

## Covid 19 Funding - Case Study – Hillhead Community Sports Hub

### Funding Background

Glasgow Sport was eager to help organisations to sustain themselves and be Ready to Go Again when the Scottish Government route map allowed. This fund was specifically targeted at organisations in the sport and physical activity sector who have a role in enabling and supporting the communities of Glasgow to get and stay active. Hillhead Community Sports Hub were successfully awarded a total of £3680 to support 5 out the 6 clubs at Hub including; Hillhead Cricket Club, Hillhead Tennis Club, Hillhead/Jordanhill RFC, Glasgow Ultimate and Senjokai Karate Club.



Hillhead Cricket Club



Hand Sanitising Station with Covid Co-ordinator



Hillhead Rugby Girls U/18

### What did you expect to do?

Our plan at Hillhead Community Sports Hub was to encourage as many Hub clubs to actively apply to the Covid fund, this would ensure clubs could meet SGB protocols and collectively welcome as many children and adults back to sport safely. To enable us to restart activity we required funds to purchase additional sports equipment for Tennis and Cricket as well as specialised equipment for outdoors for Karate. Funding towards subsidised lets for Glasgow Ultimate Junior section would assist the club to continue to deliver free sessions for Juniors which would normally be funded from adult membership fees. Funding towards the installation of an outdoor storage solution for Rugby would allow members to easily and safely access equipment and reduce footfall of members using indoors at the facility.

Finally, the Hub clubs being able to access funding for adequate cleaning, sanitising & PPE supplies, coupled with revising and re-scheduling of our sports activities would allow us to welcome members back to a safe environment at Hillhead in line with social distancing guidelines had restart activity. In conjunction with the restart of the sports activity at the Hub we would continue to have an online presence with Health and Fitness sessions as we have done throughout lockdown and Covid restrictions.

### What we actually did?

- Purchased cleaning, hygiene & PPE products and installed Sanitising Stations including Signage to ensure safe environment for members and user groups
- Purchased additional sports equipment for Hub Clubs
- Initiated plans and preparations for Installation of new outdoor storage facility at the Hub Revised and rescheduled activities at Hub
- Updated process and procedure and booking procedures for facility usage
- Supported facility access for 3 Secondary Schools for PE sessions during curriculum time for over 500 children
- Continued to deliver and extensive online Health and Fitness programme offering over 40+ sessions per week to members including; Yoga, Pilates and Metafit.
- Hosted Tennis for Teens Workshop, upskilling 23 Volunteers and attended by Judy Murray
- Recognised as JMF Centre of Excellence for Women and Girls



Glasgow Ultimate Juniors



Hillhead/Jordanhill Junior Rugby



Hillhead Cricket Club Adults

### What difference we actually made?

The Covid funding has been instrumental and allowed outdoor play and practice activities to restart safely. The Installation of hand sanitising stations, signage and additional equipment we could rotate and clean properly was essential for reopening. This coupled with the implementation of updated processes and procedures around hygiene measures, social distancing and online booking procedures has assisted and encourage members to return to their chosen sport whilst having the confidence our clubs are adhering government guidelines. With the clubs all suffering loss of income from membership fees as a result of the pandemic, the funding has allowed us to continue to deliver sport.

Pre-Level 3 restrictions we identified volunteers as Covid Co-ordinators for the club and we had a relaunch of activities for both adult and youth sections across Tennis, Rugby, Cricket, Frisbee were well attended and included Kwik Cricket, Cricket 11's & Inter Club matches, Ladies Tennis, Junior Tennis, American Tennis Tournaments, Social Tennis, Mixed Junior and Adult Rugby. Ultimate Frisbee have seen the benefits of being part of the hub by extending their let and playing well into November when they would normally move to indoors or be forced to use private parks. Cricket also seen an extension with their season by playing well into October for the first time ever. Senjokai Karate's funding has assisted them to purchase Kickbags/ Mannequins which allowed them to restart activity outdoors initially in Knightswood Park by using the new equipment as were unable to practice on each other due to government guidelines.



Glasgow Ultimate Adults



Senjokai Karate Juniors



Hillhead Ladies Tennis

Hillhead Community Sports Hub has been proactive in recent weeks trying to maximise the usage of their outdoor space at their facility with the challenge of clubhouse being out of use. The strong relationship and partnership held between Hillhead High School and The Hub has now been extended to now include stronger links with Hyndland and Notre Dame High Schools to support the schools with facility access and space for PE activity. With the implementation strict operating and scheduling procedures in line with Government Guidelines they have seen curriculum time usage at the venue increase compared to pre-Covid. The Hub is now regularly accessed by over 500 pupils on a weekly basis accessing playing fields and tennis courts.

We had a successful relaunch of the gym reopening with members gradually returning. As with the sports within the Hub, the number of members accessing the gym is still considerably lower than prior to Covid, however we are thankful we can support our members with our continuing and extensive offer for Health and Fitness classes offering over 40+ sessions per week to members including; Yoga, Pilates and Metafit.

We have demonstrated we can offer a facility that is a safe environment for sports activity and have successfully implemented strict social guidelines, processes and procedures and as such we were able to host two Tennis for Teens workshops for 28 Club members and 8 JMF Ambassadors from Hillhead Tennis Club, one led by Judy Murray herself and was also recently recognised as a JMF Centre of Excellence and Training for Women and Girls.



Hillhead Tennis for Tennis

### Challenge and Changes or Learning for the future?

We believe all our coaches and volunteers at Hillhead rose to the challenge!

The challenge was making sure the club was equipped to deal with the implementation of new regulations and practices and have all relevant documentation in place ensuring effective communication with members, coaches and volunteers. Reinforcing the new procedures is an ongoing challenge and we have regular discussions with the club committees and board on how well we all think we are doing at providing a COVID safe environment.

**“Hillhead CC would like to thank Glasgow Sport for the award we received. It not only allowed us to purchase the additional hygiene products and signage required, but to start playing our sport once again. We also received advice and regular contact from our Development Officer during this uncertain time” Hillhead Cricket Club**

**“These bags are so cool to hit” student that is enjoying the kick-bags provided by the funding.**  
Senjokai Karate Club

**“COVID-19 funding has allowed us to resume some level of club activity following lockdown. Our junior and adult sections are now active again and for many of our members, this is their main source of exercise and social interaction” Glasgow Ultimate**

**“Many thanks to Glasgow Sport for their Covid -19 Grant. Our project is to create additional storage on our grounds for all our kit and equipment for safe access” Hillhead/Jordanhill Rugby Football Club**

**“The funding received has really helped uniting the club and local community by offering best of both worlds Physical activity and social interaction and without covering some of the outlay costs the social tennis would not have gone ahead”. Hillhead Tennis Club**

**“With the help of Glasgow Sport Covid Funding we have been able welcome our members back to Hillhead and restart our Sports sessions, offer training opportunities and reopen our gym safely” Hillhead Sport Club, Board Member**

