



Scottish
Golf

SCOTTISH GOLF CLUB HIRE FUND

GUIDELINES & CHECKLIST FOR CLUBS

Our Aim:

The cost of equipment is often cited as one of the biggest barriers for parents and new people getting into golf. Many junior players arrive at a club with cut down or oversized clubs that are not appropriate for their size and strength, which can often hinder their enjoyment and development within the game. Additionally, rapid growth spurts during adolescence can result in equipment becoming too small very quickly, meaning parents will think they are required to invest in new clubs regularly. A perception also exists that golf club equipment is generally too expensive, which may deter some parents from sending their children in the first place.

Inspired by an innovative Club Hire Scheme developed by Iain Butchart, Junior Convenor at Strathmore Golf Club, Scottish Golf has created a Club Hire Fund to encourage more young people to take up golf by removing the barrier of expensive equipment costs and ensuring they have access to appropriate equipment.

SECTION 1: Principles of the fund

The Club Hire Fund is based on the following principles:

- Match funding money raised by the Club
- Encouraging sustainability to enable clubs to continue the fund in the future
- Improving accessibility to the game for young people/families
- Encourages more parents to 'try before they buy' rather than be put off by cost

How will the funding work?

Scottish Golf will match fund the amount of money raised by the Club to invest in a club hire scheme, up to maximum value of £750. For example, if a Club raises £500, Scottish Golf would provide an additional £500, giving the Club a total of £1,000 to investment in their club hire scheme.

There will be 3 options available to apply for:

Option 1: £250

Option 2: £500

Option 3: £750

Following approval of the match fund, the Club can then purchase a variety of junior sets, covering a range of sizes/ages. These sets can then be rented out to new or existing juniors for a small annual fee, meaning young people will have access to appropriately sized equipment at a fraction of the cost of buying. Clubs will also be encouraged to increase their stock of junior equipment through donated sets from existing and recent junior members as well as ladies and gents who may have unused sets available.

Benefits of the Club Hire Scheme

- A much smaller initial outlay for parents whose children are trying golf for the first time
- Relieves financial pressure on parents who may worry about replacing clubs regularly as their child grows
- Improves retention of junior members

- An income generator for the club from renting out clubs making the scheme self-sustainable in the future

SECTION 2: Financial Model

A financial model is outlined in the table below. These examples are based on each set of clubs costing between £100 - £120 and an annual rent fee of £25 per set.

Funding Option	£ available after match funding	No of sets purchased	Annual income from rent (£25 per set)	No of sets available in year 2 (using money generated from rental)
Option 1 – £250	£500	4	£100	5
Option 2 - £500	£1,000	8	£200	10
Option 3 - £750	£1,500	12	£300	15

The models outlined above are examples and provide guidance - the cost of purchasing clubs will vary depending on supplier and the rental fee is at the discretion of each Club.

We encourage Clubs to reinvest the money generated by club rental back into the scheme, which should then be sufficient to grow the junior club hire scheme in the future.

To encourage sustainability and commitment from Clubs, funding will not be made available where the sole outcome is to provide free equipment.

Upon delivery of the club hire scheme Scottish Golf will ask for proof of purchase for the equipment along with the required evaluation information.

SECTION 3: Application Process – Terms & Conditions

1. All Clubs applying for the fund are required to complete our online application form. Clubs should also liaise with their Regional Club Development Officer, who can assist with the application process.
2. Applications will be considered by your respective Regional Club Development Officer and the Scottish Golf Junior Development Manager. Clubs will be notified of the outcome no later than 14 days after receipt of your submission.
3. All applications will be assessed in accordance with the principles of the fund outlined above and Scottish Golf reserves the right to accept or reject applications at its sole discretion. The fund will be closed when all available funding has been allocated on an annual basis.
4. Funds will be paid to the main bank account of the Club (and not to individuals). Payments will be via BACS wherever possible.
5. Clubs in receipt of funding will be required to complete a brief evaluation form, providing detail of how the money was used and the outcomes achieved.
6. Clubs in receipt of funding must afford appropriate acknowledgement to Scottish Golf, as appropriate through any press releases, media coverage and printed material.

7. Applications for the Club Hire Fund for 2020 will close on 30 September, or when the annual funding has been fully allocated.

SECTION 4: Equipment Suppliers

The supplier for junior golf equipment is at the sole discretion of the Club. We recommend that where appropriate your PGA professional is consulted and involved in the process as they may be able to negotiate better pricing through their existing supplier relationships.

Should you need any further advice about costs and suppliers, please contact your Regional Club Development Officer.

SECTION 5: Checklist

The following are lists of criteria against which applications will be assessed.

- The Club must be affiliated to Scottish Golf and be up-to-date with payment of affiliation fees with a full breakdown of membership numbers across all categories.
- The Club must be live on the Central Database of Handicaps (CDH) and have all members on their handicap database.
- The Club has a Junior Section, Junior Organiser, Safeguarding Officer and a Child Protection Policy.
- The Club must promote Equality and adhere to the 2010 Equality Act.
- All coaches are licensed by the Professional Golfers Association and PGA members working with children are SafeGolf accredited.
- The Club welcomes children at any age with the opportunity to join the club by at latest the age of 9 years old.