

**Subject: Supporting Diversity**

In September, TLF celebrated its [Fourth Birthday](#). Over those four years we have approved 60 grants totalling £218,000 to support schools, clubs (new & existing), junior programmes and universities, as well as NGBs, mainly to provide equipment and coaching.

Our [mission](#) is to champion the growth & development of lacrosse across Great Britain, which includes promoting 'community participation, and advancing the education of young people in the sport of lacrosse'.

Lacrosse can be an expensive sport to play due to the cost of the equipment. This can prove to be a major blocker for some young people taking up the sport, particularly where there is limited household income, and in areas where lacrosse is relatively unknown.

As well as supporting initiatives from established clubs and schools, lacrosse needs to consider and address the issue of diversity in the sport. Over the last 12 months, some of the [grant applications TLF have approved](#), are ones that support projects that give such opportunities to young people who traditionally haven't been exposed to lacrosse.

## Some examples of grants...

*Please click on the links below to see more about these initiatives on our website:*

### **Metropolitan Police**

- The [Metropolitan Police's Youth Engagement Team](#) (YET) based in NW London, use sport as a way of engaging with disadvantaged young people from inner city and low social-economic areas in Barnet, Brent, & Harrow.
- They run and support multi-sport holiday camps and approached TLF to fund equipment & coaching courses to enable lacrosse to be added to the sports on offer from Summer 2022. Camps were organised & run in Harlesden, Barnet, and Harrow where they ran lacrosse sessions, with over 250 young people enjoying the chance to play lacrosse for the first time.

### **Stevenage**

- Stevenage Sporting Futures Team work with primary schools in the local area (25 miles north of London), and received a TLF grant for equipment to enable pop lacrosse to be introduced into 8 primary schools in the borough.
- With lacrosse being added to the curriculum and extra-curricular timetables, TLF are also funding teacher training, and the addition of lacrosse to the annual local multi-sports festival.

## Harris Federation

- Eight [Harris Federation Academy schools](#) in and around London have received sets of lacrosse equipment and teacher-training courses to add the sport to its curriculum.
- With the introduction of lacrosse at this number of schools within the Harris group, it is hoped that an inter-school competition will become established.

## Oxford City LC

- Oxford received funding from TLF for their project to deliver after-school mixed lacrosse to Year 6 pupils at nine primary schools in the Blackbird Leys area of Oxford (one of the most disadvantaged wards in Oxfordshire).
- A mini-pilot had been successfully run in 2021 using borrowed equipment. This funding enabled over 120 children to enjoy lacrosse at the sessions culminating in a fun tournament with matches and skill games based at The Oxford Academy (the club's base, and a linked secondary school).

## Phoenix LC

- [Phoenix Lacrosse Club](#) was formed in late 2021 when state-funded St Bartholomew's School in Newbury (one of the few state schools offering girls lacrosse) chose to stop playing 'competitive' lacrosse due to staffing & cost constraints.
- The new club has thrived since then, starting an outreach programme to introduce the sport to new members in the surrounding community, and has also [won its first trophy](#)

## TLF Bursary Scheme

- And back in 2019, TLF agreed to provide the funds for a [Bursary scheme](#) that would support financially disadvantaged individuals who were within the England Lacrosse Talent Pathway, but were opting out due to financial outlay.
- The Covid pandemic impacted the introduction of the scheme which is administered by England Lacrosse who created a criteria-based application process to receive and assess applications.

If you have a project that will grow the game of lacrosse in Great Britain, including those that assist the growth in under-represented areas, then The Lacrosse Foundation may be able to support it.

To find out more, please look at our website [www.thelacrossefoundation.co.uk](http://www.thelacrossefoundation.co.uk) to understand our aims & objectives, as well as additional detail in our Grants criteria section.

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