

Covid-19 Response Grants 2020

Laurieston Bowling Club



Who are Laurieston Bowling Club?

Laurieston Bowling Club are a not-for-profit organisation which aims to 'foster, promote and provide facilities for the playing of the game of bowls by its members.'

An aim which extends to non-members in the local community, particularly children and young adults.

The club run various classes and sessions for community members, including a weekly Sunday morning coaching class; outdoor sessions within the Active Schools programme for local primary schools and delivers sessions for specific groups.



How was the grant used?

- The grant enabled the bowling club to purchase three sets of junior bowls to add to the current stock of equipment. This enabled the club to offer more taster and coaching sessions to children, adults and families.

What had to change due to Covid-19?

- As Covid-19 restrictions eased, the club started to offer free 90 minute bowling taster sessions, seven days a week to the local community. These sessions proved really popular with families, resulting in the club having to turn families away due to a lack of junior bowling equipment.



Young member with new junior bowls

What difference has the grant made?

- The grant has resulted in a large increase in young people attending Sunday coaching sessions - three times as many young people are now attending sessions compared to last season, with a number of parents and grandparents getting involved too.
- Similarly, the club's midweek taster sessions has led to an increase in membership with four retired adults, four children and three parents taking advantage of the free membership for the first year, followed by a 50% discount in second-year membership.
- The clubhouse is now being used - free of charge - by various community groups who will be able to play bowls outdoors during spring/summer and indoors during autumn/winter.
- Further work to continue to engage with local schools and community groups is planned utilising funding secured from other sources.

'Patient, friendly and encouraging coach made my taster and coaching sessions at LBC a thoroughly enjoyable learning experience. Great choice of bowls to try out and a very warm welcome to the club.'

'I joined through the taster session and thanks to the grant I have managed to find bowls which are a perfect size for my small hands. As has my son. Thank you for the money for the junior bowls. Now when I play, it makes it easier and more comfortable.'

'Thanks to the organisation who awarded us the grant to buy the new bowls. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have found such an amazing sport that I enjoy.'

