

Active Club Program Round 55

2025-2026
Guidelines



Government of South Australia
Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

Minister's Message

It is with great pleasure that I invite eligible organisations to apply for funding through Round 55 of the Active Club Program.

Sport and active recreation are at the heart of a thriving South Australia, fostering inclusive, welcoming environments that support lifelong involvement and contribute to a diverse, equitable and sustainable sector.

The Active Club Program provides vital support to South Australian sport, active recreation and fishing clubs, enabling them to enhance the programs and services they deliver within their communities. Through this round, clubs can apply for up to \$3,000 to assist with the purchase of equipment and resources that encourage more South Australians to be physically active.

This funding helps ensure that local clubs can continue offering accessible and affordable opportunities for participation, supporting community health, social connection and overall wellbeing. Grants may be used to cover the cost of essential equipment, uniforms, water saving and harvesting initiatives, white goods and other resources that make it easier for people of all ages and abilities to get involved.

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Sport and recreation clubs play a vital role in fostering a sense of belonging and building stronger, more connected communities. They provide a place where people of all ages and backgrounds can come together, develop skills, volunteer their time, and create friendships that last well beyond the playing field. By supporting these clubs, we are investing not only in physical activity, but also in the social and emotional wellbeing of South Australians.

Importantly, the program also supports initiatives aimed at increasing girls' and women's participation in sport, including providing period products, flexible uniform options, and menstrual health education—addressing barriers that can prevent ongoing involvement in physical activity

Applications close at Midday, Friday 3 October 2025

Thank you to everyone involved in the delivery of sport, recreation, and fishing. Your dedication enriches the lives of many South Australians, and your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Hon Emily Bourke MLC
Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing



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Introduction

These guidelines set out the funding requirements for the Active Club Program (ACP). The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) is responsible for administering the program.

The ACP was established in 1996, following the establishment of the Sport and Recreation Fund through the *Gaming Machines Act 1992 (SA)*. The Sport and Recreation Fund is currently resourced from taxation revenue on gaming machines and the Adelaide Oval sublease payments from the Stadium Management Authority pursuant to the *Adelaide Oval Redevelopment and Management Act 2011 (SA)*.

All funding approved from the Sport and Recreation Fund is reported to the Economic and Finance Committee of the Parliament of South Australia.



Objectives

The objective of the ACP is to provide funding support to active recreation, sport and recreational fishing clubs to further develop the programs and services they provide within the South Australian community.

The ACP supports the [ORSR 2025–2030 Strategic Plan](#), which outlines a vision for a sport and active recreation sector that is diverse, equitable and sustainable. The plan focuses on enabling growth through an inclusive and welcoming environment that encourages lifelong involvement and ensures all South Australians have the opportunity to participate and stay active.

Important dates

The following dates apply to this funding round:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Applications open | Friday 22 August 2025 |
| Applications close | Midday, Friday 3 October 2025 |
| Applications screened | October 2025 |
| Assessment | November 2025 |
| Applicants notified | December 2025 |
| Agreements offered | January 2026 |



Budget

The budget for Round 55 of the ACP is \$1,344,000.

A notional allocation of \$200,000 will be made available through an exclusive stream for recreational fishing clubs.

In the event the notional recreational fishing stream is not fully exhausted, the remaining budget will be available for general ACP distribution.

Grant amounts

Whilst applicants cannot apply for a specific amount, grants of either \$1,500 or \$3,000 will be available for each applicant based on the membership of the club.

For eligible applicants with less than 100 members the maximum grant available will be \$1,500 and for applicants with 100 or more members the maximum grant available will be \$3,000.

| | Maximum grant amount |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Less than 100 members | \$1,500 |
| 100 or more members | \$3,000 |

Eligibility criteria

Who is eligible?

To be eligible for the ACP, applicants must be:

- be a not-for-profit active recreation or sport club or community organisation whose primary purpose is the delivery of active recreation or sport programs and services in South Australia; or
- be a not-for-profit recreational fishing club whose primary purpose is the delivery of recreation programs and services in South Australia; and
- be incorporated under the *Associations Incorporations Act 1985 (SA)*, and
- have a minimum total membership base of 20 members. Total membership can include associate, social and life membership, and
- be operating for 12 months or longer.

Who is ineligible?

