



Hello again,

Many of Great Britain's elite-level lacrosse players have had the honour to represent their home nation over the last few weeks at: the Women's World Champs at Towson; the Men's & Women's Sixes at the World Games in Alabama; the Men's U-21 at Limerick; and the Men's European Box Champs in Hannover. Our congratulations go to all those involved.

Playing for your national team is the pinnacle of a player's career - the result of years of dedicated practice, training, developing stick skills & your Lacrosse IQ - but all elite-level players began their lacrosse journey at a grass-roots level, being introduced to the game as youngsters through a club or school. The mission of The Lacrosse Foundation is to help to grow the game at the grass-roots level throughout Great Britain, and to expand the opportunities for more young people to learn the game.

In this newsletter, we have updates on some of the schemes we have funded recently.

# **Impact of Grants**

#### **Harris Federation**

In June 2021, TLF approved a grant to the Harris Academy at Wimbledon in SW London for equipment (sticks, balls & goals) to enable the school to introduce lacrosse to its students (aged 11-18).

Based on their positive response, we held discussions with the Harris Federation (which has now grown to over 50 schools in London & the South East), to explore opportunities to introduce the game more widely, and agreed with them a standardised application process & equipment pack [45 sticks, 48 balls, 4 goals] to enable other establishments in the group to apply to us.

In the first few months of 2022, we have approved grants for seven other Harris schools based at: Bermondsey; Clapham; Croydon; Crystal Palace; Garrard (in Kent); Merton; and Sutton.

A CPD session is scheduled in October for the staff from these seven schools, and it is hoped that in due course inter-school matches will be introduced to help raise the profile of the game within the Harris group. funding teacher training, and the addition of lacrosse to the annual local multisports festival.

#### Wilmslow Lacrosse Club

Wilmslow LC in East Cheshire was founded in 1978, but in recent years their junior programme has suffered due to the increased costs of coaching in local schools, and a shortage of equipment to support the club junior sessions for those children who come along to the club from the schools.

The club relaunched its junior programme in Summer 2019 with a 10-week summer camp for U8/U10/U12 age groups - and despite the pandemic, they were able to repeat this in Summer 2020, and also hold winter sessions with 25-35 participants.

A local coach [part-funded by TLF] is now delivering lacrosse in three local primary schools:
- all-year round in 2 of the schools [150 Yr5-6, and 50 Yr3-4 children [even-split boys & girls]; and
- for a 10-week period at the third school with 30 Yr5-6 children involved.

In June 2022, TLF approved a grant of up to £7500 for equipment [junior helmets, gloves, pads, mini-goals, sticks and balls] to support the club in its aim to run 4 junior teams at U8 (boys & girls), U10 (boys) and U12 (girls) during the 2022/23 season. These will play matches in the junior development league organised by NWLA [North West Lacrosse Association].

"This grant & the equipment it provides will be the backbone to our clubs growth and sustainability for many years to come, and will help to provide hundreds of children with the opportunity to play our sport without the problems of financial restrictions". (Tony Warriner – Chair Wilmslow LC)

#### **Bangor University**

Bangor University in North Wales has had a Lacrosse Club since 2010, typically running one Men's and one Women's team.

Faced with a losing a large number of graduating leavers from June 2021, the club applied to The Lacrosse Foundation to fund some equipment which would help support their recruitment of new freshers to the club, and enable these new members to start playing the game

A TLF grant of £1500 (in August 2021) provided essential protective equipment - five sets of men's kit [helmet, gloves, & arm-pads], ten pairs of eye goggles, a helmet repair kit, plus five sticks.

For the 2021-22 season the University club were successful in attracting 28 new players – in addition to the 32 returning players from the previous year – enabling the club to continue to grow despite the impacts of the pandemic.

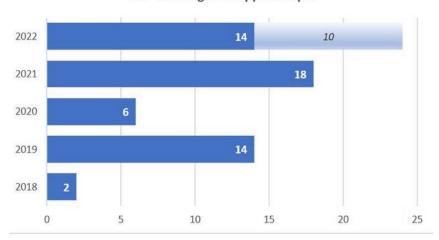
See the full story with photos on <u>TLF website news</u>

## Increase in grant applications

The first six months of this year has been a busy one for The Lacrosse Foundation Grants group - with the volume of applications at the highest rate since our launch in 2018.

The number of approvals has already reached the figure for 2019, with a further 10 applications still currently under consideration & evaluation.

TLF - No. of grants approved p.a



If your club or school has a proposal to grow the game of lacrosse, we may be able to support you to help achieve your goals. Check out our grants criteria on the TLF website

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