HARINGEY HEAT BASKETBALL CLUB CIC

Company Number: 15228961

PARTICIPATION AND MEMBERSHIP FEE POLICY

Including Concession and Low Income Provision | Version 1.0 | August 2026

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This policy sets out Haringey Heat Basketball Club CIC's commitment to ensuring that participation in basketball is accessible to all members of the community, regardless of financial circumstances. It describes the Club's membership fee structure, concession arrangements, and the process by which reduced or waived fees may be agreed.

This policy has been adopted to comply with the requirements of Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) registration under Schedule 18 of the Finance Act 2002, which requires that membership fees are not a barrier to participation for those on low incomes.

2. OPEN MEMBERSHIP COMMITMENT

Haringey Heat Basketball Club CIC is committed to open membership. Membership is available to any person wishing to participate in or support the sport of basketball, regardless of:

- Age, sex or gender
- Race, ethnicity or national origin
- Disability
- Sexual orientation
- Religion or belief
- Financial circumstances
- Ability level

The Club actively welcomes participants of all backgrounds and ability levels, from complete beginners to experienced competitive players.

3. STANDARD MEMBERSHIP FEE STRUCTURE

The Club's standard annual membership fee for the season August 2026 to July 2027 is as follows:

Member Type	Annual Fee	Notes
New member	£400	Includes £100 joining fee (within total)
Existing/returning member	£400	Includes £50 joining fee (within total)
Concession (see Section 4)	Reduced or nil	By agreement with Directors — see below

Membership fees may be paid in full upfront or by monthly instalments via GoCardless or Goodhub. The number of monthly instalments varies depending on when a member joins during the season.

A joining fee is included within the total annual membership fee and is not charged in addition to it. The joining fee serves as a commitment payment and is payable as the first or an early payment. It does not represent an additional financial barrier to participation.

4. CONCESSION AND LOW INCOME PROVISION

The Club recognises that the standard annual membership fee of £400 may represent a financial barrier for some families, particularly given that Haringey is one of the most deprived boroughs in London. The Club is committed to ensuring that no young person is excluded from participating in basketball solely on the grounds of financial hardship.

4.1 Reduced Fee Places

The Club offers reduced membership fees by arrangement for members or families experiencing financial hardship. Reduced fees are agreed on a case by case basis between the family and the Club's Directors, taking into account the family's individual circumstances.

Reduced fees may be agreed where, for example, a family is in receipt of one or more of the following:

- Universal Credit
- Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit
- Housing Benefit
- Free School Meals entitlement
- Employment and Support Allowance
- Any other means-tested benefit

The above list is not exhaustive. The Directors may agree a reduced fee in any case where they are satisfied that the standard fee would represent a genuine financial barrier to participation.

4.2 Free Places

In exceptional circumstances, the Club may offer a fully waived membership fee where a family is experiencing severe financial hardship and where a reduced fee would still represent a barrier to participation. Free places are offered at the absolute discretion of the Directors and subject to the Club's financial position.

4.3 How to Apply for a Concession

Any member or prospective member who feels they may qualify for a reduced or waived fee should approach the Club Secretary (Nikki Distras) or any Director in confidence. Applications can be made:

- In person at any Club session
- By email to haringeyheatbasketball@outlook.com
- By telephone or WhatsApp message to the Club Secretary

All applications for concessions are treated in strict confidence. No information about a family's financial circumstances will be shared with other members, coaches or volunteers without the family's consent.

4.4 Decision Making

Decisions on concession applications are made by the Directors of the Club. Where a Director has a personal connection to the applicant, that Director will withdraw from the decision and the remaining Directors will decide. All concession arrangements are recorded in the Club's Register of Club Members and Membership Payment Tracker.

4.5 Review of Concession Arrangements

Concession arrangements are reviewed annually at the start of each season. Members in receipt of a reduced or waived fee will be asked to confirm their circumstances remain unchanged. The Club reserves the right to adjust concession arrangements if the Club's financial position requires it, though it will always seek to maintain participation where possible.

5. CASC FEE THRESHOLD COMPLIANCE

HMRC's CASC regulations require that annual membership fees do not exceed £1,612 per person. The Club's standard annual membership fee of £400 is well within this threshold.

The Club acknowledges that where a member also pays for additional Sunday sessions (£156 per year), the combined cost of £556 remains within the £1,612 CASC threshold and does not represent a barrier to CASC eligibility.

Holiday camp fees are not included in the membership fee calculation as camps are an optional additional activity open to both members and non-members.

6. COMMUNICATION OF THIS POLICY

This policy is available to all current and prospective members on request. It is held by the Club Secretary and reviewed annually by the Directors. A summary of the Club's commitment to open and affordable membership is communicated to prospective members via the Club's website and social media channels.

7. POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually at the start of each season, or sooner if there are significant changes to the Club's fee structure, HMRC CASC regulations, or the Club's financial position.

Approved by	Role	Approval	Date
Nikki Distras	Director / Club Secretary	Approved by the Board	August 2026
Laxmi Harding	Director / Club Chair	Approved by the Board	August 2026
Nicola Demetriou	Director	Approved by the Board	August 2026