

# Club and league development programme

## What will we be supporting and why?

We recognise that our proactive clubs, leagues, coaches, volunteers and officials are absolutely essential to the development and delivery of our sport, without which the sport will not develop or grow.

Following our recent Sport England funding announcement, we will be looking to work closely with those key deliverers of our sport to help improve the experience of those that play, coach, volunteer, or officiate in table tennis. We are inviting clubs and leagues to come forward who would like to be part of a new club and leagues support programme, known as Be TT, the purpose of which is to 'Build better experiences'.

Be TT will be an enhanced club and league development programme that will provide our most forward-thinking clubs and leagues the chance to receive focused staff support, trial exciting new club management and data tools, an opportunity to trial and implement exciting new projects, additional training support for coaches and volunteers, and greater support in engaging more volunteers.

# Club and league development programme



## The key areas of focus will be:

- Provide focused support to our volunteers, coaches and officials in the development of clubs and leagues across the country, to ensure volunteers, coaches and officials feel supported in their roles and table tennis is something they enjoy and come back to time and time again.
- To work with our clubs and leagues to ensure that as a sport we are offering the right playing, coaching and volunteering opportunities to improve the experience of our existing participants. E.g. Do we have the right competitive opportunities for our young players in the sport (i.e. enough local junior leagues) or would adults like to see more adult coaching sessions in place?
- Ensure that when someone new enters the sport, they can access the right opportunity for them, having a positive experience that means they keep coming back. E.g. Better supported coaches so junior coaching sessions are fun and engaging and pitched at the right level for new young players or leagues that want to work with us to pilot shorter format leagues.
- Ensure that clubs and leagues have the support, tools and knowledge to recruit, retain and recognise more volunteers (including coaches and officials) in a wider variety of roles.

## Who will we be supporting?

We are inviting clubs and leagues to come forward that are keen to develop and improve the experience someone receives in the sport. Clubs and Leagues can express their interest in being involved in one of the following ways:

- A group of clubs coming together to work collaboratively to develop the sport within their own club/area. This could be a group of local clubs of varying sizes or a network of clubs from various geographic areas
- A local league that is keen to develop and improve their table tennis offer
- An individual club that is not able to connect to other clubs locally but are still keen to work with us to develop the sport.

## What will clubs or leagues need to have?

Clubs or leagues that put themselves forward should ideally have or show they are in a position to have the following key areas in place:

- A volunteer and coaching workforce in place that are keen to develop, try new things and pilot new initiatives, where appropriate
- Access to a venue(s) that has a minimum of three tables
- If a club, should hold Premier Club status or have a commitment to become part of the programme. Please see criteria document for full criteria

Where a group of clubs or a league are coming together, the collective group of clubs or leagues should have the criteria in place and not every single club.

# What's in it for your club or league?

We believe being involved will bring many benefits to your club(s) or league, please find below some things that you may get involved in as a club or league, including but not limited to:

Benefits	Example
<b>Work with Table Tennis England to develop your Be TT action plan</b>	Clubs and leagues selected will receive dedicated staff time to identify opportunities to develop your club and support you to make that into reality. This will be about your volunteers, coaches and participants and what the needs of your club or league are to develop, whether this is training for your coaches, identifying funding streams available or recruiting new volunteers.
<b>Coach and volunteer development</b>	We will work with the club to support your coaches and volunteers through a menu of additional internal and external training and mentoring opportunities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— UKCC Courses</li> <li>— Coach CPD and mentoring</li> <li>— Volunteer Committee training</li> <li>— Officiating/event training</li> <li>— Recruiting and retaining volunteers</li> <li>— Club management/leadership</li> <li>— Disability Awareness Training</li> </ul>
<b>Use of a new club management tool</b>	Table Tennis England will be rolling out a new club management tool, which is proposed to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Manage all club contacts, members and bookings</li> <li>— Manage coaching programmes</li> <li>— Manage events and competitions</li> <li>— Manage club membership in one place</li> <li>— Have the ability to manage all club communications</li> <li>— Take payments by direct debits/chase payments</li> <li>— Customised website that can be developed and branded by the club</li> </ul>
<b>Additional grants to help develop your club/league</b>	We may support clubs and leagues selected with some grant funding linked to actions plans developed (or help identify external funding pots), which may help get new initiatives off the ground or help provide training for volunteers, coaches or officials.
<b>Volunteer recruitment and retention support</b>	Identify volunteer needs and support you to look at how you recruit and retain volunteers within your club or league.
<b>Access to insight and data analysis of your club or league participants</b>	Access to analytics about your club or league and how that compares to the National average, your region or county and clubs of a similar size. This will include comparison of the demographic breakdown of your club (age, gender), retention rates and other key statistics. We will also work with you to understand this insight to help inform your work going forward.
<b>Reviewing and developing the competitive offer within your local area</b>	Some examples of this may be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Developing a junior/schools league</li> <li>— Creating local 1*/2* junior or senior competitions</li> <li>— Trialling new shorter format leagues</li> </ul>
<b>Support to pilot delivering exciting new initiatives</b>	Testing new initiatives, such as; ways of delivering table tennis to young people; sessions for women and girls; 50+ programme and links with other organisations.
<b>Engagement and connection to key partners, such as; schools, Local Authority, County Sports Partnership etc</b>	We will aim to connect clubs and leagues up with local partners that are relevant to helping your club or league develop, whether this is links to the local authority to support with funding or links to local schools. It will be about getting the right people involved that will benefit your action plan.
<b>Connect with other clubs / leagues to find solutions to challenges and share best practise</b>	We will bring together (locally, nationally and online) clubs and leagues involved in the Be TT programme to ensure clubs and leagues learn from successes and challenges in other areas to help develop and grow our sport.

A club/league would not necessarily be involved in all aspects listed above but those that are suitable and meet the needs of the club(s) and/or league involved.

The support that club(s)/leagues can benefit from will be different in every area, therefore it is difficult to provide an exhaustive list. However, this will be about developing your club and improving the experience for players, coaches and volunteers.

# Next steps if your club or league want to be involved



## Step 1: Expression of interest

This information is being communicated to all Premier Clubs, member clubs, Leagues, Counties and Regions with a short expression of interest. All the above groups will be able to put themselves forward as a group of clubs, a league or an individual club, as outlined earlier.

## Step 2: Selection

Staff will meet/discuss with those clubs or leagues that have expressed an interest and identify opportunities and initiatives that would be implemented if additional support was being received. It is our aim to support as many clubs/leagues as possible, which resource allow.

We encourage clubs that can come together with other clubs to do so. We are obviously not able to offer this level of focussed support to every club, and as such, clubs that can come together collectively will be looked upon positively to enable staff to spend their time in the most effective way. Clubs that are not able to do this however will not be excluded.

### What support will clubs receive that are not part of the Be TT programme

Whilst we want to support as many clubs and leagues as possible, we will not necessarily be able to support all those expressing an interest straight away. There will therefore be a two-phased approach, and those we are not able to support straight away, we would hope to be able to work with within the following 12-18 months. We would encourage clubs that are not part of the Premier Club programme to sign up to our Free Club membership or become a Premier Club (link below) to enable you to access the tools and resources we have available, which may help you get in a position to be part of the Be TT programme in the future.

You will also receive the following from us:

- National point of contact available for club and league guidance and advice
- Club and volunteer conferences to share good practice and access advice from Table Tennis England
- Regular club's newsletters
- Support for any club wishing to complete Clubmark (through either Table Tennis England or CSP)
- Central initiatives made available for all clubs
- Support from Sport England's Club Matters programme

Sign up to our free club membership or Premier Club scheme.

[bit.ly/2rX9110](https://bit.ly/2rX9110)