The following organisations will be considered ineligible for ACP funding:

- An organisation that holds a Gaming Machine Licence.
- Organisations that have been operating for less than 12 months.
- For-profit, commercial organisations.
- Local Councils (Local Government Authorities).
- State associations and peak bodies receiving State Sport and Recreation Development Program funding.
- Educational institutions.
- Dance organisations not affiliated with DanceSport Australia or another recognised body by the Australian Sports Commission.
- An organisation whose primary purpose is not the delivery of active recreation, sport or recreational fishing programs.
- An organisation that has overdue Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR) grant acquittals as at the closing date of the applications. However, applications may be considered by the Funding Assessment Committee if these overdue ORSR acquittals have been submitted prior to the first day of the assessment conducted by the Funding Assessment Committee.
- An organisation that has a total membership base of less than 20 members.
- An organisation that cannot demonstrate a level of financial sustainability.
- Car club organisations that are eligible through the South Australian Government's Car Club Program (program, equipment and operational stream) administered by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.
- An organisation whose primary purpose is to run one-off or yearly events.

Applicant location

The applicant's physical location must be within South Australia.

Eligible project costs

If you are successful, an ACP Grant can be used to cover costs associated with enabling participation. The following list includes example costs that the grant may be used for. The list is by no means exhaustive, other costs that meet the objectives of the program are welcome.

| Eligible Project Costs | Examples | |
|---|---|---|
| Sporting equipment | Bats, balls, bowls, racquets, nets, transportable goals. | ✓ |
| Fishing equipment | Rods, reels, nets. | ✓ |
| Uniforms and protective gear | Playing guernseys, training tops, playing footwear, protective helmets/pads, gloves, socks. | ✓ |
| Professional development | Coaching or officiating courses, MYOB courses, child safe environments, and associated travel costs. | ✓ |
| Positive menstrual health initiatives | Period products, flexible uniform options, positive menstrual health education and resources. | ✓ |
| Medical training | Trainer courses, first aid courses, concussion in sport education, injury prevention courses. | ✓ |
| Medical equipment | Defibrillators, tape, first aid equipment, transportable weather protection. | ✓ |
| Club promotion | Developing websites, social media, traditional print media. | ✓ |
| Hardship subsidies | Costs associated with assisting club member/s participate in sport who are experiencing hardship. | ✓ |
| Technology directly associated with participation or club sustainability | Tablets used for scoring, non-fixed score boards, communication equipment necessary for the activity or safety, cashless payment devices. | ✓ |
| Playing venue maintenance equipment | Line marking equipment, grass lawn mower. | ✓ |
| Water saving or harvesting initiatives | Rainwater tanks, smart irrigation controllers, WELS rated fixtures and fittings, new or upgrades to existing irrigation infrastructures. | ✓ |
| Energy efficiency initiatives | Solar panels, batteries, smart and/or efficient lighting. | ✓ |
| White goods | Refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, ovens, microwaves, kitchen appliances. | ✓ |

Ineligible project costs

Upon expending your funds, you will be required to submit an online acquittal. At that time, you will be required to report to ORSR on how the grant was expended. The following project costs will be considered ineligible:

- Costs incurred before 1 July 2025.
- Projects that do not provide a benefit to sport or active recreation.

| Ineligible Project Costs | Examples | |
|---|---|---|
| Operating costs | Utilities, ongoing administration costs, office hire, venue lease, hire fees, rent, insurance costs. | ✗ |
| Covering food, catering costs and catering utensils. | Cutlery, crockery, glassware, coasters, perishable items. | ✗ |
| Furniture | Chairs, tables, shelving, cupboards, benches. | ✗ |
| Non-essential technology | Laptops or computers for personal use, printers, scanners, CCTV, laminators, software not associated with the activity, and associated accessories. | ✗ |
| Prizes | Trophies, including plaques, honour boards, prize money. | ✗ |
| Cleaning products | Vacuum cleaners, toilet paper, paper towel, soap, dusters. | ✗ |
| Wages | Playing, coaching, instructing or honorarium wages (e.g., paid coaches). | ✗ |
| Travel and accommodation | Sending teams/individuals to participate in competitions. | ✗ |
| Stationery | Pens, paper, notebooks. | ✗ |
| Subscriptions | Magazines, digital media and software, websites, newspaper. | ✗ |
| Motor vehicles | | ✗ |

Please note this list includes example costs that the grant may NOT be used for. If you are unsure if a cost is eligible, please contact ORSR.

How to apply

Carefully read these guidelines to determine whether your organisation and project meets the eligibility criteria.

The following steps briefly describe the process to apply.

- Register for the online application process ([SmartyGrants](#)) available through the ORSR website, or log in to an existing account – (<https://orsr.smartygrants.com.au/applicant/login>).
- Complete the online application in full and submit prior to the closing time of the program. Any late or incomplete applications may not be assessed.

If you find an error in your application after submitting it, you should notify ORSR immediately via email: ORSR.Grants@sa.gov.au. ORSR will reopen your application to amend and resubmit.

