



Foundation

City and Neighborhoods Department
 Cecil Ward Building
 4-10 Linenhall Street
 Belfast
 BT2 8BP

Dear Mr Ryan Black,

Since June 2014 the Irish FA foundation have been grateful for Belfast City Council support in the delivery of an annual Super Schools Festival at Mallusk Playing Fields. This festival has focused on offering girls aged between 11 and 15 the opportunity to play in a structured football competition. This event has grown from year to year attracting up to 1,400 players and approximately 80 schools from across Northern Ireland. Approximately 25% of these participants have been from Belfast based schools.

Belfast City Council has supported this event for five years through waiving pitch hire costs. A committee paper was approved in 2016 for free use of pitches (covering three consecutive years). The Irish FA Foundation would like to request similar support for the forthcoming year. In 2020 we hope to extend the programme to include other under-represented groups, reflecting the Irish FA's 'Let Them Play' strategy and engaging with many of the groups within section 75.

The proposed event for next year is outlined in the table below:

| | Day (9am – 3pm) | | Evening (6pm – 9pm) | |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Tuesday 16th June 2020 | Set-up (marking pitches) | | None (pitches will be set-up) | |
| Wednesday 17th June 2020 | Primary School (Boys & Girls) | 1000 participants (50% girls & 50% boys) | Junior Clubs (Boys & Girls) | 1000 participants (50% Girls & 50% Boys) |
| Thursday 18th June 2020 | Girls Post Primary (Super Schools Day) | 1400 participants | Back in the Game (Men & Women) | 250 participants (Target 100 Women) |
| | | | Football for All (BME groups) | 250 participants |
| Friday 19th June 2020 | Disability Schools | 100 participants | Event Dismantle | |
| | Walking Football | 100 participants | | |

Irish Football Association Foundation

National Football Stadium at Windsor Park, Donegall Avenue, Belfast BT12 6LU, Northern Ireland

Registered with The Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC106229



Foundation

Target Outcomes

As outlined above we hope to create approximately 4,100 participation opportunities for under-represented groups such as, Under 16's (3,500 opportunities), females (2,500 opportunities), People with a Disability (100 opportunities), over 55 (at least 100 opportunities), ethnic minority (250 opportunities). We also hope to use this festival to engage with partners and showcase other Irish FA and Irish FA Foundation initiatives such as, SCBI education programme, UEFA 2020 Under 19 tournament, our Peace 4 programme in conjunction with Ulster GAA and Ulster Rugby and our mental health programme "Ahead of the Game".

Proposed Request

The FA Foundation would like to request free use of pitches at Mallusk Playing Fields across the two-and-a-half-day event, plus one additional day for set-up. The event will require use of 18 small sided marked pitches and the use of goals stored at Mallusk Playing Fields. The Irish FA Foundation is aware that this is during a period the pitches are not open for regular football bookings. However, following conversations with Parks staff, we understand that 18 small sided pitches can be marked out in an area that will not impact on summer bookings such as cricket and will allow for pitch maintenance to continue.

I would appreciate your consideration of this request. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me on michael.boyd@irishfa.com

Yours sincerely,

Michael Boyd
Director of Football Development