Sustaining your satellite club;
Active Sussex is now in year 3 of the Satellite club programme.

Sussex has seen an injection of cash over 4 years to get satellite clubs up and running throughout the county.

91 Clubs have been financed, giving almost 1,800 young people the opportunity to take part in a physical activity linked to a local club.

The challenge now comes with sustaining those clubs.

Finance;
Satellite clubs can charge their participant for weekly attendance. Consider different ways of applying a charge to your club.

Strategy
Pay as you play – a nominal charge per week to the young people that are in attendance.
Termly – Fixed fee for a number of weeks to be paid up front.

Tips
It would be advisable to speak to teachers or parents to have a discounted or free scheme for young people on free school meals, as payment could be a barrier to participation. Consider incentives – pay for 5 weeks and get your 6th free. Can the school access pupil premium to help extend the sessions?

Examples

Angmering School Boccia Club linked with Middleton Sports Club have charged £2 a week to allow them to work through the holidays and also to ensure that the club will run for another year.

The club are now looking at using that money to help fund the participants to become social members of the club so they can develop their social links and hopefully feel more included members of the group.

St Andrew’s CE High School for Boys – Table Tennis Satellite Club. The school had a number of students who were pupil premium students attending the satellite club. They also did GCSE PE and these students can be assessed through table tennis. This way the school consequently applied for an additional pupil premium fund which allowed the coach to be in for slightly longer at the satellite club session.
Sustaining your satellite club;

Supporting your volunteer workforce can help to sustain not just your satellite club but also your club sessions.

Gearing your coaching towards young people is essential to retention. Check out the Sports Coach UK series of short videos to better think about your audience.

Workforce

Upskill your workforce;
Training and development can help your club long term. By investing in your workforce we can help your coaches and volunteers to become upskilled and support your club structure in the longer term.

Strategy
Meet with the Active Sussex Coach Mentors or complete the survey that will be sent to all clubs. We will assess your coaches and you might be eligible to apply for a coaching bursary.

Tips
Understand your audience and deploy the right coaches for the right participants.

- What makes your session unmissable?
- What motivates young people to be active?
- How do you coach young people when life changes?

Examples

Angmering School Boccia Satellite club are paying for one of the members to complete their level 1 coaching award so they can take a more active role in session management and will help with the sustainability of the club.

Crawley Table Tennis Club
‘Our level 2 Coach is now studying for a level 3 coaching qualification. The cost of this is £1k. Our Coach contributed £500 we used £250 from the grant and the Club supported him with £250.’

Brighton Handball Club
‘The best thing about the satellite club was having the coach mentor involved, their knowledge of coaching children and their positive enthusiastic attitude towards sport. The observation of the sessions, coaches and club in general has been very welcome, supporting our strengths and looking at how we can grow both as a club and as coaches.’
Examples

Brighton Handball Satellite Club
‘We work closely with Brighton Handball Club. Players from the satellite training who reach the age 17/18 are offered to train with the senior team of Brighton Handball Club. Players normally are very excited to be asked to train with the senior team. From the satellite club trainings, there are 2 players that have been selected for the U16 and U18 GB trials. Brighton Handball Club is definitely growing as the senior teams are being fed with young players from the Satellite Sessions.’

St Andrew’s CE High School for Boys – Table Tennis Satellite Club.
The school have grown the club organically through more participants, the table tennis club is inclusive for all during lunchtimes. During afternoon registration there is an open session for gifted and talented students and then the after school satellite is specifically for the year 10 & 11 students.

Growth

Grow your club;
Increasing your attendance will help sustain your club and can help with financing your sessions.

Strategy
Understand your audience & their behaviours. Ask your participants what is important for them. Get ‘Under the Skin’ Sport England’s research around behaviours & motivations in young people.

Tips
Rewards participants for regular attendance – satellite club t shirts, kit & incentives for retention can help.
Encourage participants to bring a friend
Look into discounted club membership to encourage the transition.

Promote Your Club
Sign your club up to the Active Sussex Club Directory
http://sussex.sportsuite.co.uk/directory

Club Matters
Club Matters is Sport England’s one stop shop for sports clubs. Club Matters provides free, convenient, practical resources to help you develop and run a sustainable club.
http://www.sportenglandclubmatters.com/about-club-matters/
Use Our School

Use Our School is a resource to support schools in opening their facilities to the community and keeping them open.

It provides tried and tested solutions, real life practice, tips from people making it happen, and a range of downloadable resources.

https://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/use-our-school/

Partnership working

Mutual agreements - hosts and clubs
Consider the benefits of coaching from a local club for the students of a school. Given this potential great resource, can there be a mutual partner agreement with clubs using school / college facilities, not just for the satellite club sessions, but for wider club sessions?

Strategy
Clubs & schools to meet to determine what can be mutually beneficial.

Tips
Look at shared equipment deals. Can satellite clubs run at times when school / college staff are unable to provide clubs. Allow the community club to have extra space at the school / college facility as an in kind payment.

Examples

Crawley Table Tennis Club have been working with Thomas Bennett Community College

“We have established a good working relationship with a local school, they have access to facilities at K2, they have agreed that other youngsters can use their facilities at K2 as well as pupils from the school.”

Rye Boxing Club, England Boxing
The joint funded satellite club between England Boxing & Active Sussex included portable training equipment, which was stored with the host school throughout the duration of the club. Equipment & resources can benefit both schools & clubs.