

VICTORIA PLAYING FIELDS FC – TERMS & CONDITIONS

Last Updated: February 2025

1. Introduction

Victoria Playing Fields Football Club (VPFC) is a community-based, FA Accredited grassroots football club. By registering as a member, you agree to the following Terms & Conditions, which outline key expectations, policies, and commitments between the club, parents/guardians, and players.

VPFC operates at multiple venues under various agreements:

- **Victoria Playing Fields & The Brickie** – Licence agreement with St Albans District Council.
- **Normandy Road** – Agreement with Aboyne Lodge School.
- **Woollams Playing Fields** – Agreement with OA Sports Association (OASA).
- **STAGS (St Albans Girls' School) & Harpenden Rugby Club** – Session rental agreement with respective operators.

2. Membership & Player Registration

- **Eligibility:** Membership is open to children from Reception to Year 6. A parent or legal guardian must complete registration.

- **Joining Process:** All new members start in the **Skills Section** before any progression to League teams.
- **Placement Decisions:** The club reserves the right to determine player placements based on age, ability, and team capacity.
- **Annual Membership:** Membership runs from September to July. Training is term-time only.

3. Subscription Fees & Refunds

- **Subscription Amount:** The current season's subscription fee will be clearly advertised in the **Join Us** section of our website.
- **Free Trial:** Every child is invited to attend two free trial sessions before committing to membership.
- **No Refund Policy:**
 - By the time a subscription is due, a child will have attended at least three sessions, providing a fair opportunity to assess enjoyment and fit.
 - VPFC is a **non-profit, volunteer-led club**, and the annual subscription helps cover essential operational costs (pitch hire, equipment, insurance, safeguarding, FA accreditation, etc.).
 - At £45 per season (at time of writing), VPFC fees are significantly lower than many comparable sports clubs in the area, where individual sessions often cost £10–£15 per week. Given this, we **do not offer refunds** once a child is registered.
- **Late-Season Discounts:**

- At the club's discretion, we **may** offer a reduced subscription for new members joining after Easter. If applicable, this will be clearly communicated.

4. Attendance & Cancellations

- **Expected Commitment:** To ensure fairness and make best use of our capacity, members are expected to attend regularly.
 - If a child misses **six consecutive weeks without explanation**, their place may be offered to someone on the waiting list.
- **Weather-Related Cancellations:**
 - Training will generally be cancelled if temperatures **fall below 0°C**, due to the risk of frozen ground and the unsuitability of extreme cold for young children.
 - Exceptions **may** be made for sessions on **Astroturf pitches**, where freezing is not a concern.
 - Parents are expected to ensure their child is **dressed appropriately** for cold or wet weather.
 - Cancellations will be communicated via **team WhatsApp groups** or the club's **Pitchero system**.

5. Code of Conduct & Club Rules

By registering, all members agree to:

- **Adhere to the FA Respect Code of Conduct**, which applies to players, parents, and coaches.

- Follow VPFC's **safeguarding policies**, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment.
- Maintain **positive behaviour** during training and matches, respecting coaches, officials, and teammates.
- Abide by all **FA and club policies**, as outlined on the **Club Policies** section of our website.

6. General Terms

- VPFC reserves the right to **modify these Terms & Conditions** at any time. Any major updates will be communicated to members.
- Participation in VPFC activities is at the member's own risk. While we take all reasonable precautions to ensure player safety, **VPFC is not liable for injuries sustained during training or matches.**
- Any disputes or concerns should be raised with the club via the **year group coaches** or by emailing **victoriaplayingfieldsfc@gmail.com**.