



December 2022

## **IBU Research Grant Programme 2023/24 - Terms and conditions**

The IBU Research Grant Programme (RGP) aims to promote advanced research with a biathlon perspective by established researchers in priority fields of research identified annually by the IBU.

### **Programme overview**

The IBU RGP has been established to support research on biathlon. All research institutions and individual university professors, lecturers, and research fellows who have completed their doctorate and currently hold an academic/research appointment/affiliation covering the grant period (from submission of the application to delivery of the final report) are eligible to apply. Once completed, the study is shared with the 61 IBU member associations and is used for growth and development purposes.

The priority fields of research will be identified annually by the IBU Research Grant Working Group (RGWG) and generally should be relevant and specifically applicable to biathlon:

- Physiology
- Biomechanics
- Sports psychology
- Performance analysis
- High-performance pathways
- Long Term Athletes Development (LTAD)
- Sports Anthropometry
- Sports injuries/injury prevention (sports medicine)
- Sociology (gender equality)
- Nutrition
- New technologies
- Or other areas as agreed by the IBU Research Grant Working Group.

Applicants may apply on an individual or collective basis. In the second case, all research group members have to fulfil all the eligibility criteria. In addition, one member of the group should be nominated as the coordinator and remain the main contact person for the IBU. Interdisciplinary and intercultural collective applications are encouraged.

Grant holders will undertake to publish/disseminate their research results within the academic world. They will also undertake to ensure that all subsequent publications or productions, using all or part of the results obtained under the research grant's auspices, will appropriately acknowledge the IBU Research Grant Programme. Also, they will share with the IBU any such publications or productions.



Applications must reach IBU by 31 March to be considered. The IBU RGWG examines applications that meet the IBU Research Grant Programme requirements. The RGWG comprises a chairperson, representatives of the NFs and academics known internationally for their work connected with biathlon. In principle, the RGWG decides on the exact level of funding on a case-by-case basis (a maximum of €10,000 per individual grant, €20,000 for joint applications). The total budget is 50 000 EUR per cycle. The RGWG will generally award at least one grant to a project in the medical sciences. Applicants may not submit the same project proposal twice without having introduced significant changes. Nor may applicants submit more than one project during the same IBU Research Grant Programme cycle.

#### **IBU Research Grant Programme cycle 2022**

31 March 2023	Application deadline
30 April 2023	Applicants informed
May/June 2023	Introductory meeting, an agreement signed
30 November 2023	Researchers submit an interim report
15 February 2024	Researchers submit a financial report
30 April 2024	Researchers submit a final report
May/June 2024	Researchers present a final report to the IBU

#### **Information to the Applicants**

Applicants must upload the following supporting documents with their online application in the IBU Scope:

1. Researcher CV including profession, position in the institution, research areas and merits
2. Endorsement Letter - from Academic Institution/Research Centre and Member Federation.
3. Budget and Budget Justification

Researchers are requested to submit a budget justification to explain and justify the expenses outlined in the proposal budget. The researcher should accurately reflect the costs of the proposed research project. The budget justification provides the IBU and the RGWG with information about why costs are necessary and how they are calculated.



IBU Research Grants programme intend to cover the following direct costs:

- Travels- relevant to the research project
- Investigators allowance (the approximate working hours of the investigator) – this amount is not allowed to be more than 50 % of the total IBU funding
- Specialised software
- Supplies and equipment directly related to the project
- Writing/publication expenses

Funding not supported by the IBU Research Grants programme includes:

- Salaries
- Taxes
- Tuition fees
- Institutional overhead
- Expenses incurred before the effective date of the grant
- Living expenses
- Miscellaneous expenses not presented in the application
- Fees paid for external consultant or vendor

### **Assessment criteria for the applications**

Applications are assessed in terms of:

1. Relevance of research questions and their application to biathlon.
2. Benefits of research results for biathlon athletes, coaches or entourage members.
3. Originality and innovation of the research subject in biathlon research or added value to existing biathlon research.
4. Quality of the project and publication possibilities in an international journal.
5. Research applicability for training and performance.

### **Process of selection**

IBU Research Grant Working Group (RGWG) will evaluate the applications for research grants. This group consists of:

1. The delegated member of the Development Reference Group
2. The IBU Development Director



3. The IBU Education Manager
4. The delegated member of the IBU Academy Expert Group
5. 3 Experienced Academics

The RGWG recommends the list of awardees and research focuses to the IBU, who will confirm the awarding of the grants. The RGWG members are not allowed to be part of a project within the RGP application process, which could be deemed a conflict of interest.

### **Monitoring and Reporting on Research Grants**

A Research Grants Agreement will be signed between the IBU and the grant awardee - individual academic or institution - which covers the following areas:

1. Focus of research
2. Research question(s)
3. Methodology
4. Expected outcomes/findings and their applicability to biathlon
5. KPIs against stages of the project
6. Allocation of grant/part of grant against KPIs or stages
7. Confidentiality and communication
8. Publication rights

The RGWG will monitor progress against the research plan of each project.

Researchers awarded grants by the IBU will have to deliver:

- **Interim Report:** The Institution shall ensure that the Researcher provides the IBU with an interim report according to the project cycle. This interim report will consist of a description of the project development, including an explanation of any major changes in the Research Project since submission of the application form to the IBU; an updated working schedule, description of the work already done, ongoing and to be done until the completion of the Research project; the identification of any difficulties the Researcher faces in conducting the Research Project; and a general overview of the expenses incurred thus far (2,000 words maximum). The interim report will be provided to the IBU Scope no later than 30 November 2023.
- **Financial Report:** The Institution has to provide a financial report consisting of all expenses and costs for the projects no later than 15 February 2024 via IBU Scope.



- **A Final Research Report** will be provided to the IBU Scope no later than 30 April 2024. The Final Research Report should include a cover sheet and a table of contents, and be presented on A4 paper, numbered consecutively, typed in Arial size 12 font, and using single line spacing. It will be made up of three (3) documents, which shall comprise:

The first document (a maximum of 20 pages)

- An abstract (600 words maximum) and a list of keywords;
- An executive summary including a short description of the research topic and objectives and highlighting the main findings, conclusions and, if appropriate, recommendations (approx. 1,200 – 2,000 words);
- The report, including the research subject and objectives; the methodology applied; and a detailed presentation of the findings, conclusions, and, if appropriate, recommendations of the research project;
- The annexes, including any additional information of interest for the project. If the Researcher's report includes quotes from interviews, written consent from the participants quoted must be provided in a separate document.

Second document

- A PowerPoint presentation with an infographic presentation summarising the objectives, methodology, and findings of the research project (poster presentation).

Third document

- A financial accounting report for all funds provided by the IBU. The Institution shall keep for one (1) year from the end date complete and accurate receipts for expenses and provide copies of the same to the IBU on the IBU's written request in such format as the IBU may reasonably require.

The Institution will present the final report to the IBU no later than 30 June 2024.

The Institution shall ensure that the Researcher will publish and/or disseminate the Project Research results in the academic world.

The Institution shall ensure that all subsequent publications or productions by the Institution or by the Researcher, using in whole or in part the results obtained under the auspices of the research grant, will appropriately acknowledge the IBU and that the Researcher shares with the IBU any such publications or productions.

Applications and final reports must be written in English.



### **Contact Person**

For more information about the IBU Research Grant programme and assistance on the research grants application process, please contact IBU Education Manager Dr Gerold Sattlecker at [gerold.sattlecker@ibu.at](mailto:gerold.sattlecker@ibu.at)