

Club Disability Capital Support Fund 2025

Case Study

Club Name: DSD AC

Funding received: €10,000

How was the funding used to support the club:

The funding was used to purchase a Sensory Pod for use by athletes (of any age) who have a neurodiverse condition e.g. Autism, ADHD and Dyspraxia and may become overstimulated during training. The Sensory Pod is a calming and relaxing space where athletes can sit (kids) or lie down in and avail of the many features - blackout, music, tv screen, wifi and mood lighting.



Please detail what benefit the funding had on the club to support people with disabilities:

We had identified approximately 20 members with neurodiverse conditions in 2025 and looked at ways to ensure that we were offering an inclusive environment to these athletes. Upon signing the Disability Charter, we installed a communion's board trackside, purchased sensory toys and approximately 20 of our coaches and summer camp staff attended "Autism in Sport" in-person training, delivered by Active Disability Ireland. The Sensory Pod, while not regularly used, is there for anyone who may need it. This affords a sense of comfort and reassurance for members, coaches, and parents.

How many people in total have benefited:

It is difficult to put a number on the people who have benefited directly however, as a club, all members benefit from knowing that we are an inclusive club and strive to ensure that all members feel that they belong in DSD AC.

Would you recommend applying to this fund to other clubs and why:

Yes, I would certainly recommend applying for this funding. The cost of the sensory pod was approximately €10,000 and without the funding, we would not have been in a position to purchase it. Application process was very straightforward and Triona and the Team in AAI were extremely helpful with information and support.

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Club Name: Borrisokane AC

Funding received: €10,000

How was the funding used to support the club:

The funding was used to install a tartan javelin runway at our club facilities. This included ground preparation, surfacing, and line marking to ensure a high-quality and safe throwing area for athletes.

Please detail what benefit the funding had on the club to support people with disabilities:

This development has had a significant positive impact on our club, particularly for our para-athletes. We have athletes with cerebral palsy, and having a smooth, even surface has greatly improved both their safety and their ability to progress in training.

The tartan runway also provides a fully accessible surface for wheelchair users, allowing them to train and compete without the difficulty of getting stuck or restricted on grass surfaces.

Javelin is one of the events where many of our athletes with disabilities excel and feel most confident. Having a dedicated facility has created a more inclusive environment where all athletes can participate and develop their skills equally.

We are also planning to establish dedicated para javelin squads, which will allow more athletes from across Tipperary, South Galway, Laois, and Offaly to access specialised coaching and facilities.

How many people in total have benefited:

Approximately 70 athletes have benefited from the new facility, including 10–12 para-athletes.

Would you recommend applying to this fund to other clubs and why:

Yes, we would strongly recommend this fund to other clubs. The support has allowed us to make meaningful improvements that we would not have been able to achieve otherwise. It has enhanced accessibility, increased participation, and improved the overall training experience for our members. Funding like this can make a real difference in helping clubs become more inclusive and supportive of athletes of all abilities.

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Club Name: Moycarkey Coolcree AC

Funding received: €8,000

How was the funding used to support the club:

In 2025, our club received €8,000 in funding, which we used to purchase and install three pieces of external exercise equipment designed specifically for disability inclusion. (I have attached pictures) These installations have been a positive addition to our facility and have supported our ongoing commitment to accessibility.



Please detail what benefit the funding had on the club to support people with disabilities:

At present, most of our disability members have intellectual disabilities, and the equipment has been well received within that group. Our present members with disabilities are integrated with our athletes and perform well to their abilities. However, one of our key goals moving forward is to broaden our reach and attract individuals with physical disabilities as well. We believe the new equipment will help us take meaningful steps in that direction, and we are continuing to explore ways to promote and support greater physical disability participation within the club.