|  |
| --- |
| Press Release  |
| **Devon boxing club awarded £40,000 of funding from Sport England** |
|  | Date: |



Creating a sporting habit for life

**NB: Replace all words in red with information that is relevant to your project**

AZY Boxing Club is among 148 local sports projects to secure a share of £9 million of National Lottery funding from Sport England’s Inspired Facilities fund.

Since 2011, Inspired Facilities has been helping breathe new life into tired community sports facilities and converting existing buildings into venues suitable for grassroots sport.

INSERT BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION. E.g:

AZY Boxing Club will receive £41,355 of National Lottery funding to upgrade the facilities at the gym, which has helped thousands of local young people get into sport since it opened its doors in 1999. The improvements include new non-slip flooring, new floor matting and mirrors in the weights room and refurbished throughout.

Sport England Property Director, Charles Johnston, said: “The Inspired Facilities Fund has had a huge impact on grassroots sport across the country. Since 2011, we’ve invested £102 million into more than 1,920 projects to improve and refurbish sports clubs and transform non-sporting venues into vibrant community sports clubs.

“It’s great to see AZY Boxing Club join the long list of successful clubs to benefit from this fund.”

INSERT PROJECT QUOTE e.g.

Club Chairman, Bob Smith, said: “We are delighted to have secured this investment, which means we can upgrade the quality of our premises to match the quality of our boxing coaches. It is the cornerstone of our strategy to have an outstanding club for the 2012 Olympics’ legacy.”

INSERT LOCAL MP QUOTE IF YOU HAVE SECURED ONE

Local MP, Joe Jones, said: “This investment by Sport England into AZY Boxing Club is fantastic news. There has always has a strong sporting tradition in the area and this money is an investment in young people for today and for the future; we’ll see top class boxers training in top class facilities.”

Many more communities are set to benefit from the hugely popular fund with the latest round of the Inspired Facilities now open. Community and voluntary organisations, councils and schools can bid for a share of £5 million to help upgrade facilities that can be unattractive, expensive to run and difficult to maintain, and to convert existing non-sporting buildings into venues that are suitable for grassroots sport.

Applying for funding has never been easier. Based on feedback from previous applicants, the Inspired Facilities Fund is now an open programme which means projects can submit applications as soon as they are ready rather than being restricted by a specific deadline. To find out more and bid, visit [www.sportengland.org/inspiredfacilities](http://www.sportengland.org/inspiredfacilities).

ENDS

Notes to Editors

For more details about the project, please contact Bob Smith on 1234 567 8910 or bob.smith@emailaddress.co.uk

At least 70 per cent of the funding will go to community and voluntary organisations, through grants of between £20,000 and £75,000. The remaining funding will be open to a wider group of organisations, including councils and schools, with grants of up to £150,000 available.

To make sure the technical elements of the application process do not put off groups with good projects, Sport England has created a catalogue of typical facilities developments and costs, based on what sports clubs have told us they need.

Sport England is focused on helping people and communities across the country create a sporting habit for life. We will invest over £1 billion of National Lottery and Exchequer funding between 2012 and 2017 in organisations and projects that will:

* Help more people have a sporting habit for life
* Create more opportunities for young people to play sport
* Nurture and develop talent
* Provide the right facilities in the right places
* Support local authorities and unlock local funding
* Ensure real opportunities for communities.

The National Lottery has been changing lives for 18 years. Every week National Lottery players raise over £30 million to help change people's lives across the UK.

For more information please contact the press office:

* Amy Andrew on 0207 273 1593 or amy.andrew@sportengland.org;
* Nora Maguire on 0207 273 1889 or nora.maguire@sportengland.org;
* Andrew St Ledger on 0207 273 1800 or andrew.stledger@sportengland.org.

 