



**Sarisbury Sparks**

## **Sarisbury Sparks Netball Club Membership Policy**

### **Recruitment of New Members**

Our club prides itself on being an inclusive club, catering for mixed abilities in both the junior and adult divisions. Training sessions aim to be accessible and fun, with differentiation, to meet all levels within each division/age group. All members will be given the opportunity to play competitively within a team when both their Lead Coach and the individual member feel ready to do so.

Currently boys are not permitted at the club in line with England Netball guidelines.

Places are offered on a first come first served basis where space is available within a particular age group, team, division. Lead/Head Coaches reserve the right to give priority to players where siblings are already at the club, there is a specific requirement within a team or where they are selected in to a Performance Squad.

Enquiries are received via various means and will be filtered by age group and given to the Lead Coach of the relevant session for consideration.

Players shall only be recruited to a session that is appropriate for their age group. Age groups are assessed within England Netball guidelines from 1<sup>st</sup> September in any given year. A coach may recommend that a player play above or below their age group for any reason, for training purposes. Such players will be referred to the committee for approval and must be within agreement of the Lead Coach of the proposed session.

Players may play up in matches for age groups above their age, but will not be permitted to play for teams below their age group.

Once a player reaches the age of 14 they will become eligible to play in senior teams. This is judged on actual birth date, not year group.

### **Membership Levels**

Currently members fall in to either Junior membership or Adult membership. The club reserves the right to change levels to allow for Development and Performance Levels within both Junior and Adult divisions should it seem necessary, with approval from the committee.

Junior age groups shall have no more than 30 affiliated members at any one session. The Lead Coach reserves the right to keep the numbers, if they feel appropriate, particularly in the younger age group sessions.

### **Under Capacity Sessions / New Sessions**

Where sessions are not full, the Club Secretary and Executive Committee will look to market these sessions through direct marketing, social media, school link partnerships and any other means to encourage new members.

The Executive Committee will regularly review all session numbers and attendance. Should a session be falling below a viable level (the outgoing cost to run the session falls below breakeven) the Committee will decide if the session should continue and how/if members should be accommodated.

All potential new members will be offered two taster sessions; this may include a specific taster session for a number of potential new members, or joining in to the regular training sessions. The Membership Officer will contact the player/player's parent of guardian with further details of joining the Club.

### **Age Groups at Capacity**

In the event that a session is full a waiting list will be created for that age group. The relevant Lead Coach will manage the waiting list. A copy will also be held centrally for general Club reference.

Once a place becomes available, the Lead Coach of the relevant session will contact players in the order they were added to the waiting list. Once contacted, they will have one week to accept the offer of the place. As with any potential new member they will be offered two taster sessions before being asked to join and affiliate.

In the event that an enquiry is unable to accept a place at the time of asking they may remain on the list in the same position order and may be invited again if another space becomes available. If they fail to accept the position on two occasions they will be removed from the list.

All enquiries on the waiting list will be contacted every three months, to be updated of the situation and asked if they would like to remain on the list.

### **England Netball and Club Membership**

Any potential new players will have two free taster sessions before being asked to join the Club. After these sessions they will be required to become an affiliated England Netball member and pay any remaining fees due for that term in advance.

All membership to England Netball is done by the members using the ENGage system. The Membership Officer will send out details of how use the ENGage as well as fees due. Sarisbury Sparks Allstars Netball Club will require a medical form, where necessary and completed Codes of Conduct forms (players and parents for U18's).

Anyone that fails to complete the appropriate forms, affiliation to England Netball or fails to pay requested fees within the first half term of joining, may be referred to the Executive Committee and prevented from attending training or asked to relinquish their membership.

All England Netball membership information will be held and managed via the ENGage system under the Sarisbury Sparks Allstars Netball Club banner. All medical forms and Codes of Conduct will be filed with the appropriate Lead Coach.

A player MUST have England Netball membership to play in league games or competitive matches.

The Lead Coach for an age group will submit a list of affiliated players to the leagues at the beginning of each season, where necessary. If a player joins part way through a season the Lead Coach for that age group will submit an Additional Player form.

Players may be registered to a team in a league for a whole season. The Lead Coach and Assistant Coach will select players for each registered team at the start of the season. The Club must observe the rules of the given league.

### **Retention**

Lead Coaches are required to keep an up to date register of members in their age group, along with a list of emergency contacts and any notable medical conditions, injuries or medication.

Members (parent/guardians of U18's) are asked to update the Club of any changes in personal details or medical details so that records can be amended accordingly.

Members will be entitled to retain their position in the club if they are injured or ill for a long period of time providing they have paid their affiliation. In the event they are unable to attend training sessions and/or matches, fees for training and/or matches will be suspended until they are able to return. New players will not be recruited in their place if that brings the total affiliated members to over a capacity of 30 for that session.

In the event there is a waiting list for a session and a current member fails to attend more than 50% of sessions in any given half term, without valid reason, they will be contacted by the Lead Coach and warned they may be relinquish their place if they fail to attend 50% of the sessions in the subsequent half term.

In the event that a player then fails to attend 50% of sessions in the next half term, the Lead Coach may refer the situation to the Committee, who may sanction that the individual relinquishes their place. Under these circumstances no refund will be made of affiliation or training fees already paid.

Lead Coaches reserve the right to hold a place indefinitely for a player if they feel there is a valid reason for a player's repeated non-attendance at training.

### **Payment of Fees**

Players will be required to re-join the Club and renew their membership with England Netball every year (membership runs September to August) via the ENgage website. In the event that a player fails to renew their membership before the first session of the new playing season, they will not be allowed to attend training or matches until they have done so. If there is a waiting list for a session and membership has not been renewed as requested, the situation may be referred to the Committee and the player asked to relinquish their membership.

Adult members currently have as Pay As You Go scheme. All sessions attended must either be paid for in advance of the session via BACS or at the session in cash. The Lead Coach will contact any members if they have outstanding unpaid sessions and reserve the right to stop the player attending any further sessions until outstanding sessions have been settled. If fees are still not settled it may be referred to the Committee and they may ask for the player to relinquish their membership with the Club.

Junior member training fees must be paid a term in advance via ENgage unless alternative arrangements have been made with the Membership Officer. In the event a player's fees are not paid by the end of any half term period, they shall be asked to pay all arrears by the second week of the subsequent half term or shall be referred to the Committee and may be asked to relinquish their place, or prevented from attending training until all outstanding fees have been settled.

The Committee may take in to account a members financial situation and arrange a suitable payment plan to clear the debt in order that they can remain at the Club.

In the event a player relinquishes their membership and leaves the Club they will not be refunded any part of the annual England Netball membership fee.

Any player wishing to leave the club must give a minimum of one weeks written notice. Any subs paid will not be refunded unless the decision to leave the club was based on medical grounds.

***Please refer to the 'Membership Fees' document for a list of current season's fees.***

SIGNED  
K Watkins

SIGNED  
N Dunning

NAME  
Karen Watkins  
Chairperson

NAME  
Nikki Dunning  
Club Secretary

DATE  
Feb 2021

DATE  
Feb 2021