



MEMBERSHIP POLICY

(November 2025)

Hartlepool Sportability Club (Charity No. 1057160)

Website: www.hartlepoolsportabilityclub.co.uk

INTRODUCTION

Hartlepool Sportability Club welcomes members aged 16 and over with physical, sensory, or learning disabilities who wish to enjoy inclusive sport, fitness, and social activities in a safe, friendly, and supportive environment.

This policy outlines the criteria, expectations, and processes relating to membership of the club.

AIMS OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership is designed to:

- Provide access to weekly coached sports and physical activity sessions.
- Promote health, wellbeing, friendship, and fun.
- Ensure all members participate in a safe and respectful environment.
- Support the club's sustainability through membership contributions.

ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to:

- Individuals aged 16+ with physical, sensory, or learning disabilities.
- Individuals who are able to participate independently or with the support of a parent/carer.
- People who agree to follow club rules and this Membership Policy.

Members with severe learning disabilities must attend sessions with a parent or carer to ensure their safety and wellbeing.

JOINING THE CLUB

To become a member, individuals must:

- Complete the membership form

- Provide emergency contact details and relevant medical or support information.
- Pay the membership fee via standing order.
- Agree to the club's policies, including Code of Conduct, Health & Safety Policy, and Photography & Video Policy.
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Support will be offered to anyone who needs help completing the forms.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The membership fee is: £20 per month, paid by standing order.

Membership fees help cover the weekly running cost of the club

(Reduced or supported fees may be considered in exceptional circumstances at the discretion of the committee.

WHAT MEMBERS RECEIVE

Members gain access to:

- Weekly coached sport and fitness sessions every Tuesday evening.
- A wide range of activities such as football, basketball, boccia, tennis, dance, fitness suite access, pool, bowls, and more.
- Annual competitions, fun events, and social activities.
- Support from qualified coaches, volunteers, and committee members.
- An inclusive community that values fun, fitness, and friendship.

MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Members are expected to:

- Respect fellow members, volunteers, and staff.
- Follow the Code of Conduct and all club policies.
- Inform the club of any relevant medical, support, or access needs.
- Use equipment safely and follow coach or volunteer guidance.
- Behave in a manner that reflects the values of the club.

Members who require personal support (e.g., communication, mobility, personal care) must attend with an appropriate carer.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION

Members are encouraged to attend regularly to gain the most benefit from the club.

If a member cannot attend for a period of time, the club should be notified so that appropriate arrangements can be considered if needed.

No member will be excluded due to temporary illness or injury, and alternative ways to participate will be offered where possible.

TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership may be suspended or revoked if:

- A member repeatedly breaches the Code of Conduct.
- Their behaviour places themselves or others at risk.
- They bring the club into disrepute, as determined by the committee.

The committee will always act fairly and sensitively and will communicate clearly with the member and/or their carer before any decision is made.

All final decisions rest with the Hartlepool Sportability Club Committee.

DATA PROTECTION AND PRIVACY

All membership information is handled in accordance with the club's Privacy Policy and GDPR requirements.

Personal details are stored securely in Wix and the club's Gmail account, and paper membership forms are kept securely at the Headland Sports Centre.

RENEWAL AND REVIEW

Membership is ongoing with payment via standing order.

Policies and membership arrangements are reviewed yearly or when necessary due to operational or legal changes.

ENQUIRIES AND SUPPORT

For support with joining, renewing, or updating membership details, please contact:

Hartlepool Sportability Club

hartlepoolsportabilityclub@gmail.com

Headland Sports Centre, Union Street, Headland, Hartlepool, TS24 0AB

www.hartlepoolsportabilityclub.co.uk