



Scottish  
Golf

**SCOTTISH GOLF CLUB HIRE FUND**

**GUIDELINES & CHECKLIST FOR CLUBS**

## **Our Aim:**

The cost of equipment is often cited as a barrier for new adults getting into golf. Many arrive at their Get Into Golf sessions with no clubs or clubs that are not really appropriate for them which can often hinder their enjoyment and development within the game. A perception also exists that golf club equipment is generally too expensive, which may deter some adults from trying out the sport 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 people to take up golf by removing the cost barrier 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
- Encourages participants 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 to a value of £250 or £400. For example, if a Club raises £250, Scottish Golf will provide an additional £250, giving the Club a total of £500 to investment in their club hire scheme.

Following approval of the match fund, the Club can then purchase a variety of half sets or full sets more appropriate for beginner golfers. These sets can then be rented out to your Get Into Golf participants for a small annual fee, meaning they will have access to appropriate equipment at a fraction of the cost of buying. Clubs will also be encouraged to increase their stock of equipment through donated sets from existing and recent adult members.

## **Benefits of the Club Hire Scheme**

- A much smaller initial outlay for Get Into Golf participants who are trying golf for the first time
- Relieves financial pressure at the start of their golfing journey
- Improves recruitment of adult members from Get Into Golf programme to the Club
- 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. The example is based on a half set of clubs costing £100 and an annual rent fee of £25 per set.

<b>Funding Option</b>	<b>£ available after match funding</b>	<b>No of sets purchased</b>	<b>Annual income from rent (£25 per set)</b>	<b>No of sets available in year 2 (using money generated from rental)</b>
£250	£500	5	£100	6

The model outlined above is an example and provides 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 Get Into Golf 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 the Scottish Golf Participation Team, who can assist with the application process should further support be required.
2. Applications will be considered by the Participation Team. 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 will close on 30 September each year, or when the annual funding has been fully allocated.

## **SECTION 4: Equipment Suppliers**

The supplier for 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.

## **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.
- If the club has junior members, the club must have a Safeguarding Officer and a Safeguarding Policy.
- The Club must promote Equality and adhere to the 2010 Equality Act.
- All coaches are licensed by the Professional Golfers Association