



PODIUM CLUB RESOURCE HUB

SEPTEMBER 26TH 2025



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CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about the Podium Club 2025-2026 program, please contact:

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The Podium Club is committed to advancing wheelchair rugby in Canada through competition, inclusion, training, and leadership development. We look forward to supporting your club’s growth and success!



PODIUM CLUB

Podium Club 2025: Empowering Excellence in Wheelchair Rugby

The **Podium Club** is dedicated to fostering excellence, inclusivity, and growth within the Canadian wheelchair rugby community, reflecting our strategic commitment to these core values.

Access the Full Eligibility Criteria and Funding Details

Read More – Clickable Link ([APPENDIX A](#))

Funding Opportunities:

1. **Canadian Competition Support – Maximum Request \$3,000**
 - o Facilitates participation in domestic competitions, enhancing competitive excellence.
2. **GEID Recruitment & Retention - Maximum Request \$1,000**
 - o Promotes gender equity and diversity, ensuring an inclusive environment for all participants.
3. **Training Environment Access - Maximum Request \$2,000**
 - o Provides essential resources for optimal training environments, supporting athlete development.
4. **Training & Education - Maximum Request \$2,000**
 - o Invests in the continuous development of coaches, officials, and classifiers, fostering leadership within the sport.

Application Process:

- **Eligibility:** Applications will be accepted from:
 - o Wheelchair rugby clubs affiliated with provincial associations and Wheelchair Rugby Canada
 - o Provincial Wheelchair Rugby Associations
 - o Organizations that support the development of Wheelchair Rugby in the community
- **How to Apply:** Complete the online application form

ENGLISH
FORM

FRENCH
FORM

Key Dates:

- **Applications Open:** October 1, 2025
- **Applications Close:** October 15, 2025
- **Applications Reviewed:** October 20, 2025 – November 5, 2025
- **Funding Dispersed:** November 19, 2025
- **Final Reports Due:** March 20, 2025

Accountability & Reporting:

Funded clubs are required to provide an impact report and share success stories, contributing to the collective growth and visibility of wheelchair rugby in Canada.



APPENDIX A – Podium Club 2025 Overview Empowering Excellence in Wheelchair Rugby

INTRODUCTION

The Podium Club is a funding initiative by Wheelchair Rugby Canada designed to support wheelchair rugby clubs across the country. The program aims to enhance competition opportunities, promote equity and inclusion, improve training environments, and support the development of officials, classifiers, and coaches.

By providing targeted funding, the Podium Club helps the Wheelchair Rugby Community build strong and sustainable programs that contribute to the overall growth of wheelchair rugby in Canada.

ALIGNMENT WITH WHEELCHAIR RUGBY CANADA'S STRATEGIC PLAN

The **Podium Club 2025** directly supports the community-focused elements of **Wheelchair Rugby Canada's Strategic Plan**, reinforcing our commitment to increasing participation and building a strong culture in the sport.

- **Increase Participation – More quality events with more repeat participants across Canada**
The Podium Club provides funding to help clubs **host and attend competitions**, ensuring that more athletes have opportunities to engage in structured play. By supporting training environments and targeted recruitment efforts, we create a pathway for **more repeat participants**, strengthening the competitive landscape at the community level.
- **Build a Strong Culture – Safe and inclusive experiences consistently delivered**
Through the **GEID Recruitment & Retention** funding pillar; the Podium Club ensures that wheelchair rugby clubs across Canada create **welcoming and inclusive environments** for underrepresented groups. Investments in **training and education** ensure that coaches, officials, and classifiers are equipped to provide high-quality, safe, and sustainable experiences for all participants.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Eligible clubs can apply for funding in the following categories:

Theme	Description	Maximum Funding Request
Canadian Competition Support	Funding for clubs to host or attend domestic competitions Funding can cover costs such as facility rentals, travel, registration, and accommodation	\$3,000
GEID Recruitment & Retention	Supports initiatives focused on increasing participation among underrepresented groups. Encourages clubs to use the <u>Gender Equity Playbook</u> to implement best practices.	\$1,000
Training Environment Access	Provides financial assistance for training facilities and essential program equipment Supports clubs in creating a sustainable training environment	\$2,000
Training & Education	Funds professional development for coaches, officials, and classifiers Covers certification fees, training courses, and workshops	\$2,000

ELIGIBILITY

The following groups are eligible to apply for Podium Club funding:

- Wheelchair rugby clubs affiliated with provincial associations and Wheelchair Rugby Canada
- Provincial Wheelchair Rugby Associations
- Not for Profit organizations that support the development of Wheelchair Rugby in the community

Not eligible:

- Individuals
- For-profit organizations



APPLICATION PROCESS

1. **Complete the online application form** – Clubs must submit their request through the official Podium Club application portal.
2. **Provide a budget plan via email upon completion of online form** – A breakdown of how the requested funds will be used must be included in the application.
3. **Review & Approval** – Applications will be reviewed by the Wheelchair Rugby Canada Domestic Programs Committee and approved by Wheelchair Rugby Canada.

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Application Tips

Clarity and Detail:

Ensure the proposal provides clear and detailed information about the initiative and its direct impact on the community. While broad concepts are appreciated, it is important to include a thorough description of planned activities and clearly defined SMART goals.

Budget Justification:

Provide a realistic budget with as much detail as possible to ensure that funding will be meaningful, impactful, and transparent.

Sustainability:

Consider how the initiative will continue beyond the funding period. Will it support the purchase of long-term equipment? What measures are in place for sustained participation and funding?

Safety:

Applicants should demonstrate thoughtful consideration of physical, psychological, and cultural safety for all involved.

IMPACT REPORTING

Successful applicants will be required to complete an impact report detailing how the funding was used. This ensures transparency and accountability while helping Wheelchair Rugby Canada measure the effectiveness of the program.

More information on the reporting process will be communicated later.