

## NETBALL SOUTH WEST FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines and procedures for individual members experiencing financial hardship to help ensure everyone can participate equally.

### **Background**

Netball South West (NSW) is responsible for the management and development of the sport of Netball in the South West region. NSW is one of nine regions that make up England Netball. NSW understands that its members may suffer financial difficulty from time to time. Financial hardship can present challenges to meeting primary needs, much less discretionary activities. NSW acknowledges the role of Netball in the personal, physical and emotional development of all members. NSW believes that no member should be excluded from activity due to cost or affordability if measures can be taken to overcome this.

### **NSW currently offers funding for the following:**

1. Young athletes in the Performance Pathway
2. Volunteer coaches and officials
3. Members carrying out wider voluntary roles.

### **Legitimate expenses include, but are not limited to:**

Travel to training and competition (not foreign), course costs, assessment/qualification costs.  
The maximum payment to any individual is £200 per calendar year

### **Funding Criteria**

- All applicants must be current members of NSW
- All applicants (or their parent/guardian if under 18) must demonstrate hardship (that may be receipt of government benefit(s) or by other means)
- All performance athletes must be in either a South West regional (currently Team Bath or Severn Stars) or national squad/academy
- Applications will be considered on a season by season basis
- Each application will be judged on its individual merits and NSW's current financial position at the time
- NSW will not notify any other person of any funding awarded
- All applications are strictly confidential & must not be discussed with any other person
- Payment will only be paid to the applicant or the parent /guardian if under 18
- Successful applicants must abide by the NSW's terms & conditions (below)
- Any funding is a contribution towards the purpose detailed in the application and must be used solely for the purposes for which it was intended

### **Process**

To be considered for assistance, the member must submit an application via the relevant form available from the Regional Coordinator.

Completed forms should be emailed to the NSW Chair in the first instance via [chair@netballsouthwest.co.uk](mailto:chair@netballsouthwest.co.uk)

The Chair will forward each application to the relevant RMB lead.

Upon receipt, the RMB lead will review the application and the Finance Director/their representative will approve or counter the request.

The RMB lead in question will communicate the decision and payment plan by email to the applicant.

If funding is awarded applicants should return a written acknowledgement to NSW's offer.

## **Terms & Conditions**

### **Monitoring, Review and Reporting**

Successful applicants must comply with all reasonable requests made by NSW for information and/or documentation in connection with, the funding. The information requested may be in relation but not limited to income and expenditure, and performance or results of the purpose.

Successful applicants agree to:

- inform NSW immediately in writing of any changes in their personal circumstances during the term of the funding, which may directly or indirectly affect their application for the funding (e.g. withdrawal from the performance programme due to sickness, injury, any other incapacity)
- keep ENgAGE up to date with any change of their permanent residential address

### **-Suspension, Termination and Amendment of Funding**

NSW reserves the right to reduce the amount of the funding, suspend payments due or otherwise amend payments of the funding or terminate it forthwith upon notice in the event that:

- the financial position of NSW substantially changes for the worse; and/or
- should such funds allocated by NSW be less than originally projected to the extent that NSW cannot meet all its commitments

NSW reserves the right to reduce, increase or otherwise amend the funding to reflect changes in the applicant's personal financial circumstances during the term of the funding.

NSW may require part or all of the funding to be repaid to NSW if:

- in the reasonable opinion of NSW the applicant fails to apply the funding or any part of it for the purpose for which it was made;
- the applicant fails to comply with or otherwise breaches any of the terms and conditions of the agreement;
- in the reasonable opinion of NSW, any of the assurances given to NSW prior to the date of the funding were fraudulent, materially incorrect or misleading;
- the applicant engages in activities, behaviour or practices which, in the reasonable opinion NSW, may bring NSW into disrepute;
- the applicant ceases to be a full member of, or are suspended from NSW;

Any decision made by NSW would be based on individual circumstances and following consultation with the applicant and the NSW RMB.

### **Limitation of Liability**

NSW, its volunteers or sub-contractors will not at any time be liable to the applicant in relation to any matter arising in connection with the funding.

### **Financial**

The applicant accepts sole responsibility for managing their personal financial and tax affairs, including the payment of national insurance and any tax which might arise in relation to the funding. The applicant accepts that NSW will not make any deduction from amounts to be awarded in respect of income tax or national insurance contributions.

### **Data Protection**

Applicants acknowledge that all personal information (including "sensitive" personal information relating to race or ethnic origin, physical or mental health, and other matters covered by data protection legislation) may, in addition to keeping hard copies, be stored electronically or otherwise, and processed by NSW as set out in accordance with current data protection legislation, guidelines and practices.

NSW shall keep your personal information for not longer than 6 years after the end of a funding award and will destroy personal information after this period.

## Revision History

<b>Policy/Version Date</b>	<b>Summary of Change</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Implementation Date</b>	<b>Review Date</b>
Nov2020	Policy First Draft		11 Dec 2020	Dec 2021
Jan 2022	Limit increased from £100 to £200	K Jones	1 Jan 2022	Dec 2022