



## B-NETTING MATCHING GRANT CHAIR REPORT 2023-2024

For 2023-24 season, PARA awarded \$5,320 in matching grants to clubs to support their B-net purchases. Clubs awarded PARA grants also leveraged another \$6,250 in additional matching grants from the Kelley Brush Foundation. **KBF's deadline this year is June 28, 2024.**

This year was the first time that matching grant requests from clubs exceeded the PARA program budget. Clubs requested a total of \$7,320 from PARA, and the Directors approved a budget of \$4,000 (a reduction from the \$6,000 approved in prior years).

**Elk won a KBF grant and requested \$2,000 from PARA after all of the budgeted funds were allocated. The Executive Committee agreed to delay payment of the match for Elk until the coming season.**

A such, the Netting Chair recommends that PARA **change the application process** from the current rolling, and first-come/first-served application **process to one with specific application deadlines**, and that **we restore the program funding to \$6,000**. A motion to make the above changes is attached.

Club:	Club Funds:	KBF Award:	Requested from PARA:	PARA Award:
PASEF	\$1,320	\$1,250	\$1,320	\$1,320
HVRT	\$6,100	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Montage	\$4,048	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
<b>ELK</b>	<b>\$3,288.66</b>	<b>\$2,250.00</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

This was the 9<sup>th</sup> year of the PARA Ski Racing Safety Matching Grants Initiative, and the program has been very successful. PARA has spent roughly \$18,000 over 9 years and that has resulted in roughly \$80,000 in B-netting purchased – a more than 3.5x leveraging of PARA funds.

The program further leverages club and PARA resources, as clubs are eligible for special discounted KBF pricing on the nets when they are awarded a KBF grant. Nine of the twelve times PARA awarded a club a grant, that club also applied for and won KBF funds.

### Results to Date:

Year:	Club:	Club Funds:	PARA Match:	KBF Match:	Total Purchase:
2023	PASEF	\$1,320	\$1,320	\$1,250	\$3,890
2023	HVRT	\$6,100	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$13,100



2023	Montage	\$4,048	\$2,000	\$0	\$6,048
2022	WPRC	\$1,995	\$1,995	\$3,989	\$7,978
2022	Montage	\$515	\$515	\$1,030	\$2,060
2022	SRRC	\$1995	\$1995	\$3,000	\$6,990
2019	Montage	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$1,500
2017	Tussey	\$1930	\$1930	\$3,860	\$7,820
2016	SRRC	\$1442	\$1442	\$0	\$2,884
2015	WPRC	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$8,000
2015	Elk	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$6,000
2015	SRRC	\$500	\$500	\$0	\$1,000
2014	PARA*	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000	\$12,000
<b>Totals To Date:</b>		<b>\$29,845</b>	<b>\$17,697</b>	<b>\$31,629</b>	<b>\$79,171</b>

**Background:**

In 2015, PARA implemented a grant program to provide matching funds for ski racing safety equipment (i.e. B-nets, etc.) for clubs who apply to the program and meet specific funding criteria. Grants are paid directly to the vendor supplying the nets after the club pays its portion of the funds (following the KBF model). The full program description is on the PARA website here: <https://paracing.org/para-ski-racing-safety-matching-grants-initiative>

The Netting Chair can also provide clubs seeking a KBF grant with successful examples of KBF grants the chair has written on behalf of PARA, etc. to help improve the club’s chances of being awarded a KBF grant.

Thank you to all of those who have taken the time to apply for KBF grants to make PARA resources go further and increase ski racing safety in the state. For more information about the program see the PARA website, and feel free to contact the Netting Chair directly if you have any questions or would like examples of successful KBF applications.

Sincerely,

Kurt Zwally  
 B-Netting Grants Chair, 2015 to present  
 Vice President, 2009 to present  
[vicepresident@paracing.org](mailto:vicepresident@paracing.org)



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## PROPOSAL TO RESTRUCTURE THE AWARDS PROCESS FOR THE B-NETTING MATCHING GRANT INITIATIVE

### Summary:

- To restructure the PARA application process for the B-Netting Matching Grant Initiative so as to give a priority to those clubs that also commit to apply for a Kelly Brush Foundation (KBF) matching grant that same year, and
- To restore the program funding to the \$6,000 per year. Elk already has already submitted a request for \$2,000 from the prior season which PARA did not award due to the budget limitations.

The goal of the first change is to ensure that clubs applying to KBF actually request that KBF match the **combined amount** of funds provided by **both PARA and those from the club** so as to quadruple limited PARA funding (i.e. \$2,000 from the club is matched by \$2,000 from PARA, and the club asks KBF to match that combined amount with another \$4,000.)

### Motion:

Specifically, to change PARA's current rolling and first-come-first served application process to two funding rounds with specific application deadlines for each round.

Round 1 applications would be due to the Executive Committee before the June KBF application deadline each year.

Round 1 awards by PARA would be conditional on successful award of a KBF grant that matches the combined total of both the club and PARA funds (not just matching the club funds).

Club applications to the Executive Committee would be required to specify the following:

- Total dollar value the of netting or safety equipment to be purchased at KBF pricing;
- Amount of funds to be provided by the club;
- Match requested from PARA; and
- Amount the club intends to request from KBF (i.e. double the two amounts above);

Round 2: applications would be due September 30<sup>th</sup> (after KBF award decisions are made); and would be subject to PARA funds remaining after Round 1 awards are made.

The Executive Committee will announce the application deadlines for Round 1 by no later than the Spring Meeting each year. For the 2024-25 budget year, the Round 1 application deadline would be [COB Friday 5/25/24 with Exec Comm decisions communicated to clubs by 6/3/24]. **KBF's deadline this year is June 28, 2024.**