

Community Clubs – Give Back & Anchor Status

Introduction

The City of Edinburgh Council will support specified Edinburgh sports clubs by offering favourable facility access to those clubs that are engaging with their local communities and providing a wide range of sport and physical activity opportunities. This benefit is offered to clubs who receive either Anchor or Give Back status.

This paper will provide information to all clubs on Give Back or Anchor status. We explain what each status means, and the criteria clubs need to meet to receive it.

What is a 'Community Give Back Club'?

A Community Give Back Club is a status that acknowledges the specific contribution your club/physical activity group is making to provide opportunities for young people to participate in sport and physical activity within the Learning Community area. Community Give Back status is only applicable for secondary school sports lets.

What is an Anchor Club?

A community sports club is awarded 'Anchor Club' status for a new or redeveloped outdoor synthetic pitch. The aim is to develop close links with the local schools and community in order to increase and improve opportunities for young people to participate on the pitch.

Clubs granted this status are guaranteed a minimum of 8 hours a week on the synthetic pitch. Anchor club status for all applicable pitches is reviewed on an annual basis in partnership with the respective NGB. Should an opportunity arise for anchor status at a synthetic pitch, this would be advertised across all communication networks.

How to Achieve Community Give Back Club Status

A sports club or physical activity group can achieve 'Community Give Back Club' status if they have met the following criteria:

- Have 'Given Back' to their Learning Community area (high school and feeder school) through a minimum of 30 hours voluntary time via the Community Sport Hub, Active Schools, or Sport Development teams per calendar year. Other 'Give Back' methods will be considered.
- If the group are awarded Community Give Back Club status, it is only applicable for the Learning Community area stated in your status, where there is a history of 'giving back'. This is not a city-wide status.
- The group will have demonstrated this work for a minimum period of 12 consecutive months.
- Have membership through their governing body/supporting body.
- Have up to date "Child Wellbeing and Protection in Sport" Policies and Procedures which are recognised by their governing/supporting body.
- 'Give Back' time can be considered as:
 - Free coaching for Active Schools/Sports Development/CSH Programmes

- Support in Active Schools or other council led holiday provision
- Free taster sessions to your community,
- Festival delivery support,
- Curriculum time school activities,
- Participation in Edinburgh sport forums/groups
- Donations of clothes/equipment to your local Community Sport Hubs clothing/equipment bank
- Targeted social impact projects that support one of the 4 EDI (equality, diversity & inclusion):
 - Those over the age of 50,
 - Those who experience mental health challenges,
 - Those who live in poverty and low income,
 - Those who are part of our diverse ethnic communities.
- Other methods of 'Give Back' will be considered.
- To retain 'Community Give Back Club' status, the above criteria must be demonstrated every year. Status will be reviewed on an annual basis and is not guaranteed.

The Benefits of Being a 'Community Give Back Club'

The benefit of being a Community Give Back Club is early rebooking of current lets and the potential to obtain new/additional school let bookings. The following applies:

- During rebooking period for the next let year, a Community Give Back Clubs will be able to request any additional **available** space before non-Community Give Back Clubs.
- Should the club/physical activity group declare they require **additional or new** bookings in the school during the rebooking period, they may be able to obtain additional lets over and above their existing level of bookings. This will be dependent on availability and other demand for the space. The process detailed later in this document explains how this will be applied in practice.
- Once rebooking for all existing customers is complete, all remaining available space will be offered to Community Give Back Clubs in the first instance, before being offered to existing and new customers.
- Should space become available through the let year, Community Give Back Clubs will again be offered first refusal on the space before it is offered to other clubs.

Note: Where there is more than one Community Give Back Club using the same space within the same school, the offer of additional space may be prioritised to the club with less activity hours booked.

Conditions of a 'Community Give Back Club'

- If the group are awarded Community Give Back Club status, it is only applicable for the Learning Community (high school and feeder schools) detailed in your status, where there is a history of 'giving back'. This is not a city-wide status.
- Should a club wish to achieve Community Give Back Club status in other Learning Communities in the city, they will have to obtain the status for each area.
- The Council will, however, consider allowing clubs to use their Give Back Status at a different school to the one where the 'Give Back' contribution is made. But as stated above, Give Back

Status for more than one school would have to match the number of Learning Communities where the Give Back criteria for contributions is met i.e., Give Back status for two secondary schools would require Give Back criteria being met for two school Learning Communities and so on.

- To retain Community Give Back Club status going forward, clubs must continue to meet the criteria outlined in this document. This will be reviewed annually.
- CEC retain the right to review programming of high school facilities and retain the right to remove a let in full or in part during the rebooking process.
- A panel would carry out an assessment prior to any enforced displacement taking place in full or in part.

Process to Maximise Benefits for Community Give Back Clubs

- **Step 1** – A rebooking period to renew existing lets opens to all users. CGBCs can also request further lets in their **current** site if the space is available. Use of all available space would have to be exhausted before any consideration of displacing an existing user.
- **Step 2** – Window for step 1 closes and remaining space is determined.
- **Step 3** – A second window opens where CGBCs are given first opportunity to apply for additional remaining spaces.
- **Step 4** – When window for step 3 closes, open booking commences where all customers - existing or new - can apply for remaining spaces. At this stage, if there is more than one party interested in a slot, allocation would be based on a first-come first-served basis.
- **Step 5** – If spaces became available through the let year (i.e., after 1st August) Community Give Back Clubs would get option of these lets before other user groups. CGBC will be given up to 1 week to apply for this space before it is offered publicly.

Contact for More Information

Interested clubs should contact their Active School Co-ordinator or Community Sport Hub Officer in the first instance.