

# Amesbury Rugby Club Membership Subscription Policy FAQ's



## Contents

What is the Membership FAQ document for?.....	2
Why does the club have a membership subscription Fee? .....	2
What is the membership subscription fee used for?.....	2
Doesn't sponsorship pay for the cost of the rugby club? .....	2
When is membership subscription to be paid? .....	2
Why is paying on time important?.....	2
What happens if I have not paid by the time the season starts? .....	3
What if I am not around to play a lot of games? .....	3
What if I can't afford to pay the full fee?.....	3
What if I join during season? .....	3
What are the membership subscription options? .....	4
What happens if I don't want to pay a membership subscription fee? .....	4
Can I reduce my membership subscription fee by volunteering in the club? .....	4
How does subscription payment affect selection?.....	4
Can I apply for international tickets if I am not a fully paid member? .....	4
Can I vote at the AGM if I am not a fully paid member? .....	5
Can I pay my membership subscription fee in instalments? .....	5
I am a full time student. Am I expected to pay a full Subscription fee? .....	5
Match_Fees:.....	6

## **What is the Membership FAQ document for?**

- To help make our policy on membership subscriptions clearer.
- To explain the importance of membership subscriptions.

## **Why does the club have a membership subscription Fee?**

- A subscription fee is required to be a member of this club.
- Without paying a membership fee a person is not considered a member of the club and therefore not entitled to use the services of the club or to be selected as a player.

## **What is the membership subscription fee used for?**

- The subscription funds are used to help pay for the running costs of the game of rugby such as our rent, disciplinary hearings, RFU affiliation, coaching courses, equipment, D&W membership, insurance, referees, marketing, etc.
- Subscription fees are an important investment for the ongoing development of the club now and in to the future.
- Subscription fees help provide financial stability of the club now and in the future.

## **Doesn't sponsorship pay for the cost of the rugby club?**

- Sponsorship funds are important but they are not a guaranteed or consistent income on which to base the finances of the club.
- Sponsorship when available will be invested back in to the club and used to help fund the purchase of items we might otherwise not be able to buy.

## **When is membership subscription to be paid?**

- Subscription is due by the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.
- All members can set up a Standing Order over the preceding 3 months to help spread the cost.
- New members joining during the season will need to pay a pro rata subscription fee before being eligible to play and would be expected to pay within two weeks of attending training.

## **Why is paying on time important?**

- Receiving subscription fees at the start of the season enables the club to have a clearer financial picture and aids financial planning for the season ahead.
- We don't have the resource to keep asking players to pay their subscription fees.
- Chasing payments is no fun for anyone to do. It takes time and is a waste of resources that can be better used to do positive things in the club.
- Any membership benefits will be given priority to members paying up on time.

### **What happens if I have not paid by the time the season starts?**

- Your membership is not renewed until you have paid your subscription.
- If subscription has not been paid but you want to play rugby, then you will need to pay a £10 match fee for each game. [See match Fees](#)
- Anyone's subscription that is not paid by the due date may not be entitled to the same benefits of membership put in place from time to time, as a member who has paid.
- It would be unfair for you to be on the same rugby pitch as someone who has paid their subscription fee.

### **What if I am not around to play a lot of games?**

- We recognise that some players may be away a lot of the season and so the club is happy to accommodate that situation.
- If this is the case for you then please come and talk to your team manager / coach or one of the club management team.
- Alternatively, players have the option to play with the payment of a £10 per game match fee but you will need to ensure the £10 is paid in cash on the day. See [match fees](#) for more information.

### **What if I can't afford to pay the full fee?**

- If for any reason you do not feel you can pay your full subscription fee then please just talk to your team manager / coach or one of the club management team to discuss alternative arrangements.
- The club will take into account cases of hardship, or make a refund to a Member who becomes unable to use the club for a substantial part of the year on account of injury, illness, or departure from the area.

### **What if I join during the season?**

- If you are joining part way through the season then a pro rata fee can be applied from the 1st of the month you join.
- New players will be expected to pay their subscription before they can play.

## What are the membership subscription options?

- Annual subscription fees are detailed on the club website membership page.
  - <https://www.amesburyrugbyclub.com/membership>

Players providing a volunteer role in the club will have their subscription fee discounted at the discretion of the Management Team.

For the time being we are not asking for subscriptions from “Social” members. However, if any non-player would like to be a voting member and/or apply for international tickets they can pay for a voting membership.

- If the subscription fee options do not fit your circumstances then please come and talk to your team manager / coach or one of the club management team.

## What happens if I don't want to pay a membership subscription fee?

- It would not be fair to have a player who has not paid a membership subscription on the same pitch as a player who has. If you want to play for Amesbury Rugby Club but do not want to pay the subscription fee you can pay a [match fee](#) instead.
- If you do not want to pay either a membership subscription or a match fee you will not be considered for selection and will no longer be considered a member of the club.
- You are welcome to come and talk to a member of the management team if you want to stay at the club and require dispensation.

## Can I reduce my membership subscription fee by volunteering in the club?

- Yes. Subject to roles being available the club will support this.
- The role has to be recognised and agreed by the management team and should be fulfilled for the duration of the season.
- The management committee will at their discretion propose a proportionately reduced subscription for the role.

## How does subscription payment affect selection?

- The Head of Rugby has the last say on selection but as a club we want the priority of playing time to go to players who are fully paid up as a reflection on their commitment to the club.

## Can I apply for international tickets if I am not a fully paid member?

- No. You must be a paid member to apply for International tickets.
- See the International Ticket Policy stored on the Players Group

### **Can I vote at the AGM if I am not a fully paid member?**

- No. You must be a fully paid up member to vote or ask questions of the club executive at the AGM.

### **Can I pay my membership subscription fee in instalments?**

- Yes, you can pay in instalments via a Standing order or Direct Debit to help budget your payments in advance of the 1<sup>st</sup> of September.
- You are not a full voting member until you have paid your subscription in full.
- If you have any questions or require more information then please contact the club [treasurer](#)

### **I am a full time student. Am I expected to pay a full Subscription fee?**

- No. A full time student playing senior rugby can arrange to pay a lower fee if you speak to the [head of rugby](#) or the [treasurer](#).

## Match\_Fees:

- Match fees are only a mechanism put in place to help players who are likely to be away from the club for extended periods of time.
- Match fees are not an alternative to a subscription fee.
- Match fees do not make you a paid up member of the club.
- Match fees do not entitle you to be a voting member of the club.
- Match fees do not entitle you to apply for International tickets.
- Match fees are only paid by a player when they have made arrangements not to pay a full subscription payment.
- Match fees must be paid on the day of the game played. If the fee is not payed you will not be selected to play any further games until you pay the match fee owed.
- A match fee is set by the club at the start of the season.
- Match fees are to be collected by the team and handed in to the club treasurer as soon as possible with names of the individuals who have paid. This is for correct accounting purposes so we know where the money has come from and membership records can be updated.
- If you have not paid a subscription fee, then match fees must continue to be paid for every game played.
- Once the club has received match fees equivalent to a subscription fee then the player will be listed as a paid member and eligible to vote although match fees must continue to be paid for every game played.