



CLUB RULES

MEMBERSHIP

Membership applications should be made to the Membership Secretary.

The Executive Committee will consider all new applications for playing membership.

New applications received between the end of one season and the start of another season will be considered based on attendance at trials.

New applications received during the season will be considered after the player has served a probationary period, which shall be determined by the coach. During this period the Head Coach will assess the player in terms of attendance, performance, attitude, availability and compatibility with other player members. The Head Coach will make a recommendation to the Executive Committee.

At the end of the probationary period the Membership Secretary will advise the applicant of the outcome.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

England Netball affiliation fees will be charged annually and must be paid by mid-August.

Training fees will be charged every school term and must be paid by the second training session.

Team players are not eligible to participate in any matches until the appropriate training fees and England affiliation fees have been paid. The Executive Committee will decide whether this rule may be waived should extenuating circumstances prevail.

If training fees are not paid by the second training session of the term then the player will be asked to sit out of training until fees are paid.

A fee structure is determined by the Executive Committee at the start of the school year.

The Executive Committee reserves the right to add a supplement to the Membership Fees structure to cover any additional cost items e.g. change of venue

All fees are non- refundable, although in exceptional circumstances this rule can be varied at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

TEAM SELECTION

The Head Coach will be responsible for the selection of Teams and Team Captains.

Prior to the announcement of the Teams there shall be a joint meeting of the Head Coach and Team Managers.

Team selection will be based on the number of players available at the time of trials, playing ability, previous seasons' attendance at training, player compatibility, reliability, commitment and willingness to travel when required.

The number of players selected in a team will be at the discretion of the Head Coach.

Members who cannot attend training consistently shall not be selected for a team.

Changes to selection required during the season should be fully discussed with the relevant Team Managers.

New players that show immediate commitment, reliability and willingness to travel when required will be given equal consideration as existing Stratford Thunderbirds members.

Prior to team selection, members (or their parents/carers) must notify the Head Coach if they are aware that they cannot commit themselves to the minimum attendance requirement. Members who fall into this category will not be selected for a team, but have the option to be placed on the reserve player list.

TEAMS

To ensure that all players benefit from training and out of courtesy to the coaching staff it is expected that all players attend and participate in training on a regular basis thereby encouraging a good team spirit and a better understanding of the abilities of individuals within the team.

The target for individual attendance is at the minimum 65% and it is expected that individuals will strive to achieve that. It is recognised that individuals have unavoidable reasons for not attending training e.g. injuries, pre-booked holidays. These reasons will not be counted as missing training sessions.

Each team must train together as per the training schedule

If a player is unable to make a training night they need to inform their captain

Teams should arrive 30 minutes before a match start time to ensure they are able to warm up as a team.

TEAM MANAGERS

Team Managers are appointed by the Head Coach.

Team Manager responsibilities are listed in the Team Managers' Guide.

The Head Coach should monitor the teams' attendance at training and decide with the relevant Team Manager if that player's attendance is such that it warrants action to be taken.

Team Managers shall keep a record of the result of each match and a register of players used.

The Team Manager is the main point of communication and liaison between the Team and Head Coach and the Executive Committee.

Team Managers are responsible for ensuring appropriate conduct and discipline expected from all Stratford Thunderbirds players in accordance with the Team Managers' Guide. Any deviation from such conduct to be reported to the Committee.

Team Managers will be provided with a copy of the Team Managers' Guide at the beginning of the season by the Executive Committee

A Team Manager will be invited to attend the termly Executive Committee meeting and represent the other Team Managers.

MATCH PROCEDURE / BEHAVIOUR

Each Member and their Parent/Carer shall be responsible for the following: -

- Adhering to the Code of Conduct/s they have signed up to, which will ensure the good reputation of Stratford Thunderbirds.
- Wearing the correct Stratford Thunderbirds colours and standard of dress. Ensure hair is tied back and finger nails are short. Piercings must be removed or covered (subject to umpire approval).
- Getting to matches on time and at the correct venue.

- Knowing the season's fixtures including tournaments.
- Informing the Team Manager of any matches she cannot play giving as much notice as possible.
- Since players can only play for each higher team a total of three times, she must keep a note of her match appearances for each higher team.
- Inform the Membership Secretary, Head Coach and Team Manager of her address, telephone number and email and promptly notify any changes.
- Parents/Carers are expected to applaud good play by both their child's team and their opponent's and thank the coaches, officials and other volunteers who give their time and not interfere with their decisions.
- If a Parent / Carer is unhappy about a Team Manager's decision during a match or tournament (i.e. their child got less court time than expected or didn't play her favourite position etc.) they should not approach the Team Manager on the day but allow for a minimum cooling off period of 24 hours. If the matter is not resolved with the Team Manager then the issue can be taken to the Coach in the next instance and thereafter to the Executive Committee.
- Parents/Carers are expected not to: use inappropriate language; harass players, coaches, officials or other spectators either during or after the match; criticise or ridicule any child for making a mistake or losing the match.
- Parents/Carers may be respectfully asked to leave the viewing area if, in the opinion of the Team Manager, their actions are having a negative impact on the Team.

TRAINING

Individual Club members are responsible for marking their attendance in the register

Training format will be determined by the Executive Committee and Head Coach to reflect the needs and requests of Club members.

The Club's training night is Monday or Tuesday with an additional (optional) training available at the Leisure Centre on a Thursday.

COACHING & UMPIRING

Members' parents/guardians are encouraged to prepare for and to take their umpiring and coaching tests

Anyone interested in taking coaching or umpiring courses and tests should approach the Executive Committee

Support towards funding may be provided at the discretion of the Executive Committee for parent/guardian volunteers who undertake coaching and umpiring courses and tests which they then use to actively support the Club.

DISCIPLINE & APPEALS

All complaints regarding the behaviour of members shall be submitted to the Club Secretary.

The Executive Committee will meet to hear complaints. The Executive Committee has the power to take appropriate disciplinary action including termination of membership of any person whose own action (or action of their Parent/Carer) brings Stratford Thunderbirds or the game of netball into disrepute.

The outcome of the disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 7 days of the hearing

There will be the right of appeal to the Executive Committee following the disciplinary action being announced. The Executive Committee should consider the appeal within 3 weeks of the Club Secretary receiving the appeal

Following any appeal hearing, the Executive Committee's decision is final