ORSR may not be able to accept additional information or requests to change your submission after the closing date.

If you need further guidance about the application process, are unable to submit the SmartyGrants application or wish to withdraw a submitted application, you can contact ORSR via email:

ORSR.Grants@sa.gov.au.

Mandatory attachments to the application

The following documents are required for an application to be considered eligible:

- The applicant's most recent Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) and Statement of Financial Performance (Income and Expenditure Statement) covering a period of 12 months. Statement(s) must be either audited, certified (signed by the club Treasurer) or electronically certified within the application form by an authorised member of the organisation.

Key specifics to get correct

Applicants must ensure the following;

- The applicant's legal name is entered exactly how it appears on the ASIC Registers [website](#).
- The applicant's Australian Business Number (ABN) is entered correctly and matches the legal name.
- If you do not have an ABN, you will need to submit a completed Australian Taxation Office (ATO) [Statement by Supplier](#) Form with your application. If you haven't provided your ABN or Statement by Supplier, ORSR are required to deduct withholding tax at the top marginal personal income tax rate. Download the Statement by Supplier form from the ATO website.
- Check that all the questions have been answered and all essential documentation is attached.
- Press submit once you have completed the application. Upon request, amendments can be made prior to the closing date.

Ensure you follow the helpful hints on each question within the application form.



Assessment process

Eligibility screening

ORSR conducts a preliminary assessment of all applications to ensure the following criteria are met:

- The applicant organisation is eligible to apply, and
- The application has been completed in full, and all essential information has been provided (incomplete applications may be deemed ineligible).

If an application fails to pass eligibility screening the applicant will be contacted via email, using the details provided in the application. The online application form will be reopened for the applicant to update and resubmit.

If an application is not resubmitted before the date that is requested, ORSR will utilise the latest submitted version for eligibility screening and assessment.

During the screening process, ORSR may request further information.

New applicants

Where an applicant has not applied to ORSR previously, additional information will be requested to ensure the applicant meets the eligibility criteria, and in order to assist with an accurate assessment.

The following additional information will be requested:

- Previous names and addresses of the applicant organisation, or amalgamation details of the applicant (where applicable).
- A copy of the applicant's approved and registered constitution.
- A breakdown of membership.
- Any links to the applicant's online presence.
- Contacts for the applicant's State Sporting Organisation or Peak Body and Local Council (where applicable).
- Details of Annual General Meeting.
- Copy of the most recent minutes taken at the applicant's board or committee meeting.
- Dates of the financial year the applicant conducts.
- Copies of three months of bank statements, held in the applicant's name.
- Number of signatories required for the bank account.
- Details of the registered Public Officer for the organisation.

Funding Assessment Committee

The ORSR Chief Executive appoints the members of the Funding Assessment Committee. The Funding Assessment Committee is comprised of officers from across ORSR.

ORSR recognises that conflicts of interest may arise with staff, technical experts, and others assessing the applications and forming recommendations. All employees of the Government of South Australia must comply with:

- The Code of Ethics of the South Australian Public Sector issued under the *Public Sector Act 2009 (SA)*.
- *Public Sector (Honesty and Accountability) Regulations 2010 (SA)*.

The assessment processes within ORSR are additionally governed by the following:

- ORSR Interests Management Policy.
- ORSR Grant Management Policy and Procedures.

Assessment against principles

The Funding Assessment Committee assesses all applications.

Where an application is deemed eligible, the Funding Assessment Committee will prioritise it against the following principles:

Sport and active recreation organisations:

- When an applicant last received funding for a Program and Equipment grant through the Active Club Program.
- Whether an applicant is affiliated with its Peak Body.
- Whether the applicant is represented in regular competition by:
 - Female junior teams or individuals (non-team sport).
 - Male junior teams or individuals (non-team sport).
 - Female senior teams or individuals (non-team sport).
 - Male senior teams or individuals (non-team sport).

Recreational fishing clubs:

- When an applicant last received funding for a Program and Equipment grant through the Active Club Program.
- Whether an applicant is affiliated with RecFish SA.
- Whether an applicant offers regular competition.
- Whether the applicant has regular participation by:
 - Female juniors.
 - Male juniors.
 - Female seniors
 - Male seniors.

For the purposes of this program, juniors are considered as primary school or high school-aged children.

Please note, satisfying the assessment criteria alone does not guarantee the receipt of funding. It is anticipated that the number of eligible applications and funds sought will exceed the funds available and therefore ORSR does not guarantee projects will be successful, nor that successful projects will receive the full amount of funding requested.

