**PRESS RELEASE: DATE GOES HERE**

**£XXXX to help XXX Sports Club during current COVID-19 pandemic**

ORGANISATION/PROJECT in AREA has been awarded AMOUNT of National Lottery funding from Sport England’s Community Emergency Fund towards INTENDED USE OF MONEY during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic.

The outbreak of the virus and the consequent shutdown of businesses as of March 23 has left the sport and physical activity sector facing a period of uncertainty.

In response, on March 31 Sport England announced a £195m package to help the sport and physical activity sector through covid-19. Within the package is a £20m Community Emergency Fund, of National Lottery money to deliver immediate funding to those who have a role in supporting the nation to be active but are experiencing short-term financial hardship or the ceasing of operations due to the impact of coronavirus.

The grant will allow ORGANISATION/PROJECT to EXPAND ON DETAILS OF WHAT THE GRANT WILL ENABLE YOU TO DO E.G. COVER RENT AND MAINTENANCE COSTS FOR THE COMING MONTHS.

INSERT QUOTE

**Tim Hollingsworth, Sport England’s Chief Executive, said:**

“As the body responsible for the growth of sport and physical activity participation, we want the vital grassroots organisations that make sport and physical activity happen in this country to not just to come through this crisis but to be in a position to thrive again in the future. The £20m Community Emergency fund, made possible by National Lottery players is part of a multimillion pound package of support we are providing to ease the pressure on a huge number of the organisations who are central to the nation’s health and wellbeing.

“We are proud to be able to provide vital funding to (INSERT NAME OF CLUB) to help it through these extremely challenging times.”

**\*\*\*ENDS \*\*\***

**Notes to Editors**

For more details about the project please contact NAME AT YOUR ORGANISATION.

**About your organisation**

Insert details about your organisation

**Photography**

Please note, the local press would welcome photographs of your facility / club and/or the type of activities it delivers, therefore if you have photography available, it is worthwhile adding a note here such as:

High resolution photography of our facility / members in action are available upon request.

**About the Sport England Community Emergency Fund**

Part of [Sport England’s overall £195m support package](https://www.sportengland.org/news/195-million-package-help-sport-and-physical-activity-through-coronavirus) to help the sport and physical activity sector through COVID-19, the £20m Community Emergency Fund

aims to deliver immediate funding to those most in need. It's specifically targeted at organisations, including those not currently supported by us, who have a role in supporting the nation to be active but who are experiencing short term financial hardship or the ceasing of operations due to the ongoing crisis.

Awards will be between £300 and £10,000, and in in exceptional circumstances we’ll consider awards of more than £10,000. The types of organisations eligible include local sports clubs forced to close at short notice but who are facing ongoing costs around maintenance and utility bills, and voluntary and community sector organisations who deliver or enable sport and physical activity.

This £20 million fund of National Lottery money is designed to complement other sources of funding from the government, such as funds targeted at small businesses.

Further information on the Community Emergency Fund – including seeing if your organisation is eligible and the application process - can be found via <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/community-emergency-fund>.

**About National Lottery**

National Lottery players raise £30m every week for good causes, funding arts, heritage, sports, voluntary and charity projects around the UK. For more information on good causes in your area go to [www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk](http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/)

**About Sport England**

Sport England is a public body and invests up to £300 million National Lottery and government money each year in projects and programmes that help people get active and play sport.

It wants everyone in England, regardless of age, background, or level of ability, to feel able to engage in sport and physical activity. That’s why a lot of its work is specifically focused on helping people who do no, or very little, physical activity and groups who are typically less active - like women, disabled people and people on lower incomes.

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