



## Hardship Fund Policy

The aim of the Hardship Fund is to help any member of the club undergoing financial difficulties which would otherwise result in them or their children being unable to take part in future club activities.

The Hardship fund can help pay for: -

- Membership Fees
- Training fees
- Travel Expenses
- Educational Expenses
- Kit requirements

Members that could be eligible for the Hardship Fund are: -

- People who have previously been members of the club for more than 12 months.
- Have previously volunteered to help at least 2 Club events in the last 12 months.
- Can demonstrate that they are suffering from financial hardship e.g. recent unemployment in the family, recent relationship breakdown; the family is supported by only 1 part-time wage earner.

Responsibility for assessing eligibility in individual cases will rest with nominated members of the Club's committee and all information must be kept private and confidential. The nominated committee can either make an award or a loan to the member.

The nominated committee will normally comprise –Club president – Club Treasurer –Club Coach.

- Each case will be re-assessed annually by the club.
- A member using the Hardship Fund will be asked to sign a confidentiality agreement to protect both the club and the member from private information being made public.
- Members will sign a contract to clarify all agreements about the award of help for financial payments.

One typical use of the hardship fund is to allow the annual membership fee to be paid by instalments.