



Isle of Man Sport Aid Grant Support 2024-25

Isle of Man Sport Aid is a registered Charity on the Isle of Man with the following charitable objectives:

"the advancement of amateur sport, citizenship and community development by assisting sportspeople at all levels, both within the Isle of Man or connected to the Isle of Man, by offering them the support, training, and facilities necessary to realise their full potential. This is through working in partnership with a range of sponsors and offering Isle of Man athletes the opportunity to compete at national, international and world level, and by promoting the Isle of Man as a centre of sporting excellence".

Sport Aid has been providing sportsmen and women, with grants and/or performance service support since 1991. To fulfil this provision the Charity has to raise funds through generous donations from private individuals and charities, sponsorship from local businesses and grants from Isle of Man Sport.

Sport Aid is committed to supporting Isle of Man Sport in its purpose to:

Inspire, Engage and Enrich our community through sport.

With Sport Aid's vision for the Isle of Man to become:

The most successful athlete identification and development community in the world by 2029

Through its mission to:

Provide integrated performance services and targeted financial investment to athletes as they work towards realising their potential in senior professional and international sport

From April 2024 Sport Aid will deliver its charitable objectives, purpose, vision and mission by:

Providing grants and other targeted support to amateur athletes with a connection to the Isle of Man for a maximum period of three consecutive years using the following criteria*:

1. An amateur** sports person who is under 23 years of age and whose performances are consistently within 15% of open-age World Lead performance or the equivalent thereof*** within a sporting event/discipline that forms part of the competition programme at a major event ****

Or

2. An amateur** sports person who is over 23 and whose performances are consistently within 10% of open-age World Lead performances or the equivalent thereof*** within a sporting event/discipline that forms part of the competition programme at a major event****

*meeting the minimum requirements does not guarantee a sports person support or access to Sport Aid grants or any other targeted support.

**if athletes are unsure of their amateur or professional status, please contact IoM Sport Aid

***equivalent thereof standards will be informed by the [Participation and Classification Framework](#) and ongoing work within IoM Sport with final decisions taken at the sole discretion of the [Isle of Man Sport Aid committee](#)

**** the following are classified as major events Olympics, Paralympics, World Championships, World Cups and European Championships.



Current Sport Aid recipients – Performance athletes

Isle of Man Sport Aid will be contacting 2023/24 recipients, to outline what these changes might mean for them before 8th December 2021, to ensure they can make appropriate plans from April 2024 onwards. Sport Aid support will continue until the end of March 2024, for those who have a current agreement in place, subject to each individual continuing to meet terms within their agreement.

Young people in the Academy and the Performance Development Programmes

These young people are already 'in the system' and are therefore being monitored, and will be able to access individual targeted support where required. Some may already meet the Sport Aid criteria, but this does not mean they will be treated as full Sport Aid athletes with immediate effect. This is largely because Sport Aid guaranteed grant funding will be limited to 3yrs, so we may not wish to start the clock too early if the current level of support is more than sufficient for their needs and performance level.

Separate information will be provided to Governing Bodies of Sport about these programmes before the end of 2023.

Amateur Sports men and women who meet the criteria above and who do not currently receive support through Isle of Man Sport Aid

Sport Aid will be accepting applications for 2024/25 from 8th December with forms available on the IoM Sport Aid website and from the recognised Governing Bodies of Sport. From April 2024 new applications from those outside the Sport Aid 'system' will be welcomed at any point through the support year.

Further information about the new process to enable year round applications will be provided prior to April 2024.

Amateur sports men and women who do NOT meet the criteria above but who will be both competing in High Performance Sport and showcasing the Isle of Man on the international stage

These athletes will have the opportunity to apply for grant support through the creation of a new one-off event fund that will be administered by the Isle of Man Sport Aid committee.

Further information about this initiative will be provided to Governing Bodies of Sport in by March 2024.

Maximum period of time an amateur athlete can receive Sport Aid support has been limited to three consecutive years – A brief explanation

Both the Sport Aid Academy and the Performance Development programme support young people towards the development of knowledge, skills and behaviours with the aim of them ultimately becoming self-sustaining in their ability to reach their sporting and personal potential as representatives of the Isle of Man. Sport Aid therefore wishes to align its grant funding to this aim by limiting the number of years funding that is available to three in the majority of cases.

The Performance Service team will be working towards people leaving the Sport Aid system with the skills and plans in place to continue to thrive within their sport and life. Ensuring athletes move through Sport Aid not only creates space for the next generation to move into but it also provides a clear focus to everyone's work because the support provided is time limited.

The Isle of Man Sport performance service staff will be available to support and advise rather than work with athletes on a one-to-one basis going forwards, this will enable them to provide time to



spend with individuals in the Academy and Performance Development programmes prior to reaching Sport Aid.

Additional years of Sport Aid funding may be available at the discretion of the IoM Sport Aid committee.

The next step for athletes after Sport Aid funding ends:

Sport Aid and IoM Sport are also working with the Island's Athlete Advisory Board to establish a formal recognition process, including access to some degree relevant support, for those who transition from being a grant-funded Sport Aid Performance athlete to no longer being one. Our goal is to curate an even more supportive and connected performance sport community on the Island. We recognise that those who have previously been Sport Aid grant recipients will be integral to that and can play a hugely positive role in creating a genuine sense of community.

We want to ensure all the valuable experiences and connections gained through Sport Aid and participation in performance sport are available to those who follow behind. Our current and former Sport Aid recipients are a vital part of our performance sport community, and we are eager to recognise that as well as identify ways in which they can continue to be part of the Sport Aid family, even if they are no longer a grant recipient.

Once a clear way forward has been identified through our work with the Athlete Advisory Board this will be communicated to current and former Sport Aid athletes in addition to the recognised Governing Bodies of Sport on the Island. Further information about the Athlete Advisory Board, in advance of implementing any actions in this area, will be made publicly available during December 2023.