

Shining Stars

Closing Dates for applications to this award 28th February 2010

Aspirations of the Fund

Evidence from some of Nottinghamshire' recent Olympic and Paralympic athletes has indicated just how beneficial additional financial support outside of the " World Class " funding streams was, or the difference it could have made if it had been available.

The aim of Shining Stars is to support talented athletes who are currently performing at international level within their sports. The fund will help to ensure that sportsmen and women from sports within the Olympic, Paralympics or Commonwealth Games will have the best opportunity to succeed in their quest for international honours and 2012 success.

Scope of the Award

The individual award is a maximum of £2,500 a year (*only one application in any financial year will be considered*). Grants will be awarded to successful individual to help provide support with the considerable costs that an Elite athlete will incur, such as travel, training, accommodation, competition fees and equipment, specialist coaching.

Eligibility

The Fund is available to any athlete currently residing within Nottinghamshire (This should be the individual's permanent home address for the past twelve months) who has been nominated by their National Governing Body.

Applications to this fund will only be accepted from National Governing bodies

Criteria

Individual's must fulfil the following criteria to be eligible for the Shining Stars Fund:-

- The individual must be a resident within Nottinghamshire County.
- The individual must be competing at International level in their chosen sport.
- Individual's must be nominated and endorsed by their National Governing Body as either a potential Olympic, Paralympic or Commonwealth Games performing athlete.

- The sport or discipline must be a part of the Olympic, Paralympics or Commonwealth Games programme during the 2010 to 2014 cycle.
- Repeat recipients must clearly demonstrate improvements over the past twelve months. If no improvement is demonstrated, a Fund may not be awarded – unless circumstances are detailed within the application.

Application and decision process

Applications must be submitted to the Shining Stars Panel by National Governing Bodies only. Individuals must contact their appropriate NGB Officer to seek nomination

Panel decisions will primarily be informed by the advice received from National governing bodies. However the County Council reserves the right to allocate funds in support of the Counties priorities

Individuals will be informed of the panel's decision within one calendar month of the closing date.

Owing to the anticipated number of applications the panel will be unable to reply to individual applications and discuss decisions. The decision of the Panel will be final.

In the likely event that there is competition for awards, the panel will prioritise applications based on the following criteria:

- Priority will be given to competitors anticipated to succeed at the 2010 Winter Olympics & Paralympics and 2012 Summer Olympics & Paralympics.
- Advice will be taken from National Governing Body Officers to help prioritise applications from the same sport.
- Any Nottinghamshire County Council grants previously awarded to individuals in previous financial years may also be taken into account. Priority may be given to applicants who have not received financial assistance previously.

Conditions of the award

Individuals will be required to sign an Athletes agreement which means that successful individuals will:

- Give recognition to Nottinghamshire County Council in any media coverage received by the individual.
- Be obliged to act as a Sporting Ambassador for Nottinghamshire
- Attend an agreed number of events to promote sport within the County.
- Allow photographs to be taken for promotional purposes. These images will appear in our printed publications, website and local press regarding the scheme.

- Commit to be involved in promotional material undertaken by Nottinghamshire County Council in the promotion of the Shining Stars Fund.
- Be required to complete a progress report stating their achievements and provide regular information for a web profile.
- Attend a celebration event where the awards will be presented.
- Nottinghamshire County Council reserves the right to reclaim any Fund that is deemed not to have been used against agreed eligible cost.
- Completion of audit proforma