

Regional Coach / Official Scholarships

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Sport plays a major role in the development of social capital in country Western Australia. Distance and infrastructure sometimes limit the opportunities for regional coaches and officials to access developmental opportunities and as such reduces the chance for the coaches, as well as the athletes under their direction, and officials to reach their potential.

Purpose of Scholarship

- To assist with access to development opportunities for regional coaches and officials in their chosen sport/s.
- To provide skilled coaches and officials in regional areas to assist with the development of other coaches, officials and athletes.
- To provide financial assistance to regional coaches and officials for costs associated with accessing development opportunities.

Eligibility – Who can apply?

- Any Australian resident who is over 16 years of age, resides in country WA and who coaches / officiates regular sport in that country location can be considered for support.
- The applicant must be recognised by the relevant state and regional sporting association as a coach and/or official who has ongoing potential to develop their sport. This must also be supported by an endorsement from the State Sporting Association (Appendix 1).
- Coaches / officials in receipt of other sources of funding (e.g. Local Government, Skywest Airlines) are eligible as long as there is no surplus income from the program.
- The term official refers to umpires, referees, judges, etc.

Conditions of support

- Scholarships are not provided in retrospect. Funding must be applied for prior to the commencement of any program/activity.
- Scholarships will be paid to the applicant's sporting organisation, not to the individual.
- Applicants must provide a detailed program of their activities for the scholarship period and funding must be utilised by 31 March 2009.
- Affiliation fees, clothing, equipment and meals **will not** be funded by the scholarship but can be included as a financial contribution by the individual.
- Each scholarship must be acquitted by providing proof of having attended the activities as outlined in the program proposal. This may be a letter from the organisation verifying attendance.
- Each scholarship **must be** acquitted prior to any further application being received on behalf of the coach / official.
- Coaches / officials and applicant organisations/associations have obligations in regards to promoting the support of the Department of Sport and Recreation e.g. acknowledging the Department in any media interviews. Breaches of this condition could result in withdrawal of the scholarship or future scholarships.

Process information

- Applications can only be received on the endorsed application form and must be lodged at a DSR office in accordance with published timelines. Proposed activities must be for a future period.
- Proposals should be for the period 1 March 2008 to 31 March 2009. It is accepted that some program details may not be available at the time the application is submitted. A notional allocation will be made in these cases and firm program details can follow at an agreed later date.
- The application **must** be endorsed by the regional/ local sporting group **and** the State Sporting Association and have all sections completed.
- Only one scholarship per person will be approved per funding year. An unsuccessful applicant may submit an application in the next round.
- The scholarship may cover more than one sport or multiple activities / trips, but only one application per year will be approved for a coach/official.
- The maximum level of a scholarship is \$2,000 in the North West and \$1,500 in other areas. The actual amount may be less according to the committee decision.
- Scholarships are allocated dependent upon local community need as determined by the committee.

Management

- The program will be overseen by the Department of Sport and Recreation and implemented through regional DSR offices with local community members on a selection committee. The role of the committees consists of calling for nominations, assessment of applications and deciding who receives a scholarship within the region.
- The committee consists of representatives who are predominantly active within the sport and recreation community within each region, with the Department providing administrative guidance and assistance.
- The assessment committee's decision is final and no appeal regarding a decision will be entered into.

Acquittal

- The scholarship is to be acquitted by completion of the **Program Review Form** by the individual (recipient). The form should be returned to the Applicant Organisation within one month of the completion of the program. The Applicant Organisation then completes **Schedules A and B of the Grant Agreement**, that will be provided with the scholarship, and submit these with the Program Review Form to the relevant DSR regional office.
- The acquittal documentation is to be signed by the Applicant Organisation and will state that the individual (recipient) has completed the activities as outlined in the application and that the funds provided were spent on this activity.
- It is recommended a copy of the acquittal documentation and the Program Review Form is sent to the State Sporting Association by the Applicant Organisation.