

**Useful apps, websites and online tools for clubs**

The number of online tools available to clubs is constantly growing. Although they can be daunting to start with, a small time investment in learning a new online tool can make life much quicker and simpler for clubs and volunteers in the long-run.

New sites and tools appear so quickly that it’s hard to maintain a perfect list, but here are some that we know other clubs are already finding useful. If you have any questions, feel free to contact

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|  | [www.instagram.com](http://www.instagram.com)  Instagram has now overtaken Twitter in terms of monthly active users. You can post pictures and videos from events, training sessions etc, and share them with your followers. Unlike Twitter there’s no limit to post length, so you can use multiple hashtags to attract people to your posts. Instagram is a huge and growing network, so it’s worth putting the time in to get to grips with it. |
|  | [www.google.co.uk/forms/about](http://www.google.co.uk/forms/about)  Google Forms is an amazing tool that was launched early in 2014. It’s free and powerful, ideal for anyone who needs to gather information about almost anything. Clubs have already been using this tool to quickly build surveys, questionnaires and athlete availability forms. Google Forms can be found in Google Drive next to the word processor, spreadsheet and presentation apps. All you need to do is sign up for Gmail and off you go. The gem is that the responses from your forms drop directly into an Excel spreadsheet, saving lots of time for volunteers. More information and guidance below to get started:   * <http://www.wikihow.com/Create-a-Form-Using-Google-Drive> * <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wwf72lwPLVY> |

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|  | [www.hootsuite.com](http://www.hootsuite.com)  This clever online tool allows you to manage all your social media accounts from one place and lets you plan ahead and schedule/time your tweets or messages. This will come in handy to schedule reminders for events in advance. It’s free to use the entry-level package of three users, which should be more than enough for clubs. |
|  | [www.topsy.com](http://www.topsy.com)  Topsy is a social media search engine that lets you search Tweets in more detail than Twitter’s own search engine. It’s useful for getting a clearer view of what people are saying about your club on Twitter (good and bad!) and carrying out more detailed searches, such as tracking the popularity of a particular keyword over time. There’s more information here:  <http://anderspink.com/6-reasons-to-use-topsy-the-free-twitter-social-analytics-tool/> |
|  | [www.strikingly.com](http://www.strikingly.com) [www.wordpress.com](http://www.wordpress.com) [www.squarespace.com](http://www.squarespace.com)  There are lots of applications out there to help you build your own website for free or a small charge – these are three commonly-used examples. With lots of free templates you can create your own professional website quickly and easily. Check them out if your club needs a website revamp. |
|  | [www.paysubsonline.com](http://www.paysubsonline.com)  Online membership management software with ideas for fundraising. The website allows clubs to collate membership online and process payments (option of direct debt or pay by installments). The beauty of this software is that it was built with sports teams and clubs in mind. It’s popular among larger clubs, with a £75 annual licence fee for up to 500 members and small charges for each transaction donated to the company – you can choose whether the member or the club to picks up the difference. |
|  | [www.teamer.net](http://www.teamer.net)  A simple and free way to send out emails/texts to athletes ahead of competitions. You can drop in email addresses from existing email distribution lists or Excel spreadsheets. If you use Google forms as listed above you can copy and paste phone numbers/email addresses into this online team organiser. Very useful for team managers to contact athletes with reminders ahead of league matches - for example, team bus times and pick up location. |
|  | [www.fundingscotland.com](http://www.fundingscotland.com)  An easy-to-use free search engine to find funding opportunities by geographic location for charities, community groups and small enterprises. From small grants to funding for big capital projects, Funding Scotland can help you track down funding you need to make a difference to your club. |
|  | [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)  Eventbriteenables anyone to create, promote, and sell event tickets, while also helping people discover and share events that match their interests. A great way for clubs to promote events to their wider community. |
|  | [www.doodle.com](http://www.doodle.com)  Doodle simplifies scheduling meetings, a useful tool for groups of people with busy diaries – ideal for clubs trying to get together coaches, volunteers, etc. |