

Blackheath Cricket Club – Membership & Subscriptions

Introduction

This document proposes changes to our Membership and Subscriptions structure to address two specific problems:-

1. Late or non-payment of annual subscriptions.

The Treasurer and captains spend a lot of time chasing players for their annual subscriptions because there's little incentive to "get around to it". We can threaten non-selection for non-payers, but in practice we need 22 players every Saturday.

2. Potential "occasionals" who don't join the club as playing members.

Our £80 annual subscription makes membership unattractive to them, and as a result either they don't play at all, or we don't chase them for a subscription.

As we move towards Clubmark certification we need to ensure that our membership procedures are better organised and that all our players are also club members. In particular, by allowing "non-members" to use our facilities and buy drinks from the bar we are infringing our licence, our insurance, and heaven knows what else.

This proposal:-

- Encourages all players to become members by greatly increasing the cost of playing as a non-member (apart from newcomers, who are still encouraged).
- Encourages occasional players by making their membership cheaper
- Encourages frequent players to play more by limiting their membership costs.
- Formalises the process of becoming a member.

Membership

Membership Secretary

Membership Secretary will become a formal executive post within the club, with a place on the Committee. His job, in simple terms, is to maintain a register of paid-up club members. This will require close liaison with the Treasurer and so for the first year Richard Brocksom has agreed to do both jobs.

Registration

In order to be listed as a member of the club, an individual must complete a club registration form and pay an annual subscription. This can be done by:-

- Either, filling out an online form on the website and paying electronically using debit card, credit card, or Paypal account.
- Or, filling in a paper form and handing it, together with cheque or cash, to the Membership Secretary (or placing it in an agreed secure location in the pavilion).

Members will be invited to register from around 1st February each year, with frequent reminders as the season approaches.

Membership Cards

The Membership Secretary will confirm membership by issuing a Membership Card, showing the member's name, membership type and match fees payable (see below).

Only those who have registered and paid are members, and their card proves it.

Register of Members

A list will be posted on the club website and the pavilion noticeboard showing who is a paid-up club member, and it should also show those who have played but aren't (yet) members.

Subscriptions & Match Fees

Member Type	Annual Subscription	Match Fee
Non-member		£30
<i>Until you have registered and paid your subscription you are a non-member</i> Newcomers to the club can play TWO introductory games FREE		
Playing member – Standard Option	£80	£10
Playing member – Occasional Option	£30	£15
Playing member – Frequent Option	£250	NIL
<i>Anyone can choose any option, regardless of how often they play, but...</i> -- Those intending to play fewer than 10 games will find the Occasional Option cheaper. -- Those intending to play more than 17 games will find the Frequent Option cheaper.		
Junior non-member		£10
Junior member – Standard Option	£30	£3
Junior member – Frequent Option	£70	NIL
<i>A junior is anyone 21 or younger on 1st September of preceding year. This is intended to include all players up to the end of their undergraduate studies (assuming a “year off” before university) regardless of whether they go to university or go out to work.</i>		
Social member	£5	

Match Days

Captains no longer need to chase annual subscriptions, because only a fool would play without paying one. However, collection of match fees becomes slightly more complicated because of the greater variety of match fees. This is where the Membership Card comes in. The rules regarding payment of match fees are simple:-

- Show your Membership Card to the captain so that knows what you should pay.
- No card means you pay the £30 non-member match fee.

Captains can, of course, use their discretion. If somebody showed their card last week but forgot it this week, fair enough. However, if in doubt demand to see the card.

“I’ll pay my subs next week” must under no circumstances be an excuse for paying a lower match fee. If you’re not a member TODAY then you pay £30 match fee. The only exceptions are complete newcomers to the club who get two free games.