUES, AREA ASSOCIATIONS AND REGIONS

INTRODUCTION

Basketball England is changing the membership rebate system for Local Leagues, Area Associations and Regions with the introduction to a Development Grant to further grow the sport at a local and regional level.

This document explains the reasoning behind the change and how BE hopes it will benefit the sport at this level.

MEMBERSHIP REBATES

Basketball England oversees a registration process for all players, clubs and leagues as part of affiliation for each season. Before the 2019/20 season when BE introduced its new membership portal, member registrations were managed in several ways.

Some clubs registered their players directly with BE and others registered their members via a proxy – an Area Registrar – who acted on behalf of a County/Area Association (AA) or a playing local league (LL).

Through practice established some time ago, the Area Registrar, acting on behalf of Area Associations, was entitled to retain 40% of membership fees collected for players, officials and coaches operating outside of the National Basketball League and BUCS for use by the association.

This document outlines the changes to the rebate process, as approved by the Basketball England board in conjunction with the regional chairs, which aims to further enhance:

- Basketball development opportunities across England
- Innovation within the sport
- Accountability over use of affiliation rebate monies
- Relationships between Regions, Local Leagues and Area Associations

PROCESS

The registration process for all players, clubs and leagues will continue to be managed through the new portal as per the 2019/20 season. The rebate of 40% will be collected in a Development Grant 'pot' to provide a stream of funding.

On behalf of Local Leagues, Area Associations and clubs, the Regional Management Committees (RMC) of the 10 regions (South West, South, South East, London, East, East Midlands, West Midlands, North West, North East and Yorkshire) will develop a finance plan for the development grant and submit this to Basketball England, to help develop basketball within their regions.

As part of this process, Local Leagues, Area Associations and clubs will submit a 'Local Funding Request' for development activities to their Regional Management Committee, which will then complete a 'Regional Funding Request' as part of the grant application directly to Basketball England.

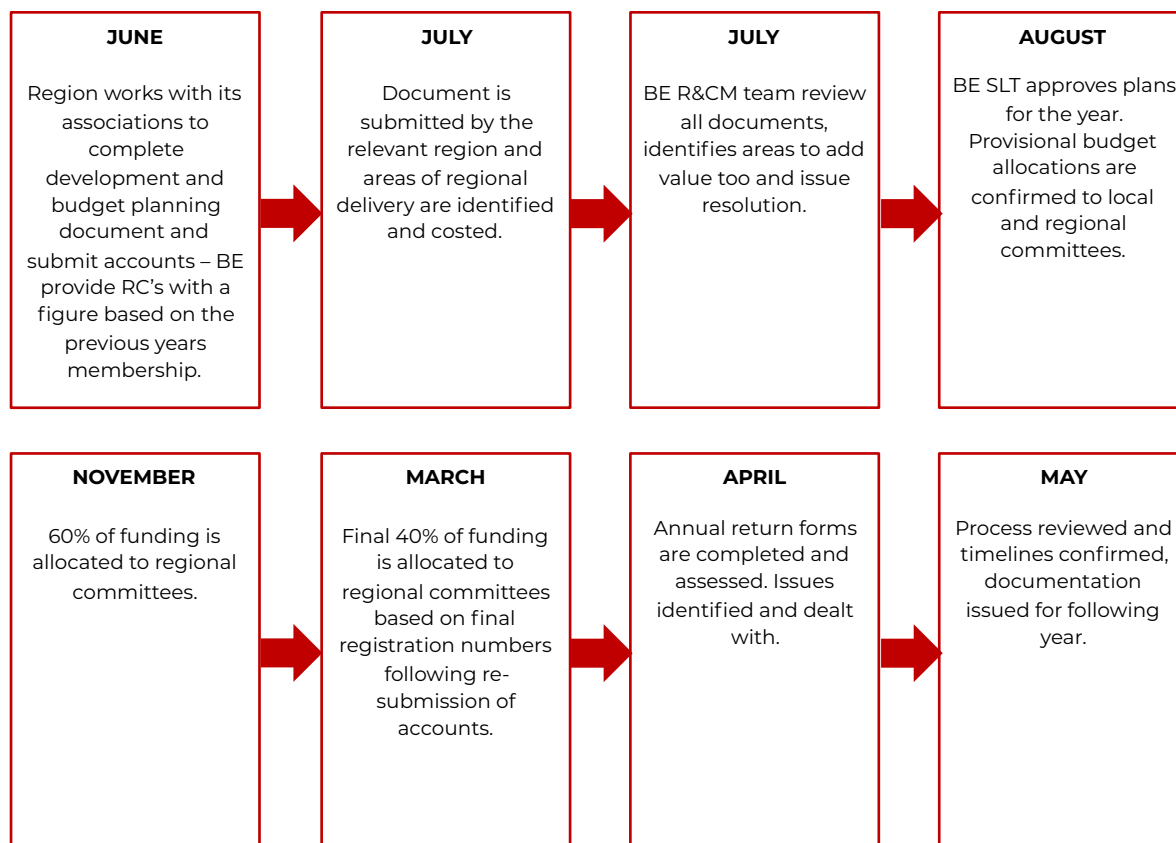
The total amount of money that can be applied for by the RMC will be 40% of the sum of affiliations within that region based on the previous year. The rebate is calculated from affiliations of players, coaches, referees and table officials at Local League level only.

