

Looking back at our 2023 TLF Highlights 🏑

1 message

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Happy New Year to you all.

Some of you will be receiving this email newsletter for the first time, as we have added recent grant recipients to the mailing list to help keep you up to date with what's happening with The Lacrosse Foundation. We hope you find it interesting. Please let us know what you'd like to hear about TLF.

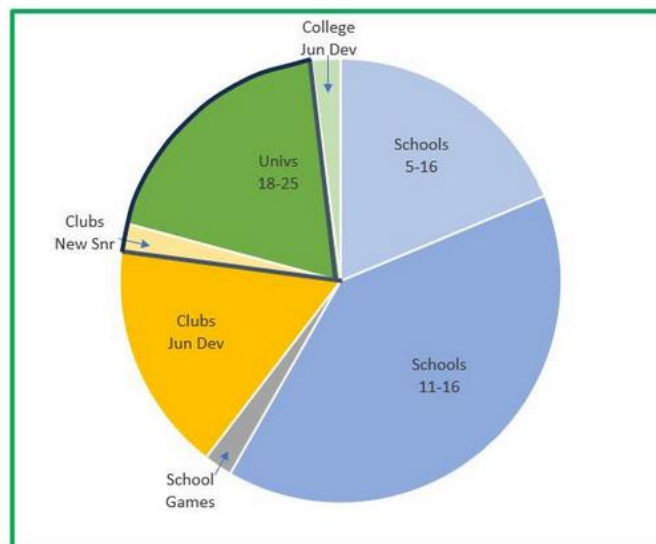
The start of a new year, is always a good time to look back and reflect at what took place in the year just gone - as well as looking forward to the year ahead.

During the calendar year 2023, TLF approved **48 grants** totalling almost **£130,000**.

80% of these (by number and £ value) were to provide playing equipment & coaching resource to **support junior development – i.e. for youngsters aged 5-16**.

- More than half of the grants (28) were made **direct to schools** (9x primary/junior schools [ages 5-11]; and 19x secondary schools [ages 11-16])
- 1 grant was to a **'School Games' company** in Scotland to deliver coaching in primary schools;
- 1 grant to an **FE College** in Lancashire to train their own students, and provide equipment enabling them to go out and coach lacrosse at nearby schools;
- And another 8 separate grants to **existing senior clubs**, to expand their junior coaching in neighbouring schools, and to energise their own club junior programmes.

The remaining 10 grants went mainly to **universities** (9) to provide equipment to strengthen their club, and to enable 'freshers' to take their first steps in playing the sport. The other grant was to the **Royal Marines** (based in Devon) to set up & establish their own men's lacrosse team.



Where ?

The majority of the schools receiving equipment direct from TLF, were based in London & SE England:

- **Four** primary schools based in the London Borough of Bromley (at Beckenham & Orpington), where Mike Barrett coaches in the schools; plus, **two** secondary schools at nearby Chislehurst and Chelsfield. [Mike Barrett has also set up the Bromley Junior Lacrosse Club to enable children to further develop their skills out of school].
- **Three** 'Harris Academy' schools in Greenwich, Tottenham & Morden.
- **Six** other secondary schools at Ealing, Enfield, Romford, Stratford, and to the west at Hillingdon & Reading.

Other schools receiving grants were in the Midlands (**2x** near Birmingham, **2x** near Leicester); and in **five** locations across the central belt of Scotland – at Glasgow, Dunbar & Stirling.(2x primary school, 2x secondary schools, plus a 'School Games' company).

All these schools provide an introduction to the sport of lacrosse.

The challenge for every one of us in the lacrosse community across GB, is to provide a pathway for those youngsters who want to continue to play the sport out of school.

The **eight** existing clubs who received grants (all for their junior development activities) are all based in the North of England:

- **Six** of the clubs are based in the Greater Manchester area. All are long-established (100+ years) men's lacrosse clubs, who all now include girls & women's teams. Clubs based at Monton (Boardman & Eccles), Sale (Brooklands Hulmeians), Stockport, Cheadle, Cheadle Hulme, and Mellor; As well as the other two clubs located in Sheffield & Carlisle (Border LC).
- All these clubs therefore provide the 'out of school' opportunity for both boys and girls to continue their lacrosse, to join age group teams, to make new friends and to play competitive sport. Whilst TLF funding can help support a club's junior programmes, its success and longevity will depend upon having a group of committed club volunteers & parents, along with enthusiastic young players. These eight clubs are an example of this.
- In Lancashire, we provided a grant to Burnley College (FE College ages 16-18) to provide them with equipment and funding for their students to gain lacrosse coaching qualifications. This is to support their 'outreach' work, with students going into local schools to introduce lacrosse to the pupils – in the hope that the students can continue with the sport when they move on to their local FE College.

And finally, our grants to **nine** universities (including at Chichester, Gloucester, Loughborough, Plymouth, Surrey & Warwick) were to enable the sport to be played by more students, ensuring new starters & freshers have access to a stick & protective equipment [where applicable] to try out the game.

Throughout the year, the 'news' items on our website have looked to highlight some of our grant recipients.

Click on the following links to read their stories:

[Northern Box Lacrosse](#);

[Boardman & Eccles](#);

[Univ of Nottingham](#);

[Strathblane Primary](#);

[Bromley Junior LC](#)

We are always on the lookout for news from grant recipients. If you have a story to tell about your lacrosse programme, please let us know at: comms@thelacrossefoundation.co.uk

All the best for 2024, and keep on helping us to Grow the Game in Great Britain.
