

# Sports

## Charitable status and sports

Community amateur sports clubs (CASCs) are now able to go for charitable status as the Commission now recognises as charitable “**the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation by providing facilities for playing particular sports**”. It is upto each individual club to decidewhether charitbale stsus is something they wish to pursue.

In short a charitable CASC would ensure the following:

- The sport can promote physical health and fitness;
- The club is open to anyone who wants to join regardless of ability;
- Any special clothing or equipment is, where possible, provided free or at reduced rates, by the club or is affordable;
- All players are treated the same as regards access to facilities and other purposes;
- No payments or private benefits are given to players
- No separate and distinct benefits are provided for non-playing memebrs;
- Refreshment and social facilities are provided only where they are secondary to participation in healthy recreation.

## **The benefits of charitable status**

- Charitbale status affords an organisation greater recognition;
- Charities have access to the full range of charity tax reliefs (including donor incentives such as payroll giving and gifts of shares, etc);
- Charities have access to greater funding opportunities, including grants from other charities and publci bodies which fund charitbale activities;

## **Responsibilities of charitable status**

- Charities are accountable to the Charity Commission and the public and must be aware of the following;
  - **Property:** All property belonging to CASC would become charitable property;
  - **Social Activites & Trading:** any social or trading activites would not fall within the charitbale purpose of promoting community participation in healthy recreation and thus would need to be carried out by a separate non-chartibale body (e.g. a social club). The scale of these activities will dictate whether there is need to set up a separate social club or a separate trading company;
  - **Responsibilities of Charity Trustees:** Once established as a charity, the people running the CASC will be the charity trustees

and will thus need to be aware of the responsibilities associated with this position;

- **Accounting & Monitoring Requirements:** The amount of information required depends on the size of the charity.

Cumbria Sport is currently in the process of updating its Sports Funding Guide, but this will shortly be available on their website: [www.cumbriasport.com](http://www.cumbriasport.com) or call them on 10228 606931

**FURTHER HELP**  
**Advice/Support**

**Sports Development Officers**

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**Cumbria CVS Development Officers**

- **Barrow**, 72-74 Scott Street, Barrow, LA14 1QE Tel: 01229 823144  
Website: barrowcvs.org.uk
- **Carlisle**, 27 Spencer Street, Carlisle, CA1 1BE Tel: 01228 512513  
EWebsite:www.carlislecvs.org.uk
- **Eden**, 4B Redhills Business Park, Penrith, CA11 ODT Tel: 01768 242138  
Website:www.edencvs.co.uk
- **South Lakeland**, Stricklandgate House, Stricklandgate, Kendal LA9 4PU  
Tel: 01539 742 627
- **West Cumbria**, Maryport Community Resources Centre, 12a Selby Terrace, Maryport, CA15 6NF Tel: 01900 819191  
Website:www.westcumbriacvs.org.uk

**Resources:**

- CC21 Registering as a Charity
- CC22 Choosing & Preparing a Governing Document;
- CC27 Providing alcohol on charity premises
- CC35 Charities and Trading
- CC3 Responsibilities of Charity Trusteeses  
Welcome pack for new Trustees

Sports Funding Fact Sheet available from local CVS advisers (above)