

A CHANGING LANDSCAPE

2022

Membership numbers continued to decline year on year due to the financial constraints within schools.

Rounders England made the decision to withdraw the membership and offer a free affiliation to provide all schools and youth groups the resources to teach Rounders in schools or group settings.

2023

Resources were added to an affiliation package. It required the adult to sign up to the education affiliation mailing list to allow us to communicate with school leaders directly. This means that we are able to offer other services such as workforce training and equipment.

Due to the success of the affiliation it was decided that we would use this offer at key conferences such as the Youth Sport Trust and other Active Partnership conferences to further expand our reach. With flyers including a direct link to sign up we are optimistic the number of schools will continue to grow across 2024.



ROUNDERS E-LEARNING COURSES

2024

Playing Fields
Stoughton Road, Oadby
Leicester, LE2 4FS

10:00AM - 4:00PM

£35-65 / Team

YR 5 / 6 MIXED

Through key discussions with our equipment provider they have agreed to insert a version of this leaflet into all school orders for 2024. As a main distributor for schools across England we aim to reach other schools and drive awareness of the resources available.

School Type Impact

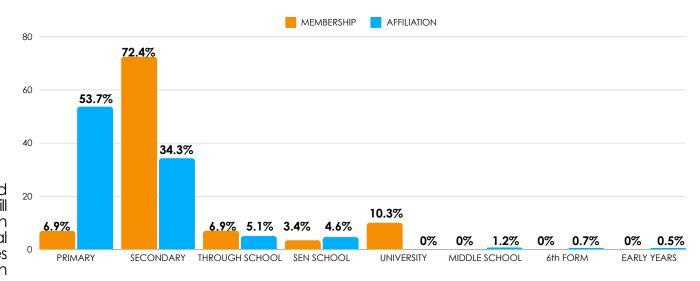


1389.7% increase in engagement

Of the 29 schools 61.5% were State Schools 38.5% were Independent Schools

Of the 432 schools 94.6% are State Schools 5.4% are Independent Schools

The 33.1% increase in engaged State Schools could demonstrate that the rounders educational resources will be used by schools that wouldn't have previously been able to access those resources, when the educational membership cost was a barrier. By making the resources free the gap between state and independent schools can be narrowed in Rounders



Over 50% of children fail to achieve at least 60 minutes of physical activity per day (Get Active Government Sport Strategy, DCMS, 2023). By having these resources free to access, Rounders England are helping schools provide the opportunity to be active to all. For some children, school is the only place they can access physical activity opportunities (Youth Sport Trust, 2023).

ELITE COMPETITION NATIONAL COMPETITION **REGIONAL COMPETITION**

The increase in the number of engaged schools could represent how more schools of all types are accessing the rounders learning resources available, making the progression of rounders bottom up, similar to the 'grass roots to elite sport' development pyramid (UK Coaching 2019).

SPORTS CLUBS - LOCAL COMPETITION **SCHOOL SPORT & PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Geographical Impact

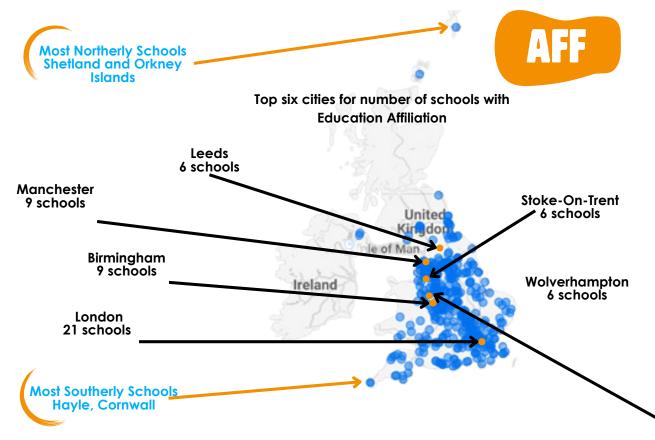


Top 5 counties Lincolnshire 4 Cheshire 3 Surrey 2 Essex 2 Somerset 2



There were member schools located in 27 different cities, with 2 in Grantham.

The maps show how not only have the numbers increased, but the geographical spread has increased too. This links to the Grow post of focus in the Rounders:Reconnected strategy because more children and their teachers (and potentially indirectly their families and friends) have the opportunity to play rounders for fun. It will also increase the number of people participating, which links to the aim to have 1 million people playing by 2032.



Top 5 counties are

Lancashire 30 West Yorkshire 27 West Midlands 27 London 21 Bedfordshire 16 There are 62 cities with two or more schools with Education Affiliation.

There are 47 counties across the UK with two or more schools with Education Affiliation.

Geographical Impact



In the previous membership, all schools that were part of the paid membership were based in England.



Results demonstrate that the number of engaged schools has increased with the new Education Affiliation, as well as the geographical spread too.

Schools from 12 different countries have access to the education resources.

