

Investing directly in our clubs to grow grassroots MotorSport

What is it?

A new funding programme to support MotorSport NZ clubs to deliver quality events that strengthen participation and grow the sport at a grassroots level.

2026 Fund at a glance

- **Total fund:** \$100,000
- **Grant size:** \$500 – \$5,000 per club
- **Application windows:** 2 per year
- **Who can apply:** All MotorSport NZ-affiliated clubs
- **Application process:** Fast, easy application via the MotorSport NZ website

FY26 Funding Priority

Projects that **fill the entry field and strengthen the quality of existing events.**

What can be funded?

- ✓ Participation initiatives
- ✓ Items that help deliver a quality event
- ✓ Practical club-led ideas that deliver real impact

(Funding may be partially allocated to support more clubs)

Applications are OPEN

- 📅 **First application window opens today (open 23 March – 30 June)**
- 🌐 Apply via the MotorSport NZ website
- 🗣️ Successful projects will be shared to inspire other clubs

Club Assist Fund – Grant Rules & Guidelines

Funding Year: 2026

1. Purpose of the Club Assist Fund

The MotorSport New Zealand Club Assist Fund has been established to provide financial support to affiliated motor sport clubs to deliver projects that strengthen and grow motor sport at a grassroots level.

Each funding year, the Fund focuses on projects that align with MotorSport New Zealand's strategic priorities. For 2026, priority will be given to projects that increase participation in existing events and enhance the quality of event delivery.

The Fund supports projects that:

- a) increase participation in motorsport
- b) enhance the quality of club events and activities
- c) reduce barriers to entry; and
- d) align with MotorSport New Zealand's strategic priorities

2. Total Funding Available

For 2026, MotorSport New Zealand has committed a total funding pool of **\$100,000** to the Club Assist Fund.

The total funding pool for each year will be determined by the Board, taking into account the financial performance and overall financial position of MotorSport New Zealand.

Funding is distributed through **two application windows per year**, with grants approved and allocated within the available funding pool.

3. Who Can Apply

Applications are open to MotorSport New Zealand affiliated clubs that are current members and in good standing at the time of application.

Applications must be submitted by the club and authorised by its committee.

4. Grant Amounts

- **Minimum grant:** \$500
- **Maximum grant:** \$5,000 per application

MotorSport New Zealand may approve **partial funding** of an application to ensure funding can be distributed across as many clubs as possible.

5. What the Fund Can Support

The Club Assist Fund is intended to support **practical, club-led initiatives** that contribute to MotorSport New Zealand's strategic goals.

Examples of eligible projects may include:

- Initiatives designed to attract new participants to existing events
- Programs that lower barriers to entry for new or returning competitors
- Promotional or engagement activities that grow participation
- Equipment, resources, or services directly linked to delivering participation growth and quality event outcomes

Funding must be clearly defined, time-bound, and relate to an event during 2026 or within 6 months of the application date.

Funding will only be provided for specific, identifiable cost items and must be supported by a supplier quote or reimbursed on presentation of an invoice following delivery of the project.

6. What the Fund Will Not Support

The Fund will not support:

- Retrospective costs (expenses already incurred for past events)
- Ongoing operating costs not linked to a specific project
- Cash prizes or prize money
- Projects that do not demonstrate a clear benefit to participation, growth, or support quality delivery of an existing event.

7. Application Windows

There are **two application windows each year**.

For 2026 the first application window opens on Saturday 23 May and closes at 5pm on Tuesday 30 June 2026.

The second application window will open on Monday 31 August and closes at 5pm on Sunday 4 October.

Application opening and closing dates are published on the MotorSport New Zealand website and communicated directly to clubs. Applications must be submitted within the advertised window to be considered.

Late applications will not be accepted.

8. How Applications Are Assessed

Applications are assessed in two stages:

1. **Eligibility and completeness review** by the MotorSport New Zealand office
2. **Final funding decisions** are made by a MotorSport New Zealand Board sub-committee, based on recommendations from the office.

Funding Assessment will consider the following:

- Alignment with the current MotorSport New Zealand strategic focus on growth and participation.
- Clarity and feasibility of the proposed project
- Certainty of costs supported by either written quote or reimbursement via invoice
- Value for money relative to the scale of impact
- Demonstrated ability to deliver the proposed outcomes

9. Funding Decisions and Notification

Funding decisions are final.

All applicants will be advised of the outcome following the completion of the assessment process. Successful grants may be published by MotorSport New Zealand for transparency and to share examples of good practice across the club network.

10. Conditions of Funding

Clubs receiving funding agree to:

- Use the funds solely for the approved initiative
- Deliver the project as described in the submitted and approved application
- Provide a short post-project report outlining outcomes and impact (simple template supplied)
- Participate in sharing learnings or success stories where requested

Failure to meet these conditions may affect eligibility for future funding rounds.

11. Measuring Success

The success of the Club Assist Fund is measured by:

- The number of clubs supported
- The extent to which funded projects support MotorSport New Zealand's strategic objectives
- Evidence of increased participation in events, activities or engagement resulting from funded initiatives
- The quality and completeness of post project reporting provided by the funded clubs.

