

Starting something new – turning ideas into realities

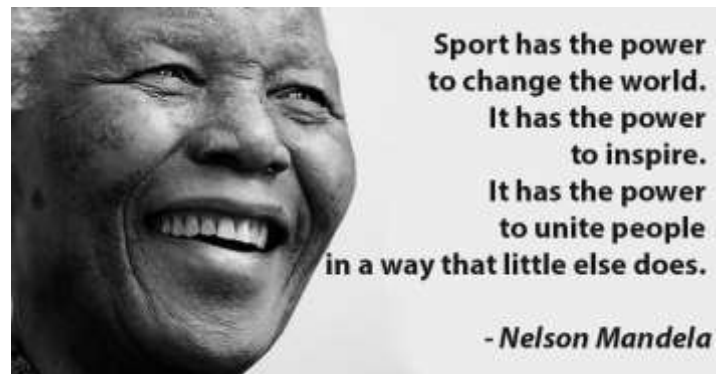
Setting up the Sport & Recreation Community Trust (S&RCT).

Introduction

CCVS is often asked by individuals and groups of individuals to help them set up a group. They always have a passion for their cause and an idea of what they want to do but often have little idea of the practical ways to start. We are able to guide them, and enable them to make informed decisions about their future structure and the way they want to move forward.

An approach

When they approached CCVS the founders of this group had a very clear idea of what they wanted to do, and the need for the group, but no experience or knowledge of how to make it happen in practice. They were very clear about the benefit that sport brings to individuals and communities and especially aware of the positive impact of making sports available to minority groups in the community, particularly where people, because of cultural or religious needs, are not accessing them through the mainstream organisations.



First meetings

The committee benefited from a number of 1-2-1 sessions and also attended Writing Good Funding Applications training.

CCVS were able to give the committee the information they needed to formalise their group and develop a constitution. We were also able to provide support on the roles of the committee and the different structures that they might want to consider. After spending time with the group they were able to access a selection of comprehensive factsheets that summarised their options and allowed them to find out more information.

“The appointment was very helpful. (CCVS) explained in great detail about how to start up a group”.

And they are off

Following this support, the group adopted a constitution with revised aims and objectives and with a name that reflected what they did. They were also able to open a bank account and get some insurance; they were ready to start to find funds to put on their first projects.

CCVS worked with the committee to develop their funding proposals, a number of support sessions as well as some training put them in the position to make their first bids to grant making trusts. Using the project proposal form, developed to help groups set out the ideas in a way that ensures they have thought about the type of issues important to funders, the committee embarked on their first grant applications, following the support they commented

“Great 1/1 assistance – feeling more confident and a greater understanding of (the) process”

As the group struggled with the application forms CCVS staff were there to offer advice and encouragement. At no stage was it about us doing it for them, all the gains that they made were their own, the decisions were their own and their successes were their own.

And then....

And as is so often the case that is where our involvement ended. The group have not been back in touch and we have no idea of how successful they have been. Our role is to help those with a passion nurture their ideas and allow them to take flight; we remain there to help them with any problems that may arise in the future, but all our members are responsible for their own decisions, their own successes, and ultimately for their own futures.