

GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL FACILITIES FUND

Introduction

Grassroots football clubs have an important role in helping to build and nurture communities and young people.

Clubs are often the key users of football parks and fields that are community assets which provide opportunities for recreation, education and relaxation that contribute to quality of life and healthy lifestyles.

The *Grassroots Football Facilities Fund* (GFFF) gives grants for projects that improve the quality, safety, reliability and accessibility of facilities for football (and other sport) in local communities. The GFFF helps grassroots clubs to play a key role in maintaining and preserving important community assets.

Grants

Grants are available for one, or a combination of:

- i. portable goals for Optus Small-Sided Football
- ii. installation of rainwater tanks attached to club rooms/amenities blocks
- iii. planting of winter grass and improvements to drainage of pitches
- iv. enhancements to change rooms, particularly those that cater for female players
- v. construction of artificial turf pitches and multi-use sport areas
- vi. conversion of open space to allow for the playing of small-sided football (e.g. marking of pitches, provision of goals)
- vii. re-marking of futsal pitches and replacement of futsal goals
- viii. fixed floodlights or other lighting, and
- ix. field of play improvements such as nets and corner flags.

The minimum grant payable for a club is \$5,000 and the maximum is \$20,000.

Proposals can be submitted for one or a combination of the above including Optus Small-Sided Football portable goals (at a nominal cost of \$750 for a pair).

A club will not receive more than the maximum grant.

Grants are not available for:

- recurrent costs (eg. playing strip, balls etc)
- administrative costs (eg. printing)
- staffing costs.

Part A: Portable goals for Optus Small-Sided Football

2010 will be the third year of the staged rollout of Optus Small-Sided Football across the country.

As part of our ongoing support for this important development initiative, FFA will make portable goals available through the *Grassroots Football Facilities Fund* (GFFF) at a nominal cost of \$750 per pair.

Successful clubs will receive their goals in time for the season subsequent to the application. The goals to be made available are 5m x 2m.

Part B: Other grants

Grants are also available for improvements to playing fields and support facilities as detailed above. Projects should ideally focus on field of play improvements and where possible include 'drought-proofing' strategies.

Application process

Application should initially be made via an online form which will be e-mailed to clubs and is available on MyFootballClub website. The initial online application will require general information concerning:

- the proposed project (or projects)
- club background
- benefits for the club
- benefit for the local community, and
- ability of club to manage the project.

Applicant clubs will also be required to provide supporting documentation for their application including:

- a project description with a detailed budget including at least three contractors' or suppliers' quotes (where relevant)
- cost of the entire project, including any matched funding sources, and a project timeline and plan for execution and its impact on the operations of the club and other users of the facility.

Only one application can be submitted per club.

Eligibility criteria

1. Applicants must be either junior clubs that are registered with FFA, or clubs registered with FFA with a minimum of 50% of membership in junior age groups (ie. up to, and including, U-16). Schools involved in club competitions endorsed and affiliated with Member Federations are also eligible as are futsal centres where all participants are registered futsal players with FFA.
2. Clubs must be playing Optus Small-Sided Football (as per FFA guidelines) in **at least** the Under 6 age group.
3. Clubs must be incorporated not-for-profit entities.

4. Priority will be given to clubs which support the FFA National Curriculum and the Talented Player Pathway as well as Club Development initiatives (including MyFootballClub).

Selection criteria

- Compliance with eligibility criteria and application criteria (Member Federations will be consulted in respect of eligibility criteria)
- Location and nature of proposed facilities improvement
- Initiatives of the club which support the integration of Indigenous footballers and players with a disability
- Whether clubs have received government funding support for similar activity in the last ten years
- Capacity to leverage other support including other funding sources.

Available funding

Grants are available from \$5,000 to \$20,000.

Funding is available in 2009 and 2010 as follows.

	Application deadline	Funding approval
Round 1 :	31 August 2009	31 October 2009
Round 2 :	31 January 2010	31 March 2010
Round 3 :	31 August 2010	31 October 2010

Clubs will be advised of their success by the corresponding approval date.

Further information

For further information, please contact Matt Sheppard, FFA on 02 8020 4064 or e-mail GFFF@footballaustralia.com.au

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