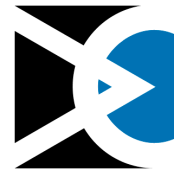




# ACASC & ACIF



**Association of Community Amateur Sports Clubs & Community Interest Fundraisers**

*“Local Authorities are now recommending clubs of all types to consider working with ACASC towards becoming CASC Registered”*

## **Compliance with HMRC Rules & Working Towards CASC Registration - Introduction:**

Following the issue of new CASC Guidelines in 2013, we are able to offer **Not-for-profit** clubs a special advisory service towards attaining a Benchmark Standard before applying for CASC registration.

As an independent Not-for-profit Association and CIC (Community Interest Company) we were invited to express our views in person at the CASC Consultation meeting in Westminster. We are also pleased to be members of LARIA - the Local Authorities Research Institute.

There is no blanket formula to achieving compliance and each club has to comply with the new rules on an individual basis, thus making it very difficult for many clubs managed by volunteers. Accurate guidance is unlikely to come solely from 'in house' or from a single source and Community Amateur Sport is certainly not just a financial accounting exercise. When considering CASC registration, many clubs wish to acquire an overview of requirements needed for reaching a qualifying standard.

Those clubs that work with us towards reaching a good operational standard can know with confidence that they are working *realistically* within the required guidelines. This in turn means that barring any unforeseen objections, their application to become registered as a CASC with HMRC, will be reasonably assured of success.

It is worth noting that when in Westminster we strongly recommended that **Corporate Gift Aid** should be made available to clubs and this was heard favourably. *Consequently, we suggest that:*

- Clubs who wish to receive financial gifts from commercial companies (under the new legislation) should be voluntarily assessed by us as being *fully* compliant in all their management standards
- Companies who make gifts to your club need to be assured that your club is fully compliant and that their gifts to you will qualify for full tax relief on their own tax returns

**Registration for our services:** *See Registration Form obtained from ACASC web site*

After registering with our Association, you will be required to complete a questionnaire. From this, we will respond with a brief report plus a request for further information. This usually includes a copy of the latest club accounts, constitution and relevant operating schedules.

Shown below is an outline of steps we explore to assist the club in raising its Community Standards. The steps shown represent only range of available options that can be utilised to help the club. Our recommendations to the club will ultimately depend on its existing internal structures and community relationships. Once again, we emphasise that our services help clubs on an individual basis and will not be a 'one size fits all' solution.



# ACASC & ACIF



Association of Community Amateur Sports Clubs & Community Interest Fundraisers

## Becoming registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club with HMRC

Quote from Nicky Morgan – Economic Secretary to the Treasury.

*“Last year’s 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games demonstrated the importance of sport and its power to enhance people’s lives. This government is determined to build on the legacy of the games and promote sport at all levels for current and future generations.*

*An important part of this commitment is the Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) scheme. This provides generous tax breaks to thousands of grass roots sports clubs that give people in their local communities the chance to take part in sporting activities.*

*Amateur sports clubs are the lifeblood of community sport providing a sporting ‘home’ to millions of regular players, introducing children to the basics of sport, and providing a training ground for our most talented athletes to develop. By introducing these changes, the Government has shown its long term commitment to supporting amateur clubs across the UK.”*

### Summary of the main benefits to the registered CASC:

• 80% mandatory rate relief & the opportunity to apply for 20% discretionary relief from the local authority
• The payment of any number of players to play up to a total limit per club of £10,000 a year. (including cost of benefits)
• Clubs will be able to pay ‘reasonable’ subsistence expenses which may include tours
• Clubs will be able to generate unlimited income from members
• Clubs will be able to generate up to £100,000 turnover from trading and other miscellaneous transactions with non-members. When this figure is reached a trading subsidiary needs to be formed where it donates its profits tax free to the parent CASC
• Individual members and friends of the club (who pay tax) who gift to the club will benefit the club on its claim for Gift Aid

### Thresholds exemption increases & additional further benefits for CASC:-









• £50,000 of receipts (raised up from 30k) for trading income
• £30,000 of receipts (raised up from 20k) for property income
• Companies able to obtain tax relief on ‘qualifying’ donations to a CASC under corporate Gift Aid

**[www.acasc.org.uk](http://www.acasc.org.uk)   [www.giftaid-it.co.uk](http://www.giftaid-it.co.uk)**



**Association of Community Amateur Sports Clubs & Community Interest Fundraisers (ACASC / ACIF) CIC**  
Community Interest Company Reg. Office: 24 Wellington Drive, Cwmbrân, Torfaen,  
South Wales - NP44 5HH. Comp. No: 6800135 / CIC No: 3743



### As part of our service we will:

-  **Assist** the club (or its representatives) in interpreting the new accounting requirements towards reaching tax compliance. For example, we look closely at the new definitions of (non-qualifying) income & expenditure that may have tax implications for your club
-  **Contact** or liase with Authorities (where necessary) on behalf of the club. We can discuss matters on behalf of the club 'in principle' to allay fears of direct criticism. *(Topics range from Contracts of Employment to qualifying donations on Gift Aid claims)*
-  **Analyse** potential relationships with other local community groups to maximise use of club facilities. This can lead to additional income for the club.
-  **Support** the club in its application for additional local relief and grants in a way that will reduce simple application errors and be most likely to bring success
-  **Compare** and monitor the club's ongoing performance and fees with those of similar sports in the local area i.e. Local Authority / County / District level
-  **Review** and improve any existing fundraising patterns or systems for the club from within its individual members and from the wider supporting community
-  **Explore** relevant introductory courses via local state schools, sports development officers and the community to introduce and encourage sport at affordable costs
-  **Discuss** social events at the club, which usually lie at the heart of club life. This is where many fundraising activities take place to the benefit of the club. We will check certain ratios and other relevant matters

### For Not-for-profit clubs who then become CASC Registered we will:

-  **Introduce** the club to Corporate Donors from within the Local Authority who respond to our special Public Relations Campaigns, called **GiftAid-IT**. Our donor companies are advised to only support clubs who attain the Benchmark Community Club Standard.
-  **Liase** between clubs and business donors before donations are made. This is to help ensure that the business receives valuable recognition for its community support via a publicity scheme acceptable to HMRC. Again, it is advisable that clubs should only explore or accept Corporate Donations when confident that they are recognised by others to be genuine Community clubs. *Many potential businesses donors have already indicated concern that some clubs are not up to high Community standard*