

Bowls Scotland Coach Education Subsidy

As part of Bowls Scotland's ambition to be the best performing nation in the world, we continue to invest in our clubs to increase the quality and quantity of coaches from grassroots to High Performance.

In order to ensure that individuals who play our sport are from all areas of Scotland, we are aiming to remove as many barriers as we can to ensure coaches can be upskilled from a diverse range of our population.

In December 2023 we announced a £3,000 investment from **sportscotland** to create our Coach Education Subsidy Fund, which was open to all affiliated clubs, with criteria for our five key target groups aimed to increase the diversity and number of qualified coaches in Scotland. Since then, 72 coaches from 36 different clubs all over Scotland have been financially supported by Bowls Scotland to access free or heavily discounted Coach Education opportunities.

Thanks to the huge success from the initial Subsidy Fund, **sportscotland** have now not only continued, but substantially increased their investment within our sport to £7,000, allowing us to now open up a second round of subsidy funding which will re-open from 17th April 2024 and remain open until 31st March 2025.

With huge thanks to our key partners at **sportscotland**, this increased investment will allow us to expand our Coach Education Subsidy Fund for all coaches within these five target areas. This will continue to allow all eligible individuals or clubs to apply for 50%, 75% or 100% discount on our Bowls Scotland education costs.

The following five target areas have been identified as target areas to increase the number of qualified coaches:

- Female coaches
- Coaches aged 16-25 years old
- Coaches with a disability
- Coaches from rural areas
- Coaches from areas of social deprivation

To access application form for Coach Education Subsidy, please visit - <https://forms.office.com/e/6S4mMRxTLP>

For further information on the Coach Education Subsidy, or to have a discussion around eligibility, please contact our Coach and Volunteer Manager, Adam Martin, via adammartin@bowlsscotland.com or 07591 825874.

You can also contact one of our National Development Officers for more details on Coach Education Subsidy or if you require any other club development support:

NDO North: Stuart Bell - 07525 134385 / stuartbell@bowlsscotland.com

NDO East: Alan McDonald - 07821 118774 / alanmcdonald@bowlsscotland.com

NDO West: Holly Hamilton - 07715 025736 / hollyhamilton@bowlsscotland.com

Coach Education Subsidy Fund - Application Criteria

The courses eligible for Coach Education Subsidy are;

- Introduction to Bowls Coaching Award
- Introduction to Coaching Para Bowls
- Level 1 Bowls Coaching Award
- Level 2 Bowls Coaching Award

If any individuals or groups are looking to explore other areas of education for coaches over and above the list above, we may approve subsidy applications on a case-by-case basis but please get in touch prior to making application.

Any application whether group or individual must meet at least one the following criteria;

Female Coaches

- Any female who is a member of an affiliated club
- Individual can be an active coach, or a coach looking to start coaching to ensure more females are coaching across all levels of our sport

Young Leaders

- Any coach aged 16-25 years old at time of application
- Aim is to encourage more young people into club leadership positions

Para Coaches

- Any coach with a Para Bowls classification (physical and/or vision impairment)
- Any coach eligible for a Para Bowls classification (physical and vision impairment)
- Any coach with a learning disability

Coaches from a rural area

- Any coach personally residing in a rural area
- Any club located in a rural area
- Rural areas will be defined by Scot Government guidelines – [Click Here](#) for guidelines
- Due to rural area definition, priority will be given to most rural areas of the following regions - Highlands & Islands, Argyll & Bute, Aberdeenshire, Borders, Dumfries & Galloway

Coaches from areas of deprivation

- Any coach living in a SIMD area
- Any club located within a SIMD area
- What is SIMD and am I Eligible? – [Click Here](#)

Individual Applications

- Any individual who is a member of a Bowls Scotland affiliated club can apply for a Coach Education Subsidy, provided they meet the criteria above.
- Coaches can apply themselves, or their club can apply on their behalf.

Group Applications

- Any club (or group of clubs) who are Bowls Scotland affiliated members can apply for a group subsidy for multiple coaches in one application.
- In any group application all individuals in group must meet the criteria above.