

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

# Additional £2m for Sporting Sector announced by Finance Minister

Sport NI was delighted with the announcement made by Finance Minister, Conor Murphy, on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June, that the NI Executive have allocated a much needed additional £2m of Exchequer funding to help the sporting sector recover from COVID-19

Sport NI is in the process of scoping out the best use of the additional funding and we want to thank you for all of the information you have provided to date; to advise us of the financial, and other, pressures you are facing,

Through our current consultation (Supporting Sport to 'Build Back Better' which can be found via the following link: <a href="https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/sport-ni/sport-ni-proposed-financial-response-to-covid-19-c/">https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/sport-ni/sport-ni-proposed-financial-response-to-covid-19-c/</a>), this will provide us with a rich source of information to help us meet your needs. Please note that the closing date for the consultation is Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July at 10pm.

## **Return to Sports Facilities**

As many sports and facility operators anticipate, or plan for, a reopening of sports facilities, Sport NI has developed a number of support resources to assist in that process. This support is intended to complement the pro-active work already done by many sports. You will find our online resources at:

http://www.sportni.net/return-to-sport/re-opening-sports-facilities-2/

In addition to the online resources, SNI is hosting a series of Zoom webinars in collaboration with our partners in district councils and the Sports Ground Safety Authority on 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> July. Details of both events are provided below:

8<sup>th</sup> July (3pm) – Return to Sports Facilities

- Return to Sport/Expert Group update
- Walkthrough of support resources
- CLOA perspective and ongoing work to re-open council sports facilities
- Q&A

9<sup>th</sup> July (3.30pm) – Planning for the Return of Sports Spectators

- SNI support background and overview of recent previous meetings
- SGSA overview
- Lead Officer Group update on safety certification
- Q&A

Invites will be issued via email and any queries should be directed to: returntosport@sportni.net.

Further information on guidance and resources: <a href="http://www.sportni.net/sport-ni-statements/">http://www.sportni.net/sport-ni-statements/</a>

## Return to Sport

The Executive has not been announcing the relaxation of restrictions in terms of either their 5 Step Pathway or the stages of the Framework issued by Sport NI. It is therefore no longer possible to communicate the Return to Sport changes with direct reference to specific stages within the Framework. We do not believe this situation will change and so we are continuing to translate the Executive's announcements into meaningful guidance, but will not be referencing the stages of the Framework going forward. We do however believe that much of the information within the Framework is still useful providing an indicator of safe phased return for sports.

Over the next week Sport NI will be reviewing the Return to Sport section of our website, with a view to update in the light of recent changes and to add new resources to assist sports moving forward. Since the operation of the Return to Sport assistance inbox which began six weeks ago, Sport NI has responded to over 150 different queries on Return to Sport with 50 alone coming in the last week as a consequence of the acceleration in announcements made within the last week.

#### A few reminders:



Sport NI is seeking your views on our proposals for this investment and requests that you complete the questionnaire as part of our consultation process as we aim to Support 'Sport to Build Back Better'. The consultation can be accessed through either of the following links:

https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/sport-ni/sport-ni-proposed-financial-response-to-covid-19-c/

http://www.sportni.net/funding-and-support/supporting-sport-build-back-better/

This consultation closes at <u>10pm on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July</u>. The consultation will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete. Thank you for taking the time to give us your views.



Nominations close on <u>Friday 10 July 2020</u>. For more information on the process or to nominate please visit <u>www.sportni.net/SportMaker</u>



The #WebinarWednesday online coach development events are now running indefinitely on the first Wednesday of each month at 8pm. Subject matter experts from a range of areas relating to coaching, across the full range of coaching domains, have been secured to deliver on the programme. A full programme of events, speakers and themes is now available for July to December 2020. Each presented session is followed, one week after, by an informal sense-making discussion session facilitated by Sport Northern Ireland staff, entitled 'The Chat Box'. To receive a direct email with information on registration details for #WebinarWednesday events as they open and lots of other learning events and resources, sign up to 'The Learning List' to

receive a weekly update email via this link: <a href="http://www.sportni.net/learning/learning-list/">http://www.sportni.net/learning/learning-list/</a>

#### **The Curious Coaching Podcast**

Episode 2 with Arlene Boyles (Ireland Women's Hockey Manager) and Mark Tumilty (Ireland Men's Hockey Head Coach) is available on various platforms via the links below.

- YouTube: https://youtu.be/4SkH9W6MNd8
- Soundcloud: <a href="https://soundcloud.com/user-818247060/curiouscoachingpodcast-arleneboyles-marktumilty">https://soundcloud.com/user-818247060/curiouscoachingpodcast-arleneboyles-marktumilty</a>
- Castbox: <a href="https://castbox.fm/x/1le5k">https://castbox.fm/x/1le5k</a>
- The Curious Coach Development Podcast webpage: <a href="http://www.sportni.net/learning/the-curious-coaching-podcast/">http://www.sportni.net/learning/the-curious-coaching-podcast/</a>



### **The Curious Coaching Blog**

Sport Northern Ireland as launched a Coaching Blog, with the first article by Sport NI Club and Workforce Manager Alan Curran, reflecting upon his coaching experiences during the Covid-19 lockdown (approx. 10 minute read). This will be followed up by new posts on the third Wednesday of each month. Check out 'How the Cookie Crumbled: Coaching Through Covid' here:

https://thecuriouscoachingblog.blogspot.com/2020/06/how-cookie-crumbled-coaching-through.html





The next #ThoughtfulThursday webinar hosted by Oisín McConville will feature Stephen Robinson, Motherwell FC Manager and Paddy Tally, Down GAA Manager.

'Resilience and Wellbeing: The Coaches View' taking place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2020, 7.30pm.

For further information and to register for this webinar please visit:
https://thoughtfulthursday09july.eventbrite.co.uk