

In anticipation of tougher economic times ahead, community sport organisations will be increasingly aware of the prospect of: **reduced income** (from a squeeze on household finances); **increased costs** (resulting from inflation) ; and (as a result) **financial and time pressure on volunteers and members**.

By way of example, on average over the past five years<sup>1</sup>, **only 80% of members of sport clubs report being “actively engaged” in their club**. This could mean up to a 20% loss of subscription income if these members cease paying a subscription from their discretionary income.

So. here are **10 factors** to consider on how to prepare your community sport club to cope with the challenges the financial crisis will place on members and volunteers.

<sup>1</sup> National Sport Club Survey

1. **waive or reduce membership fees** for your club's on-field and off-field volunteers
2. consider **deferred subscription payment options** for on-field club participants
3. create **discounted fee options for inactive members** (no longer active on-field)
4. explore **loyalty payment/price options** with preferred equipment/gear suppliers
5. **seek financial relief** from local authorities/services providers
6. lobby your RSO/NSO for **reduced affiliation fees**
7. re-organise competitions to **reduce travel distances/costs**
8. focus more on **local player development** than inter-provincial development
9. **consider shared services** across clubs for core functions (e.g. governance)
10. **establish a used gear service** to offer playing gear for those who can't afford it

