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Dear Rowing Friends,

Our partners and funders Sport Ireland have shared with us that they will shortly be releasing up to €35 Million in funding through a Sports Energy Support Scheme for clubs with the primary target being grassroots sports clubs who own and have dedicated facilities and who incur costs through indoor or floodlit activities during winter, for which they do not receive incomes or subsidies.

It is clear at this stage that only those energy costs¹ from clubs in the Republic of Ireland who are not cross subsidised² will be eligible.

Rowing Ireland is eagerly awaiting more details of this scheme so that it can maximise benefit to its membership. Details on the final criteria and application process will be available in due course.

In order to be prepared, and so we can engage with Sport Ireland and indicate preliminary demand from our members, we would ask you to begin to estimate the costs of providing sporting activity in 2022 versus a similar baseline in 2019 (pre-covid) and fill in the expression of interest form attached.

Please try to estimate in this form how much of this qualifies and how much is non-sporting, where your club provides other activities or where it receives other support.

If your club is eligible for the Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme (TBESS), then our advice is to prioritise applications under that scheme instead.

We expect that Sport Ireland will establish a minimum level of support for clubs.

¹ We believe transport, loans, labour, rent, lease and admin costs will be ineligible under this scheme

² Unfortunately, clubs in Northern Ireland, private, university or school clubs will be ineligible and deductions will have to be made for clubs who provide energy for and generate income from bars etc

This will be determined when the extent of the demand from the entire sports sector is known.

- Support for Clubs will likely be capped at €60,000.
- Rowing Ireland, if successful, will be required to disburse funding to member clubs in early 2023.
- Clubs in receipt of funding will need to be in a position to prepare other submissions or respond to additional questions by Rowing Ireland in 2023.
- Clubs who receive funding may be subject to Sport Ireland audits and related terms and conditions e.g. around club governance, compliance.

Please return the following Expression of Interest form before Monday 14th November 2022 at 5pm.

Kind regards,

Rowing Ireland