

Case Study – University of Birmingham Community Volleyball Club

Amount Granted: £4,737 (Grassroots Birmingham – Date Completed: January 2010)

The Project: Club and Volunteer Development

The University of Birmingham Volleyball Club is the only accredited volleyball club in the city – working only with juniors. The club has grown rapidly in the last 3–4 years and the junior programme even faster in the last 18 months. The Grassroots Grant was to enable the club to invest in club infrastructure, equipment and volunteer training.



Total number of people benefiting from this project: 213 (90 boys & 123 girls)

Club volunteer coaches reached a further 500+ children in different areas of the city.

Area of Benefit: Edgbaston, Small Heath, Longbridge, Northfield, Harborne, Bournville, Highgate, Sutton Coldfield.

Why was the project needed?

The rapid expansion of our club had stretched our resources to their limits but at the same time the club has grown in potential, with a large number of untapped volunteers. Over 50 club members offered to help run activities during the 2008–2009 seasons; many of these were not being utilised due to a lack of training and resources within the club. More equipment equals a better experience for all members and funding to train volunteers has meant the club can continue to expand and grow.



The difference the project has made:

- 1) The continued growth of the club – the club's membership target for 08–09 was 150 members, we actually achieved 213 members. We are hopeful of matching this again and this should be possible with more people volunteering and being able to support their training and development.
- 2) More volunteers contributing to the club – the club now has around 30 volunteers running a range of activities within the club and volunteering in local schools as coaches.
- 3) Using the volunteer expenses we have been able to reimburse volunteer coaches that travelled around running taster sessions in local schools and summer tournaments for refugee projects like BUMP.

Quote:

"Investment in club resources, whether this be in equipment or funding volunteer development and training, is vital if community clubs are going to grow and increase their capacity and offer more opportunities for their local community to get involved.

The Grassroots Grant enabled UBVC to improve the experience of our members, reward our volunteers and continue the growth of the club."

Grassroots Birmingham is administered by:

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