The work between each Region and its associations, league and clubs will be pivotal in this process. It is important to recognise the need and demand to develop in certain areas of the sport and therefore allocate funds to help improve these areas.

The document submitted by the RMC will be reviewed the Basketball England Relationship and Coordination team to help identify areas to add value and resolve any issues where required. The decision on the funding plans will be approved by the Basketball England Senior Leadership Team and subsequently, all funding plans will be confirmed to RMCs and disseminated to LLs, AAs and clubs.

The Development Grant forms can be found on the Basketball England site [HERE](#).

The agreed funding amounts will be processed in December and March (March payment is based on the final affiliation numbers and submission of current spend until this point).



Note – the months stated above are ‘traditional’ dates in line with a September-May season. Given the current situation with Covid-19 restrictions, they have been amended. See appendix 1

WHY INTRODUCE THE 'DEVELOPMENT GRANT'?

In many cases, organisations currently receiving the membership rebate are doing great development work, but through the new process Basketball England will be able to better demonstrate their effectiveness against the areas of development identified below.

Many of these areas fall under the Basketball England strategy and those projects looking to further this will have greater priority.

Through a more collaborative approach with the regions and BE, it is expected that a greater impact can be achieved in:

- Subsidising current activity – the cost of local league entry fees and league running costs to ensure that the per-head cost of playing basketball locally remains affordable and accessible to all (including finals)
- Development of Infrastructure – increasing the number and quality of coaches, referees and table officials through recruitment campaigns and programmes of continued professional development at all levels
- Affordability – addressing issues for individuals in accessing the talent pathway and national teams
- Supporting regional initiatives that benefit local participation – the development of our infrastructure and campaigns on a regional basis, for example, activities that underpin the All Girls campaign.
- Growing competition provision for more age groups and improving the gender balance in local league competitions, including staging alternative competition formats to encourage more people to take part, such as 3x3 or a 'Back to Basketball' sessions
- Investing in volunteers who run local league provision to ensure they have the skills and knowledge to run their leagues more effectively, helping to safeguard against the collapse of local league provision
- Supporting the costs of regional representative teams to present the game at a local and regional level in a positive and credible light when compared to other sports

While it is important to ensure funding applications are full and thorough, Basketball England recognise that funding needs to be agile, based on developments through the year.

Each RMC, will be able to apply for funding during the year on an ad-hoc basis to help cover further development costs not foreseen prior to the start of the season at a local and regional level subject to availability.

BASKETBALL ENGLAND PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

As the National Governing Body for basketball, it is important to balance the needs of ensuring costs of the sport are affordable alongside the development of the game to increase the numbers of those participating in the sport, whether that be as a player, referee, table official and a volunteer.

With this, below are the priorities that Basketball England is looking to develop with the support of the Regional Management Committees to help deliver across the country such as:

- The creation and development of junior local leagues and competitions
- Under-represented groups (female, BAME, disabled) involved in coaching, refereeing, table officiating within basketball
- Delivery of basketball within school (primary and secondary) with a view to convert into club members
- Development of volunteer workforce within clubs

While all bids put forward will be taken into account, the above areas identified will be balanced with that of the needs of the region as well.

CRITERIA FOR APPLICATION

In order for an organisation / local league / area association to apply for the funds, they must have:

- BE affiliation
- Financial accounts for previous year (including reserves) – Local Leagues must not have more than 12 months of average annual turnover in their bank account or reserves
- A constitution
- A Safeguarding and Welfare Policy
- An Equality and Diversity Policy
- A Data Protection Policy
- A Code of Conduct

These documents must be submitted to the Regional Management Committee. The criteria must be adhered to as it ensures there is a minimum standard of governance within an organisation. Work will be carried out with Area Associations and Local Leagues to help implement and develop policies as opposed to it being a barrier.

REGISTRARS

Local Registrars will retain a pivotal role within the basketball community. Using the online membership portal, registrars will be able to see affiliations and licences for players and coaches to ensure they are eligible to participate in local and national league competitions.

The membership portal is being updated to allow access to this information.

Each region will also have a Regional Registrar. This individual will help local league and area registrars in ensuring clubs and players are registering and to help with any issues that may arise as reported from a local level. The Regional Registrars will need to be recruited where required.

