

CASC NEWSLETTER - SPRING 2012

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF CASCS

The CASC scheme has been successfully giving tax reliefs to registered sports clubs for 10 years. 6,165 clubs have been registered claiming an estimated cash benefit of £114.1 million (Source: Tim Baldwin - Monthly analysis of CASC registrations - March 2012).

HMRC have raised technical issues causing delays in registration. Sport has been working with HMRC to try to resolve these. The recent Budget did not contain any proposals to address the issues but discussions with HMRC are continuing.

The recent proposal for CASCs to receive Gift Aid on junior membership subscriptions has not been taken up by HM Treasury.

Claims for Gift Aid repayments will have to be filled in and submitted online from April 2013. Clubs currently are asked to fill in an 'intelligent' form on screen, print, sign and post it to HMRC. The benefits include a quicker repayment time.

Good progress has been made on the Gift Aid Small Donations scheme for CASCs and charities, which will remove the need by the club to obtain gift aid declarations for small donations. The size of the individual donation will be increased to a maximum of £20 from £10, with a maximum of £5,000 per year qualifying under the scheme. Draft legislation is imminent and is due to come into effect from April 2013.

CASCS wishing to incorporate should not do so until they have written confirmation from HMRC that the incorporated club will be re-registered as a CASC. If this approach is not adopted, it is possible the club will be de-registered - this has happened to a club recently.

A bombshell was dropped in the recent Budget with a proposal to limit income tax relief on donations to a maximum of £50,000 or 25% of an individual's income, whichever is higher. This may discourage wealthy individuals from giving to CASCs and charities and is being vigorously opposed by the voluntary sector.

For further information contact your CASC Champion (<u>davestubley@rfu.com</u>), visit <u>www.rfu.com/ManagingRugby/ClubDevelopment/LegalAndAdmin/CommunityAmateurSportsClubs.aspx</u> or HMRC's website at <u>www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/casc/index.htm</u>.