



Thanet Gymnastics Club – Hardship Policy

1. Purpose

This policy sets out the approach of Thanet Gymnastics Club ("the Club") to supporting members who face genuine financial hardship, ensuring fair and inclusive access to participation in club activities.

2. Policy Statement

The Club is committed to being inclusive and accessible. No individual should be excluded from participating in gymnastics activities due to financial constraints. The Club will offer support to members facing hardship in a fair, confidential, and consistent manner.

3. Eligibility

Support is available to current or prospective members who:

- Face temporary or long-term financial difficulties;
- Would otherwise be unable to afford participation costs such as membership fees, uniforms, or equipment;
- Are committed to regular participation in the Club's activities.

4. Types of Support

Support may include:

- Full or partial reduction of membership or training fees;
- Assistance with uniforms or essential equipment;
- Flexible payment plans or deferrals;

- Other reasonable accommodations as determined by the Committee.

5. Application Process

- Applications should be made in confidence to the Chairperson or Treasurer using the Hardship Support Request Form.
- Applicants should outline the nature of the hardship and the type of assistance needed.
- All requests will be treated confidentially and assessed sensitively.

6. Decision Making

- The Committee (or a delegated sub-group) will review applications promptly and fairly.
- Decisions will be based on individual circumstances and the availability of club funds.
- Applicants will be informed of the decision within 14 days of submitting a complete request.

7. Confidentiality

All information provided as part of a hardship application will be kept strictly confidential and used solely for the purpose of assessing the request.

8. Review and Monitoring

- This policy shall be reviewed annually by the Committee.
- A summary of hardship support provided (excluding personal details) may be reported in the annual accounts or AGM to ensure transparency.