Recommendation

Once the assessment is completed, the ORSR Chief Executive will provide funding recommendations to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing for consideration.

Final approval

The Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing will provide final approval.

Notification

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their grant application.

The details of successful applicants (grantees) may be provided to the applicant's local Member of Parliament, who may decide to contact the grantee to congratulate them.

Unsuccessful applications

All unsuccessful applicants will receive notification through SmartyGrants.

Successful applications

Grant agreement

Successful applicants (grantees) will be sent a Grant Offer detailing the terms and conditions of the funding.

Effective from 1 January 2019, public authorities are required to use the standard funding agreements. For the ACP, the Not-for-Profit Low Value Grant – a simple letter agreement for low value grants of up to \$10,000 (GST exclusive) will be used. For more information regarding the grant agreements, click [here](#).

Grantees will have at least 14 days, from the date of a written offer, to execute a funding agreement with ORSR ('execute' means both the applicant and ORSR have signed the agreement). The offer may lapse if both parties do not execute the grant agreement within the specified timeframe.

Approval of grant funding is based on information provided within in the application. Any changes to details may be reviewed to consider any potential impacts.

The Funding Period for the project will be specified in the Grant Offer.

Round 55 covers the 2025-26 financial year, therefore the grant agreement start date can be expended from 1 July 2025.

Payment

Payment of grant funding will be made in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.

Approved grant funding will be transferred electronically into the Australian bank account nominated within the application.

Should a successful applicant become overdue with any obligations, reporting or acquittals, payments may be placed on hold until those are met.

Monitoring and compliance

All grantees will be required to:

- Only use the funding for eligible costs as detailed within the grant agreement.
- Comply with the relevant laws in force in South Australia.
- Comply with the reporting and acquittal requirements of the grant agreement. Failure to comply may result in ORSR grant payments being suspended and/or the organisation no longer being eligible to receive ORSR funding or may be required to return the grant, or part thereof.
- Contact ORSR immediately when becoming aware of a breach of terms and conditions of the grant agreement.
- Comply with the other terms and conditions in the grant agreement.

Grant agreement variations and extension

Unexpected events may delay the expenditure of a grant. In these circumstances, grantees can request an extension. Any request must be submitted through SmartyGrants. Requests may require the following details:

- The revised expiry date.
- Justification for the expiry date extension.

The program does not allow for any increase to the agreed amount of grant funds as established in the grant agreement.

If an extension request is submitted, ORSR reserves the right to approve or decline the request. In some circumstances ORSR may approve a more appropriate extension date.

To seek a variation, email ORSR.Grants@sa.gov.au with your application identification number and ORSR will forward a variation request form to complete via SmartyGrants.

Acquitting a grant

Upon expending the grant, grantees will be required to acquit the grant through SmartyGrants. Grant acquittal requirements will be outlined in the grant agreement. These requirements may include:

- Providing a breakdown of goods and services the grant was spent on, including a basic description and amount.
- Certification that the statements made in the acquittal are true and correct.
- Identifying if the grant has achieved the program's objectives.
- Photos or other evidence that the funding has been expended on the purpose (optional).

Grant acknowledgement

Approval through ORSR is required before any public announcements for the grant. If the grantee makes a public statement about the project funded, we require at a minimum acknowledgement of the grant by using the following statement:

“This project received grant funding from the South Australian Government through the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.”

Social media acknowledgement

To ensure the ORSR does not miss any project updates and news, grantees should include, where appropriate, the ORSR account tags in each of their social media posts. This will alert us to new posts so we, in turn, can 'Like' and share your content.

Facebook: [@SARecandSport](#)

Instagram: [@sarecreationandsport](#)

When acknowledging a grant or mentioning ORSR's support on your website or in any digital communications, please include a link to orsr.sa.gov.au.



Other information

Grants and Goods and Services Tax (GST)

It is recommended that applicants seek independent legal and financial advice to determine all taxation obligations before applying.

Please note that if your organisation's annual turnover is greater than \$150,000 (non-profit organisations) then the Australian Taxation Office require you to be registered for GST (source: www.ato.gov.au).

Successful applicants registered for GST will have their grant grossed up by 10 per cent to offset GST payable on the grant. Organisations not registered for GST will not have the grant grossed up. Grantees cannot have the grant agreement transferred to another body based on GST registration.

Also note, from 1 July 2017, government entities at the federal, state, territory and local levels report the grants they pay to people or organisations with an Australian Business Number to the Australian Taxation Office.

Financial reporting

ORSR requests organisations adopt the National Standard Chart of Accounts for Not-for-Profit Organisations: acnc.gov.au/for-charities/manage-your-charity/national-standard-chart-accounts.