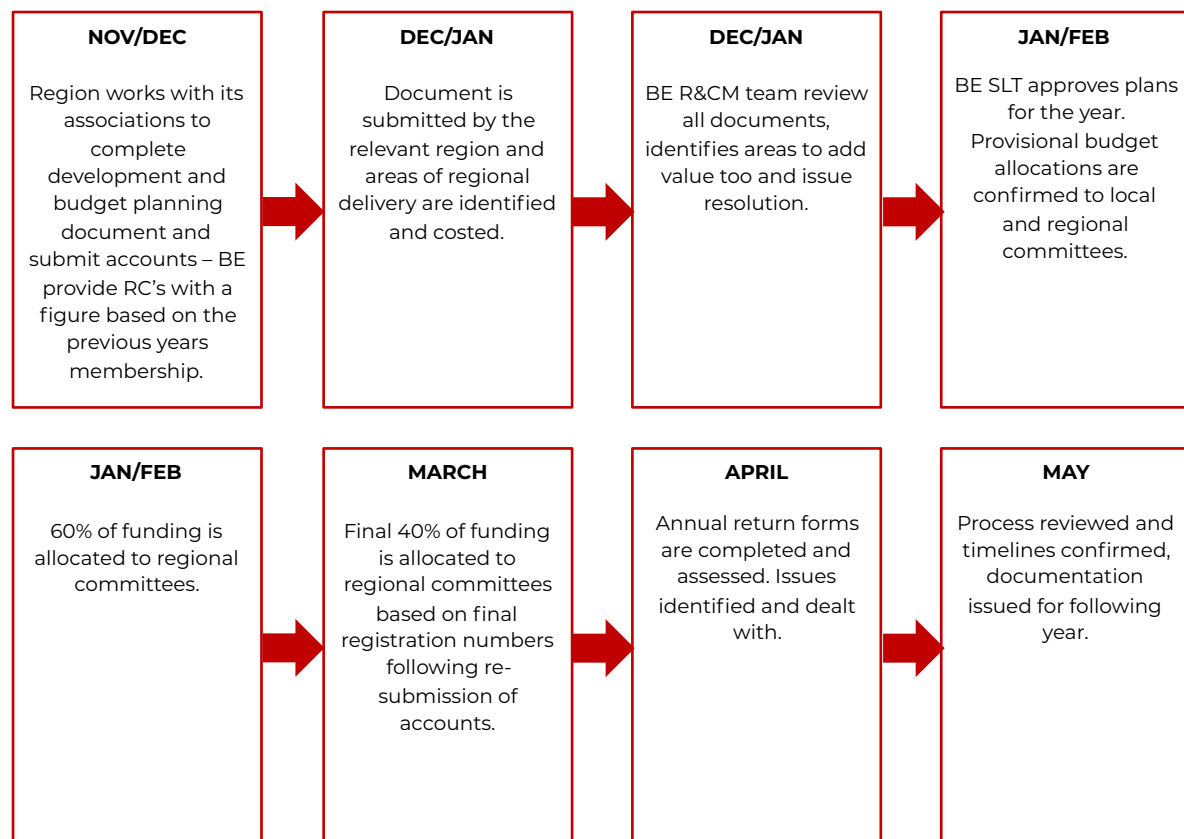
SUMMARY

It is recognised this is a substantial change to the traditional rebate system that has been used previously for affiliation fees. The move from a rebate system to a Development Grant will allow Local Leagues, Area Associations and clubs to work closely at a local and regional level with the support of Basketball England to further develop basketball to suit the needs of members.

It also increases accountability around of the use of affiliation fees paid by players, officials, clubs and local leagues on how money is being spent, with the aim to develop and make basketball more accessible for individuals and in the long term, increase the participation in all aspects of the sport.

APPENDIX 1 -

AMENDED TIMELINE BELOW FOR 21/22



EXAMPLE SCENARIOS FOR FUNDING:

Scenario	Approve/Reject
A club applies for funding to support an U15 regional team trip abroad to play teams in Spain	May wish to part-fund – is this development of the sport in the region? Good value for money?
A club applies for funding to run a coaching course that is open to all clubs within the region	Approve
A local private coaching company wants a subsidy to run a coaching CPD workshop around 'Leadership' for their coaches who deliver within schools	Reject – private company outside of Basketball England and specific to the company as opposed regional activity
A club applies to cover the cost of mentoring course for its coaches and committee members	May wish to part-fund – is it open to more than their own club? Does it help develop wider than a specific club
A Local League applies to contribute to the costs of their finals	May wish to part-fund – is the local league contributing to the costs (affects more than a single club/organisation)?
Region wants to deliver regional training sessions and cover playing kit costs (owned by the region)	Approve

