



ESTABLISHING AN EQUIPMENT SWAP SCHEME



INTRODUCTION

Football Clubs regularly generate unnecessary waste through unused or outgrown equipment, particularly boots, training gear and kit that are still in good condition. This is especially common in youth football, where players quickly outgrow items.

A boot and equipment swap scheme is a simple and effective way to reduce waste, support families, and promote a more circular approach within your Club.

By keeping equipment in use for longer, Clubs and parents can reduce costs, minimise environmental impact and strengthen their community.

This resource will support your Club to:

- Understand the benefits of running a boot and equipment swap.
- Plan and organise a successful swap event or scheme.
- Encourage reuse and reduce unnecessary waste.
- Engage players, parents and volunteers in sustainability.
- Support circular economy principles within your Club.





BENEFITS

Why Run a Boot and Equipment Swap?

A swap scheme allows club members to donate and exchange items such as boots, shin pads, training kit and other equipment.

This can help your Club to:

- Reduce waste by extending the life of equipment.
- Lower costs for players and families.
- Support inclusion by making football more accessible.
- Promote a culture of reuse and sustainability.
- Engage the wider Club community in positive action.

Swap schemes are particularly effective for youth teams, where equipment turnover is high.



Together Greener Programme

SETTING UP

Planning Your Swap Scheme

Clubs can choose to run a one-off event or introduce a regular swap system throughout the season.

Choosing Your Approach

Clubs may consider:

- A free swap, where all items are donated and taken at no cost.
- A small entry fee to support Club fundraising.
- A low-cost sale model, with clear communication in advance.

Whichever approach is chosen, it is important that expectations are clearly communicated to all participants.





SWAP EVENTS

Preparing for a Swap Event

Good preparation will help ensure your swap scheme runs smoothly.

Clubs should:

- Set a clear date, time and location.
- Promote the event through team groups, social media and newsletters.
- Organise a collection period for donated items in advance.
- Encourage teams, parents and volunteers to support collection.
- Only accept items that are clean and in good condition to ensure quality and usability.

Running the Swap

On the day of the event, organisation and layout are key.

Clubs should:

- Sort items by type and size in advance.
- Clearly display boots, clothing and equipment.
- Ensure there is enough space for members to browse comfortably.
- Have volunteers available to support and manage the event.

Creating a welcoming and well organised environment will encourage participation and repeat engagement.





LEFT OVER ITEMS

What to Do with Leftover Items

It is important to plan ahead for any items that are not taken during the swap.

Clubs can:

- Store items for future swap events.
- Donate equipment to local charities or community groups.
- Work with partner organisations to redistribute items.

This ensures that equipment continues to be used and avoids unnecessary waste.

A boot and equipment swap scheme is a practical example of the circular economy in action.

By keeping products in use for longer, Clubs can:

- Reduce demand for new equipment.
- Minimise waste generation.
- Promote more sustainable behaviours.

Over time, swap schemes can become a regular part of club activity and culture.





FURTHER SUPPORT

Introducing a boot and equipment swap scheme is a simple and impactful way for your Club to reduce waste and support its members. By encouraging reuse, Clubs can lower costs, improve accessibility and take meaningful action on sustainability.

You do not need to create a large-scale event immediately. Start with a small pilot, such as one team or age group, and build the scheme over time based on what works for your Club.

Use what you have learned in this resource to:

- Inform one of your Green Goals,
- Introduce or trial a boot and equipment swap scheme,
- Support your Club's Waste Action Plan,
- Engage players, parents and volunteers in sustainable practices,

Even small initiatives, such as swapping boots within a single team, can prevent valuable equipment from going to waste and contribute to a more sustainable future for football in Wales.

Further information on Waste can be found at www.faw.cymru/TogetherGreener-waste

If you require support with this resource, please contact sustainability@faw.cymru