How ORSR will use your information

ORSR may share your information with other government agencies for relevant purposes such as:

- To improve the administration, monitoring and evaluation of government programs.
- For research.
- To announce grant recipients.

Treatment of confidential information

ORSR will treat information provided by applicants as sensitive and confidential if it meets one of the four following conditions:

- The applicant clearly identifies information as confidential and provides an explanation.
- Information is commercially sensitive.
- Disclosing information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else.
- Information is provided with an understanding that it will stay confidential.

When ORSR may disclose confidential information

ORSR may disclose confidential information to the following:

- The ORSR Chief Executive, employees and/or contractors to help ORSR manage the program effectively.
- The Minister.
- The Auditor-General, Ombudsman or Commissioner for Consumer and Business Services.
- A House or Committee of Parliament.

ORSR may also disclose confidential information if:

- Required or authorised by law (including if requested under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991 (SA)*).
- The grantee agreed to the information being disclosed.
- Someone other than ORSR has made the confidential information public.

Personal information

ORSR must treat your personal information according to the Premier and Cabinet Circular Information Privacy Principles Instructions and the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cwth)*. This includes informing you:

- What personal information ORSR collects.
- Why ORSR collects your personal information.
- To whom ORSR gives your personal information. ORSR may give personal information collected to our employees and contractors, the Assessment Panel, and other Government of South Australia employees and contractors, so ORSR can:
 - Manage the program.
 - Research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities.

ORSR, or the Minister, may:

- Announce the applications received or successful applicants to the public.
- Publish personal information on ORSR websites.
- Decide how we collect, use, disclose and store your personal information.
- Provide you with information about how you can access and correct your personal information.

Reporting

Effective disclosure and reporting of administered grants is essential for public accountability. Reliable and timely information on grants is vital for public and government confidence in the quality and integrity of grants administration. ORSR may publish grant applications and requests, grant recipients and funding amounts approved on the ORSR website.

Freedom of information

The *Freedom of Information Act 1991 (SA)* and the *Privacy Act 1988 (Cwth)* are the main pieces of legislation that provide access to and amendment of personal information.

Arrangements for managing Freedom of Information (FOI) requests should be discussed with ORSR's FOI Officer. The FOI Act is about openness and access to government-held information and is based on the principle that government information should be accessible to the public because it belongs to the public. Consequently, it is important that recorded information is accurate, up to date, complete, not misleading and relevant to the purpose for which it was collected.

The FOI Officer must be contacted to assist with FOI requests. The circumstances under which an agency may refuse a request for information under FOI laws are limited. Advice on possible exemptions should be sought from the FOI Officer.

Child-safe environments

Children and young people have a right to be safe and protected at all times, including when accessing services in the community.

Child protection legislation in South Australia requires certain organisations to provide a child-safe environment. All state authorities and persons or bodies who provide a service or undertake an activity that constitutes child-related work under the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016* must meet these obligations.

To meet the requirements under the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017* and the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016*, these organisations must have a child-safe environments policy in place, meet working with children check obligations and lodge a child-safe environments compliance statement.

The statement is lodged with the Department for Human Services: <https://dhs.sa.gov.au/services/community-and-family-services/child-safe-environments>

To lodge a child-safe environment compliance statement, visit: <https://dhs.sa.gov.au/services/community-and-family-services/child-safe-environments/lodging-a-child-safe-environments-compliance-statement>

Definition of key terms

| Term | Definition |
|-------------------|---|
| Active recreation | Activities engaged in for the purposes of relaxation, health and wellbeing or enjoyment, with the primary activity requiring physical exertion and the primary focus on human activity. |
| Applicant | The organisation that has applied. |
| Application | The document that applicants use to apply for funding under the program. |
| Funding period | The period of the grant agreement where spending on the approved project and its outcomes can occur. |
| Grantee | The recipient of a successful grant. |
| Minister | The Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. |
| ORSR | Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, an agency of the Government of South Australia. |
| Sport | A human activity involving physical exertion and skill as the primary focus of the activity, with elements of competition where rules and patterns of behaviour governing the activity exist formally through organisations and is generally recognised as a sport. |





Government of South Australia

Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

Enquiries and feedback

For further information or clarification, you can contact ORSR through the website: orsr.sa.gov.au.

ORSR may publish answers to your questions on the website as Frequently Asked Questions.

A compliment or complaint can be lodged using the ORSR compliments and complaints form on the website: orsr.sa.gov.au.

Disclaimer:

These guidelines were accurate at the time of publishing and supersede all terms and conditions contained in the previous.