



Player Sponsorship Fund

Background

The FDSA prides itself on offering affordable and accessible programming. We operate on the key value that cost should not be a barrier to any player and with the goal of finding a way to make sure every child has an opportunity to play. To this end, the FDSA established the Player Sponsorship Fund. This fund, generated primarily through donations from members made during the online registration process, supports players and families who have not been able to access granting opportunities such as KidSport and Jumpstart and are otherwise unable to cover the costs of programming.

Eligibility

Any player who is unable to cover the registration fee and is seeking the support of the Player Sponsorship Fund must first apply for support for funding through KidSport and/or Jumpstart. The FDSA office will provide support/contacts for this process.

If the player is not awarded funding through KidSport and/or Jumpstart, they are eligible for the Player Sponsorship Fund, pending demonstration of need. A community member can vouch for the need of the player in question.

The Player Sponsorship Fund does not always have to cover the full cost of the registration fee. In circumstances where it is possible, the FDSA will work the player's guardian to try a reduced fee and/or payment plan.

Allowable Expenses

<u>Community programs</u>: The Player Sponsorship Fund will only be used to offset the cost of registration for a player. Any additional financial obligations that may arise at this level (e.g., equipment, transportation, etc.) are not eligible for reimbursement.

Note: The FDSA maintains an equipment donation program, so a player in need of assistance in this area should contact the office to discuss.

<u>Competitive programs</u>: The Player Sponsorship Fund is available to offset the cost of registration for a player. Any additional financial obligations that may arise at this level (e.g., team fees, tournament expenses, etc.) may be considered under unique circumstances through consultation between the coaching staff and the FDSA.



Process

If a player is in need of the Player Sponsorship Fund, their guardian should inform the FDSA by either contacting the Executive Director at the office or by discussing with the Director of Soccer at the field.

The FDSA will then verify the eligibility of the player, and ensure that the player has applied to KidSport and/or Jumpstart before seeking funding from the FDSA.

If the player is deemed eligible, the registration fee (or the approved portion thereof) will be processed by FDSA staff in PowerUp, which will clear the amount owed.

The FDSA will not communicate to any team who has accessed the Fund in order to maintain anonymity, so coaches and managers should plan every year as though the Player Sponsorship Fund will be accessed by a competitive player (see Manager's Manual for more information).

For competitive players who receive funding, there is an expectation that the players are committed to the program and regular attendance. It is also a preference that they give back to the FDSA community in some way, for example through coaching of community programs (depending on schedule and availability).