



Procedure for Bursary Funding

The aims of the Scheme

The Croquet England Bursary Scheme has been formulated to provide financial support for potential international players of both AC and GC. It is primarily intended to assist players under the age of 25 who wish to take part in tournaments and other challenging croquet activities and, when selected, in international events, both at home and abroad, and require assistance with the costs involved.

However, there is no age limit and no formal "means test". Preference will be given to applicants aged under 25 at the beginning of the year but older players may also apply. Preference will also be given to applicants who satisfy the Committee that they reasonably require financial support but financial disclosure will not be required.

The Bursary will be a grant to a successful applicant rather than reimbursement of a proportion of the expenses incurred by him or her.

Administration

The scheme will be administered by the Croquet England Funding Committee in conjunction with the International Performance Directors (IPDs). The IPDs will recommend and nominate applicants. Players who have not been nominated by an IPD, who feel that they may qualify, may present themselves to the IPDs for possible nomination and/or may apply to the Funding Committee directly.

Applications will usually be made at the commencement of the summer season but may be made at any time, if necessary.

Players may apply for successive bursaries but those who apply for a second, or subsequent, bursary will be required to explain how they used the previous award and the effect, if any, that it had.

The Scheme will have a budget, allocated annually by the Executive.

There are no limits upon the discretion of the Funding Committee to make an individual award (other than the amount of the annual budget).

The bursary will normally be paid retrospectively (i.e. after the grantee has attended the event for which financial support has been provided) but, in cases of need, funds will be paid to a grantee in advance, upon terms. Interim payments will also be available. Payments will be made by the Croquet England Operations Manager, using the bank details supplied to him by the grantee.

Proof of expenditure incurred will not be required but a claim for payment must be endorsed by an IPD or another official of Croquet England, as verification that the claimant attended the relevant events.

Decisions of the Funding Committee will be final.

The Funding Committee will report from time to time and, in any event, annually to the Executive with regard to the administration of the Scheme.

Making an application

An application must be made using the form published on the Croquet England website or supplied by the Chairman of the Funding Committee. A player who has a Development Plan, devised in consultation with one or both of the IPDs, should annex a copy of that plan and of any endorsement by an IPD. Applicants may annex copies of any other documents of their choice, including other endorsements or references.

Factors that may be taken into account

The Funding Committee will have regard to:

- a) the age of the applicant;
- b) the status of the applicant (e.g. school pupil; student; apprentice; employee; recipient of State benefits etc.)
- c) the standard of play already achieved by the applicant;
- d) the potential for improvement to international standard;
- e) the commitment of the applicant to the sport of croquet over a sustained period;
- f) the applicant's need for financial support;
- g) the steps taken by the applicant to obtain funding from other sources;
- h) the measures adopted by the applicant to reduce the expenditure to be incurred (e.g. shared travel or utilisation of freely available accommodation);
and
- i) any other relevant matter drawn to the attention of the Committee by the applicant.

John Reddish
Chairman of the Funding Committee
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