



# RISE.

## Case Study - Together Fund

### Marek

Marek (from Poland) came to the UK in 2007 and currently lives in Sunderland. He found out about ICOS Sports & joined (in June 2021) shortly after the group's formation. He became our community member, mainly because he could meet new people and actively participate in sports and recreational sessions. Marek has so far taken part in many different group activities, incl. Air Rifle, Archery, Go-Karting, Paintball and our family picnics.

When asked about his favourite sport session, he replied:

"Archery and Paintball. Each of them allows meeting people in a nice atmosphere. I have always wanted to learn Archery, and ICOS Sports provided me the perfect opportunity."

Marek also said that our initiative positively impacts the entire region: "The initiative allows to meet and integrate people from different backgrounds and nationalities. Thanks to this, I can actively spend time testing new sports sections & activities offered by ICOS Sports 😊. I hadn't found a group/organization before which did so many things"

We also wanted to know how the coronavirus pandemic affected his private and professional life. He stated that he could use the lockdown time that kept him at home to devote himself entirely to raising his son and spending time with him.

We entered Marek into the funding plan for the Archery sessions, which will take place in November. Marek said that he always wanted to learn to shoot a bow. The additional financial support is an excellent addition, especially during the time of constant increased in the price of gas, electricity, food and fuel.

An activity like Archery has its mentor (an experienced archer) assigned to it, who passes his knowledge and experience on to others. Marek uses this person's help as best he can.