12. Further Information

Full details on application dates, forms, and supporting material are available on the MotorSport New Zealand website.

For questions regarding eligibility or the application process, clubs should contact the MotorSport New Zealand office.

Club Assist Fund – Is My Idea Eligible?

A quick self-check for clubs

Your idea is likely eligible if you can say YES to most of these:

- Our club is a **current MotorSport New Zealand–affiliated club**
- The funding is **new** (not something we've already paid for)
- The funding will help **attract new entrants** into our **existing** events
- The funding will help deliver a **quality event**
- The funding is for **something specific** (not ongoing operating costs)
- The funding is toward an **event in 2026** (or within 6 months of this application date)
- The amount we're requesting is between **\$500 and \$5,000**
- Our club committee has **endorsed** the application
- We're happy to provide a **short report** on what the project achieved

Your idea is unlikely to be eligible if:

- The costs have **already been incurred**
- The funding would be used for **general club operating expenses**
- The funding is mainly about **cash prizes or prize money**
- The idea doesn't clearly support **participation or event quality**
- The project can't realistically be delivered with volunteers or available resources
- The project has already received funding from MotorSport New Zealand (unless clearly justified)
- The project is not clearly defined or does not have a specific, identifiable outcome
- The project is not linked to a specific event or cannot be delivered within the required timeframe

✓ Still not sure?

- If your idea helps **fill the entry field** of an existing event, you should apply.
- If your funding will **improve the quality** of an existing event, you should apply.
- 🌐 Full details and applications are available via the **MotorSport NZ website**

Club Assist Fund – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Funding Year: FY26

What is the Club Assist Fund?

The Club Assist Fund is a new MotorSport New Zealand funding programme designed to support affiliated clubs to deliver practical projects and initiatives that strengthen participation and grow motor sport at a grassroots level.

Who can apply?

Any MotorSport New Zealand–affiliated club that is current and in good standing may apply. Applications must be endorsed by the club’s committee.

What is the funding focus for 2026?

For 2026, priority is given to projects that help **fill the entry field and strengthen the quality of existing events**.

How much funding can our club apply for?

Clubs can apply for grants between **\$500 and \$5,000** per application. Funding may be **partially allocated** so that more clubs can be supported across the funding year.

How many funding rounds are there each year?

There are **two application windows each year**. Application dates are published on the MotorSport New Zealand website and shared directly with clubs.

What types of things can be funded?

Eligible project funding may include:

- Participation initiatives aimed at attracting new or returning competitors
- Items that help deliver a quality events
- Entry-level engagement activities
- Practical, club-led projects that deliver participation or growth outcomes
- Promotion, marketing, or outreach activities aimed at attracting new participants
- Equipment or resources directly linked to increasing participation or improving event delivery
- Introductory or “have-a-go” initiatives designed to attract first-time participants

- Initiatives that reduce financial, logistical, or access barriers for new participants

Funding must be clearly defined, achievable, and delivered within the funding year (or within 6 months of the application date).

What won't be funded?

The Club Assist Fund does not support:

- Costs that have already been incurred for past events
- General club operating expenses
- Cash prizes or prize money
- Projects that do not clearly support participation or help deliver quality events
- Projects that are not clearly defined or do not have a specific, measurable outcome
- Funding requests that are not supported by clear and verifiable costs
- Projects that fall outside the specified funding timeframe
- Projects that have already received funding from MotorSport New Zealand for the same purpose (unless clearly justified)

Do we need to be a large club to apply?

No. Clubs of all sizes are encouraged to apply. The fund is designed to support a wide range of clubs and ideas, including smaller clubs with practical, well-targeted projects.

How long does the application take?

Most clubs should be able to complete the application in **15 minutes**, provided the project budget and funding request are clear.

How are applications assessed?

Applications are reviewed by the MotorSport New Zealand office to confirm eligibility and alignment with the funding focus. Final funding decisions are made by a Board funding subcommittee, based on recommendations from the office.

Can our club receive partial funding?

Yes. MotorSport New Zealand may offer partial funding where this allows more clubs to receive support or where a reduced amount is appropriate for the project scope.

When will we find out if we are successful?

All applicants will be notified after the assessment process for each application window has been completed. Indicative timeframes are provided upon receipt of your funding application.

Do successful clubs need to report back?

Yes. Clubs that receive funding are required to provide a short post-project report outlining what was delivered and what impact the funding had. This helps MotorSport New Zealand understand what works and share good ideas across the club network.

Will successful funding initiatives be shared publicly?

MotorSport New Zealand may publish successful outcomes from funding to promote transparency and to share good practice and ideas with other clubs.

Who can we contact if we have questions?

If you're unsure whether your idea is suitable or need help with the application process, contact the MotorSport New Zealand office. Staff are happy to help clubs understand the fund and put forward strong applications.

If we're unsure, should we still apply?

Yes. If your funding request will help **fill existing events**, **attract new entrants** or help deliver a **quality event**, you are encouraged to apply.