

SUPPORTING SPORTS CLUBS, ORGANISATIONS & INDIVIDUALS IN ABERDEENSHIRE

“ . . . let us support you . . . ”

Aberdeenshire Sports Council exists to represent member clubs/organisations and is one of the most progressive and active sports councils in the country.

We have one of the largest memberships in Scotland , however there are still many clubs throughout the area who are not currently affiliated and are therefore missing out on the many benefits which Aberdeenshire Sports Council has to offer.

BENEFITS OF ABERDEENSHIRE SPORTS COUNCIL AFFILIATION

- Grant Aid Scheme
Provides financial assistance under the following categories:
 - *Talented Individuals*
 - *Club/Forum Starter*
 - *Hosting Events*
 - *Coach/Administrator Education*
 - *Travel*
 - *Development Initiatives*
(including purchase of equipment)
- Opportunities to network with other clubs/organisations - share areas of good practice and problems.
- Information and advice on a wide range of sport related topics - at local, regional and national levels.
- Inclusion in the widely distributed Aberdeenshire Sports Directory to promote your club. The Directory also includes information on grant aid and useful contacts (only affiliated clubs/organisations will be included.)
- Website with regular updates, relevant news, links to other sites and affiliated organisation pages - includes Aberdeenshire Sports Directory with club listings.
- Regular newsletter and mailings.
- To be consulted and included in decision making in relation to all kinds of sporting matters locally and nationally. Insurance Scheme, Disclosure Scotland on child protection and opportunities for club reps to attend Disclosure Scotland sessions.
- Workshops/courses for coaches and volunteers at reduced cost for Aberdeenshire Sports Council affiliated organisations.
- Complimentary copy of 'Club Class - A Guide To Club Development' publication produced by Aberdeenshire Sports Council. Free workshops for clubs/organisations in relation to development planning.
- Annual Sports Awards Evening with a wide range of categories.
- Opportunities to nominate representatives for National Sports Awards.

- Aberdeenshire Sports Council supports a range of other projects/initiatives including Disability Sport; Sports Medicine Centres (at Ellon & Inverurie); Schools of Sport; close links and working relationship with Chris Anderson Trust, etc.
- Opportunities to apply to take part in international exchanges/trips and education programmes. (Links through Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils)
- VAT exemption for block booking of Aberdeenshire Council facilities.
- Involvement in generating sponsorship from local companies throughout the Aberdeenshire Sports Support Scheme to further invest in sport in Aberdeenshire.
- Direct Access to policy makers and purse holders.
- To add your voice to the lobby for local sport and the direction of sport development within the area. Aberdeenshire Sports Council are partners in the Aberdeenshire Sports & Active Lifestyle Strategy, and are delighted to be making a full contribution to the development and delivery of this excellent initiative.
- Lobby and represent the interests of affiliated clubs.

ABOUT ABERDEENSHIRE SPORTS COUNCIL

Aberdeenshire Sports Council was established in 1996. It is managed by volunteers from the local sporting community who bring with them a wide range of knowledge, skills and expertise. They work to encourage, develop and promote all sport providing advice, support and assistance to affiliated clubs/organisations always looking for continuous improvement to ensure quality services are always offered.

Aberdeenshire Sports Council has an Executive Committee comprising 16 volunteer representatives and 2 young person representatives from many different affiliated sports clubs/organisations throughout Aberdeenshire, together with representatives from Aberdeenshire Council Education & Recreation, Scottish Disability Sport, **sportscotland** and the Scottish Association of Local Sports Councils. Two working groups have been established and they are implementing action plans in the following areas;

- Finance (including Grant Aid)
- Education/Training
- Marketing
- Development

Whilst the Working Groups are closely linked each has particular roles/responsibilities.

There are an enormous range of sports clubs varying greatly in size, numbers, abilities and interests. However, all share the same need to be well organised and look to the future to ensure strong, healthy clubs in years to come.

We are always prepared to listen and strive for continuous improvement to ensure members receive the services they want.

Affiliation costs only £20.00 (if paying by standing order) or £25.00 (if paying by cheque) per annum - don't miss out, apply now!

For further information and affiliation forms contact:

**Alison Hodgson (Secretary),
Aberdeenshire Sports Council,
1 Church Street, Macduff, AB44 1UR
Tel: 01261 813383**