

Financial Support Policy

Harmeny AC is committed to supporting the athletic development of all its members in an inclusive manner which embraces the broad spectrum of our membership, covering those whose goals relate to the fitness aspects of membership, through to those who aspire to competitive success at a national level. In promoting that commitment, it is important that the club's finances are used to support that broad membership, whilst recognising the increased financial commitments that come with competitive success.

The undernoted financial support policy is designed to support the above principles. This policy may not cover all circumstances but should provide a framework and some clarity to coaches and their athletes.

The fund is open to all Junior athletes from U17 to U23 in line with the following criteria:

- The athlete must have been a fully paid-up first claim member for at least one year
- The claimant must be actively competing/coaching with the club on a regular basis, and
- The expenditure must have the support of the relevant lead coach
- The funding will bring some perceptible benefit to Harmeny AC

Reimbursement of travel/accommodation expenses

As a general rule, Harmeny AC will not reimburse coaches, officials, athletes or parents/guardians for travel/accommodation expenses incurred in attending training sessions, competitions, open graded meetings etc. with the following exceptions:

International duty (GB)

Where a member is selected by Scottish Athletics for international duty, Harmeny AC will contribute towards the travel and accommodation costs as follow:

- Reimbursement will be made up to a maximum of £100 per trip
- Reimbursement will only be made to the extent that these costs are not already being funded by another body
- No reimbursement will be made in respect of events under the auspices of the Scottish Schools Athletics Association (SSAA) or the World University Championships.

Other specific events

A contribution will be made to the cost of travel and accommodation for athletes and coaches to higher level competition opportunities outwith Scotland to a maximum of £50 per athlete per trip to a maximum of £150 per athlete per calendar year. Examples of such opportunities include:

- England Athletics Championships (AAAs) (Age Group, Combined Events etc.) so long as any qualifying standards are met
- UK Cross Challenge series
- Gold Standard or Grand Prix BMC races
- Selection races for international events

Such a contribution will only be made where the club does not otherwise arrange a collective entry/transport.

It's important to clarify that this payment isn't intended as compensation for attending the event but rather aims to offset some of the expenses incurred.

In all cases, the expenditure authorisation form must be countersigned by the athlete's coach to confirm that there is benefit to the athlete and club.

Coaching development

In recognition of the need to maintain and grow a skilled coaching team, the club will pay for attendance at coaching/officiating courses where the individual commits to providing coaching/officiating services to the club. Additionally, where these courses take place outside the Lothian area the club will meet the reasonable costs of travel in attending such courses.

Exclusions

As a general rule, Harmeny AC will not reimburse coaches, officials, athletes or parents/guardians for any of the following costs:

- without exception, appearance payment to any athlete in relation to that athlete representing the club in competitions, leagues, championships etc.
- payment will not be made in respect of the diagnosis or treatment of an injury (including physiotherapy, podiatry etc.).