

Grant Applications in Orienteering- A Guide by Katrina Hemingway WCOC

There are many different grants you can apply for in orienteering. This is a short guide to aid you through a sometimes confusing process.

It can be hard to choose what grants or funding to apply for. The NWOA and NWJS are generous givers and WCOC will often give money too. Once you have applied once it is easy to repeat the process for multiple sources. Remember you will often have to apply for more than one grant as you normally get 50-100 pounds from each funder, so check your time management and make sure you leave lots of time for the funders to respond.

Here is a table of grants which you can apply for:

Name of Funder	For what ?	Approximate funding offered ?	How to apply.	Past Experiences/Comments
The Rotary Club	Anything - Tours/Camps preferred.	£20 - 200	The Rotary Club Cockermonth Website - Contact Us	Application for NWJS Norway 2012 - afterwards we were invited to a generous free dinner at their monthly meeting where we gave a presentation on our trip.
Active Cumbria/Sport England	Large groups of people looking for consistent funding in sport development.	£300+	Sport England website - small grants guide.	This is for serious funding and is very competitive, therefore not for individuals. You will have 12 months since your application to complete your project.
NWOA	Anything	£20-200	North West Junior Squad Website - Documents- NWOA Grant Form	This is very easy to apply for and will often give you a set percentage of your total amount. Remember lots of other people apply to this too so they don't have copious amount of money but will nearly always give you something. You don't have to be a member of NWJS to apply for this and don't have to be a junior either.
BOF	Competitions and BOF squad members preferred, long term development.	£?	BOF Website - Development - Funding	The BOF Development Fund is now supposedly closed although Ed Nicholas is still contactable for grant applications.
WCOC	Anything	£50+	WCOC Treasurer - Roger Jackson	
O Foundation	Anything - see comments	£?	BOF Website - Development-Funding - O Foundation	Need to meet the criteria of enhancement, hardship and innovation.
SportsAid Sportrelief	Anything - see specifics on funding websites.	£?	BOF Website - Development-Funding then various website links.	Not used before, generally for larger projects although SportsAid can be for individuals and will be easier to apply for.
Cumbria County Council Talented Athlete Fund	Individual Talented athletes - normally in the GB squad with international	£500+	Cumbria County Council Website	Sarah Jones LOC has previously received this and last year they gave out nearly £25,000 in award grants. Annually given to worthy applicants, this grant is very competitive.

	experience.			
Athletic/Triathlon Clubs	Anything - normally individuals and competitions	£20+	Your Athletic Club Website	This is something I have not used before but just an idea. It's easy to convince your athletic club that your orienteering will benefit it's results so try it, remember they can only say no, and will probably say yes.

You will often have to provide a statement about yourself when applying for grants. I have provided an extract from an application I made last year for you here:

My name is Katrina Hemingway and I am a 17 year old orienteer from West Cumberland Orienteering Club, having orienteered since I was 5 with my family. I am an accomplished orienteer, having run for England and the North West Junior Squad multiple times, I am also in the Great Britain Orienteering Squad with whom I regularly train, after being selected to do so in late 2012. This summer I am going to go to Sweden on a orienteering tour organised by Nick Barrable, here I am going to learn new navigational skills and improve both my running and fitness. I am very pleased to be able to do this and I hope to bring back my new skills and teach them to other juniors in the club and beyond as I am the Junior Representative to the club, I'm really excited about this opportunity and will be grateful to anyone who can help me to really make the most out of my trip to Sweden so I can continue to progress and help others to progress in orienteering.

Things to include in your statement;

- Where you are going and why ?
- How you were selected ? Big up your best results.
- What will you learn/wish to learn from the tour/race/camp ?
- How will this progress your orienteering ?
- How much will it cost, have you done any fundraising ?
- What will you do when you come back, can you help anyone else by going on this camp ?

Things to include or do/not to include or do when applying;

- Don't rule out small grants for large projects - every little counts!
- Don't be unrealistic and ungrateful about the money you are asking for, after all it is basically free.
- Always remember to double check your application and get someone else to read through it first.
- Always make sure to add a name of a contactable person who is knowledgeable about the project in your application - the funders may want to get a second opinion on the worthiness of the cause.

Other funding points;

- Sometimes if you apply as a group it may be easier to get the funding, a presentation is always easier to do with others around and your application will look better overall for certain projects such as NWJS Norway.
- Don't forget other things that can be done to raise funds, such as Cake Stalls, Evening Events and sponsored events such as runs and group marathons. All of these are easy to organise especially for group projects. Websites such as JustGiving and Givewy make it easy for people to donate to your cause.

If you need any help in any applications all members will be happy to help, speak to me or Roger Jackson to gain some more advice. Good luck!

