

What are SOGB Accreditation Fees and what do they go towards?

Special Olympics GB impose **accreditation fees** for its clubs and programmes. The amount is not a 'flat' or 'standardised' amount and is **scalable** depending on the size of the club/programme. This calculation is based upon the total number of registered active members (Athletes and Volunteers) within the club/programme and is enforced in tandem with the Special Olympics Fees Policy. Please note this is **not strictly a 'per person' fee** but rather a mechanism to determine a calculation for the total amount.

It's important to address a common misconception about Special Olympics GB's financial position and processes. SOGB is a **charity** – a **non-profit organisation** – and not a corporate machine with substantial reserves. SOGB operates well under the average industry expenditure on core costs and works incredibly hard to remain financially viable and sustainable despite significant challenges across the sector.

Our organisation is predominantly funded through our Sport England system partnership and our valued Corporate Partnerships, both of which we prioritise sharing information about as often as possible with our commitment to transparency.

Whilst accreditation fees contribute minimally to core operational costs, we are proud that the vast majority of our overall investment goes **directly into supporting our delivery** in the following different ways:

- Member access to pathways including competition, leadership and sport delivery/coaching
- Year-round competition and event support grants
- Year-round coach and volunteer support and training grants
- Resources, tools, guidance and templates for direct club use – eg. Risk Assessments and other practical resources
- Sport-specific resources and access to expertise and advisors
- Opportunity to inform organisational development and strategy including working groups or other leadership programmes.
- Insurance coverage
- Use of Special Olympics Brand, logo, media and communications, etc.
- Support with fundraising activities (guidance coming 2026)
- Compliance administration processes actioned in-house – including safer recruitment processes such as DBS checks (can cost between £16 - £49 per person to do this outside of SOGB) and PVG checks (can cost between £18 – 25 per person to do this outside of SOGB), references and data management
- Policies and Procedures ensuring safety and best practice, including but not limited to those in safeguarding reporting and incident management
- Direct and ongoing support from the SOGB team directly on all club matters
- Ad-hoc opportunities and activities supported through corporate partnership activities or other key partnerships across the network

In summary, through careful financial management and strategic partnerships, we continue to prioritise directing funds where they matter most – into the programmes.

We are committed to supporting the development of opportunities that strengthen our clubs, volunteers, and athletes across Great Britain, ensuring every pound works hard to create meaningful impact for our community.