

ST ALBANS AND HARPENDEN PICKLEBALLERS

Terms and Conditions

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Policy owner	Club Committee
Approved by	[INSERT APPROVING BODY OR COMMITTEE DATE]
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Revisions made	Rewritten to reflect current safeguarding, data protection, equality, health and safety and sports club governance guidance.

1. Introduction

These Terms and Conditions set out the basis on which people take part in activities run by St Albans and Harpenden Pickleballers (SHARP Pickleball). By applying for membership, renewing membership, booking a session, attending as a guest or taking part in a club activity, a person agrees to follow these terms and the club's policies.

2. Membership

Membership is subject to club capacity, eligibility criteria, payment of any applicable subscription, compliance with club policies and confirmation by the club. The club may operate membership limits, waiting lists, session restrictions or guest restrictions where needed for safety, venue capacity, playability, volunteer capacity or fair access.

Membership does not guarantee a space at every session. Session spaces are subject to booking rules, court capacity, venue availability, safety limits and any priority arrangements published by the club.

3. Guests and trial players

Guest and trial player attendance is allowed only where the club has confirmed that guest or trial access is open. Guests and trial players must follow all club policies, venue rules, session instructions and payment requirements. The club may refuse or withdraw guest access where capacity, safety, conduct, safeguarding, membership policy or venue rules require it.

4. Fees, subscriptions and payments

The club may charge annual subscriptions, session fees, event fees or guest fees. Fees and payment methods will be published or shared through official club channels. Bank details should only be shared through official club communication routes. A person should use their name as payment reference unless the club gives different instructions.

5. Cancellations, refunds and no-shows

The club may set booking, cancellation, refund and no-show rules for sessions and events. These rules will be communicated through the booking system, website, email, WhatsApp or other official club channels. Where a venue cancels a session or the club cancels an event, the club will explain the available refund, credit or rearrangement option where applicable.

6. Conduct and policies

Members, guests, trial players, volunteers and visitors must follow the Code of Conduct, Guidance for Players, Safeguarding Policy, Equality Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Complaints and Grievance Procedure and Privacy Policy. The club may take action where a person's behaviour affects safety, welfare, inclusion, fair play, club administration or the reputation of the club.

7. Health, safety and fitness to play

Pickleball involves physical activity and carries inherent sporting risks, including slips, trips, falls, collisions, strains and impact injuries. Players are responsible for deciding whether they are fit to take part, wearing suitable footwear and clothing, warming up, playing within their ability, following safety instructions and reporting hazards, injuries and near misses.

The club will take reasonable steps to provide a safe club environment, manage risks within its control, inspect club equipment, follow venue reporting processes and work with venue staff. Venue operators remain responsible for areas and equipment under their control.

8. Liability

Nothing in these terms excludes or restricts liability for death or personal injury caused by negligence, fraud, fraudulent misrepresentation or any liability that cannot lawfully be excluded or restricted. Subject to this, players take part knowing the normal risks of sport and remain responsible for their own belongings, conduct, health decisions and safe participation.

9. Personal belongings

Players are responsible for their own personal belongings. The club is not responsible for loss, theft or damage to personal property except where the law says otherwise.

10. Insurance

The club will maintain or rely on appropriate insurance arrangements for its activities where required. Venue insurance, Pickleball England insurance, club insurance and personal insurance may cover different risks. Members should check their own insurance position if they want personal accident cover or cover for their own equipment.

11. Data protection

The club will process personal data in line with its Privacy Policy. This includes data used for membership, bookings, communication, safeguarding, complaints, payments, attendance, events and club administration.

12. Photos, videos and publicity

The club may use photos or videos for club promotion, news, training, website updates or social media where appropriate. The club will seek appropriate consent or use another lawful basis where permitted. Players should not take or share photos or videos of others without permission, and images of children or adults at risk must be handled in line with the Safeguarding Policy.

13. Suspension, refusal or termination

The club may suspend bookings, refuse attendance, remove a person from a session, remove access to online groups, refuse renewal or terminate membership where this is proportionate and linked to safety, safeguarding, conduct, unpaid fees, serious complaint, venue rules or the good administration of the club. Where appropriate, the club will follow the Complaints and Grievance Procedure or Code of Conduct process.

14. Changes to these terms

The club may update these terms where needed to reflect changes in law, guidance, venue arrangements, insurance, booking systems, membership rules, club structure or operating practice. Updated terms will be published or shared through official club channels.

15. Governing law

These terms are governed by the laws of England and Wales.

16. Review

These terms will be reviewed at least annually and sooner if club operations, legal requirements, venue arrangements or insurance arrangements change.

Guidance considered

These terms have been drafted with reference to consumer protection principles, sports club governance practice, club safety obligations, data protection guidance and safeguarding expectations.