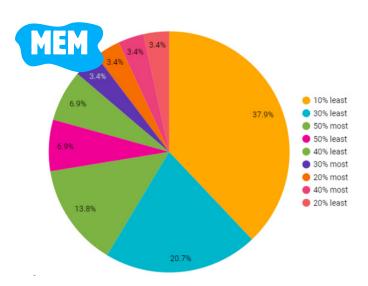
- England 411
- Northern Ireland 3
- Romania 1
- United Arab Emirates 1
- Hong Kong 1
- -Germany 1

- Wales 8
- -Scotland 2
- Gibraltar 1
- Uganda 1
- China 1
- Tanzania 1

All the affiliated schools from countries outside the UK are Independent Schools.

If the growth of rounders continues, as more countries and schools get involved, the more opportunities there will be for international matches between schools. This is benefitted by the schools having access to Rounders England rules and will help ensure consistency across different countries.

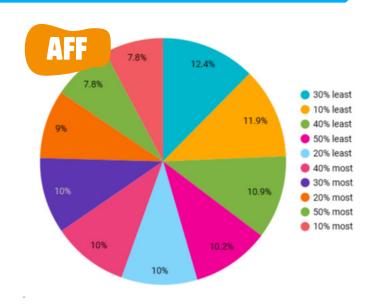
Deprivation



In the previous membership:

- no schools were from the most deprived areas (10% most)
- only 6.8% were in areas IMD 1-3

The above demonstrates that those receiving the resources were from less deprived areas and that schools in areas IMD 1-3 were benefitting less from the paid Education Membership.



In the current affiliation:

• 26.8% of schools are in areas IMD 1-3.

This shows that those in the most deprived areas (IMD 1-3) are benefitting more with the current Education Affiliation, as their teachers can access free resources to use during curricular and extra curricular lessons, and passing on the knowledge of rounders.

Measured using the Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2019 across England only. Places a postcode into one of 32,844 areas, with 1 being the most deprived and 32,844 being the least deprived. Standard practice places areas in IMD 1-3 (10% most, 20% most, 30% most) as being classified as the most deprived.

Multiple deprivation includes all measures of deprivation, incl income, employment, health, income affecting children etc

Rounders:Reconnected (2022) Looks to GROW the sport which looks at tackling the deprivation inequality that exists when accessing paid resources. By making these resources free we have reached a whole demographic that was previously excluded from the Rounders England offer.

Get Active Government Sport Strategy (DCMS, 2023) aims to reduce child inactivity and aims to meet the Chief Medical Officer Guidelines of 60 minutes per day. Having these resources available to those in more deprived areas, specifically those from lower affluence families, will help improve their physical activity levels. Children from families in these areas are the least active compared to children from medium and high affluence families (Sport England, 2023).

Supporting Wider Strategies

Get Active Government Sport Strategy (DCMS, 2023)

"To improve the quality and access to PE and school Sport"

Making these resources free, more schools are accessing them, which improves the quality of rounders sessions and gives more children access to play rounders in PE and school clubs.

"ensuring that NGB pathways are accessible and inclusive, and connected with the school, club and community sport provision that precedes and surrounds them."

By having the resources free to access, the pathway is accessible and inclusive of deprivation barriers, and can be connected with the school provision of PE and extracurricular activities.

"launch a review of the sport offer in schools outside of curriculum PE"

The 429 schools will have an improved rounders offer in their school sport, meaning more children will be getting active, meeting Chief Medical Officer guidelines and finding a physical activity that they enjoy. Indirect positive benefits include being more likely to be physically active as an adult due to a strong link between childhood and adult physical activity levels (Craigie et al., 2011).

Uniting the Movement (Sport England, 2021)

Explains that the opportunities to get involved with sport and physical activity depend too much on your background, gender, bank balance and postcode. By making these resources free to access and having all types of schools from all areas of deprivation accessing them, it removes background, gender, bank balance and postcode barriers. For children who only participate in sport and physical activity at school, this is even more important.

"current inequalities in sport and activity start at a young age and need to be addressed " Having free access to the resources in schools is a positive step towards reducing the inequalities and barriers faced by children. To highlight the demand for rounders, in the previous 12 months, 23.7% of pupils had participated in rounders (either lesson or extracurricular) at least once (Denovan and Dagnall, Youth Sport Trust, 2023). Again, having free resources will ensure the game is being taught to all, and played to the Rounders England rules.

Not only are there direct benefits of a free Education Affiliation, but indirect benefits exist, even though they are not measured. Indirect benefits may include those evidenced in scientific research, such as mental toughness, self-efficacy and happiness (Denovan and Dagnall, Youth Sport Trust, 2023). Other evidence suggests that meeting the Chief Medical Officer guidelines of 60 minutes per day can improve a child's mood, behaviour and schoolwork (Sheffield Hallam University, 2020).

CONCLUSION

The benefits of free education resources are both direct and indirect, and the positive change can be further reaching than just the school environment. There has been a significant impact by removing the cost barrier.