

British Society of Sports History

Grant Making Policy

April 2024

1. Purpose of this policy

The British Society of Sports History is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales (1177881).

One of the Society's activities is making grants to individuals, groups and organisations.

The purpose of this policy is to set out the principles, criteria and processes that govern how the Society make grants.

2. Grant Making Principles

We make grants that will help to further the Society's charitable purposes which are:

1. To advance education for the public benefit in the historical study of sport, physical education, recreation and leisure with special reference to the British Isles.
2. To encourage scholarship in the research, study and teaching of these various aspects of history.

The Board of Trustees has ultimate collective responsibility for all grant-making decisions in line with the Society's charitable purposes and any restrictions placed on our funds by donors.

The Trustees reserve the right to decide not to make an award and the right to apply conditions to any grant.

3. Grant Making Criteria

We make grants to individuals, to groups and to organisations.

Grants are made to further education and research into the history of sport, physical education, recreation and leisure.

The Society awards grants to researchers and organisations working in this field who are:

- based in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ireland and the associated islands including the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands

or

- based outside the geographical area specified above but whose work focuses on British sports history and associated fields.

For some grants to individuals, the Society requires the applicant to be a member of the Society.

Trustees expect that grants will normally support one or more of the following outcomes:

- promoting the study of sports history
- increasing knowledge of sports history by disseminating research
- developing research skills and knowledge
- creating opportunities for inter-disciplinary collaboration
- engaging new audiences
- promoting equality of opportunity and diversity within research and output in the field of sports history
- raising awareness of the work of the Society

4. Grant Making Processes

The Society publishes information about all our grants on our website.

Applying for a grant

Details of how to apply for each grant are available on the website. Please check the eligibility criteria and requirements carefully for each grant as these may vary.

We encourage applicants to consider how they can contribute to the Society's equality and diversity aims, especially when seeking funding for events or collaborative projects. These aims are to:

- work towards a just society free from discrimination, harassment and prejudice
- promote equality of opportunity and diversity within research and output in the field of sports history
- create effective relationships with all parts of our membership community

Each grant is administered by a nominated trustee whose email address is available on the website. Please get in touch with the nominated trustee if you have any questions about the application process.

When you apply, we will inform you of when you are likely to receive notification of the outcome of your application.

Decision making

The Society will carry out sufficient due diligence on grant applicants to confirm the identity of the applicant and that any funding will be applied in accordance with the Society's charitable purposes.

For some grants, an expert panel reviews the applications and makes recommendations to the Board of Trustees. All final decisions are made by the Board of Trustees at one of its meetings. Decisions are minuted.

Grants are awarded entirely at the discretion of the trustees and their decision is final.

Notification

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application. We will make funding available to successful applicants once they have agreed to the terms of the grant.

For organisational grants, we have a formal grant agreement.

For grants to individuals, we advise applicants of their award and the terms of the grant by email.

Reporting

We ask everyone who has received a grant to provide a report on how their grant was used and the impact it has had. We also encourage the dissemination of associated research findings.

The Board of Trustees reviews grant reports to ensure that grants are being used for the purposes intended and to assess the impact grants have made. This learning will be used to inform future decision making and policy to maximise the Society's impact.

Policy approved by the Trustees, 29th April 2024.

Review frequency: every two years.