

## 1. Purpose:

The Bexley Tigers Basketball Club is committed to ensuring that no individual is excluded from participating in our programs due to financial constraints. This Hardship Policy aims to provide support to members who are experiencing genuine financial difficulty, ensuring that all athletes have the opportunity to participate in basketball activities.

## 2. Scope:

This policy applies to all members and potential members of the Bexley Tigers Basketball Club, including players, coaches, and supporting staff.

## 3. Criteria for Eligibility:

To be eligible for consideration under the Hardship Policy, applicants must demonstrate:

- Financial hardship due to low income, unemployment, sudden loss of income, or other substantial financial burdens.
- A commitment to active participation in club activities and events.

## 4. Application Process:

- Applicants must complete a Hardship Application Form, available on request by sending email to: [hardship@bexleytigers.co.uk](mailto:hardship@bexleytigers.co.uk)
- Evidence of financial hardship, such as recent bank statements, pay slips, or a letter from a recognised financial or social service agency, must be provided.
- Applications should be submitted to the Club Treasurer or designated officer via [hardship@bexleytigers.co.uk](mailto:hardship@bexleytigers.co.uk).

## 5. Confidentiality:

All applications and information provided will be treated with the strictest confidence. Information will only be accessed by the club's management team for the purpose of assessing hardship applications.

## 6. Assistance Offered:

Assistance may vary based on the individual's circumstances and the club's available resources, and may include:

- Partial or full waiver of membership fees.
- Subsidised travel or uniform costs.
- Payment plans for season fees.

## 7. Review Process:

- Applications will be reviewed by a Hardship Committee.
- Decisions will be made based on the information provided and the available club resources.
- Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision via email.

## 8. Appeals:

Applicants who are dissatisfied with the decision of the Hardship Committee may appeal in writing to the Club board. The appeal should be lodged within 10 days of the decision notification and sent to [complaint@bexleytigers.co.uk](mailto:complaint@bexleytigers.co.uk).

## 9. Monitoring and Review:

- This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and relevance to the club's goals and community needs.
- Adjustments to the policy may be made to reflect changes in the financial status of the club or its members.

## 10. Contact Information:

For more information, or to discuss your circumstances confidentially, please contact the Club or visit our website.

This policy reaffirms the Bexley Tigers Basketball Club's commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive environment for all members of our community.