

## Frequently-Asked Questions

## Carlton Cricket Club 2018



This document provides answers to some of the questions you may have about membership of Carlton Cricket Club. If anything isn't covered, please contact the Membership Secretary – details at the end of the document.

### **Why should I join ?**

Carlton Cricket Club has been a feature of the Grange area for almost 150 years. It is one of the premier cricket clubs in Scotland, providing top-quality club cricket alongside a large junior section providing a healthy sporting pursuit for boys and girls from across the capital.

Carlton's members can also enjoy the club's private, pleasant, normally quiet, tree-lined surroundings. Club members may also exercise their dogs (responsibly!) on the ground and can also use the club's private bar and entertain guests on match-days.

### **How do I Join ?**

Ideally, use the web-form via the link on [www.carltoncc.co.uk/membership/](http://www.carltoncc.co.uk/membership/)

Page 1:

- you will be asked to give the club permission to use your personal data.
  - there is an attached .pdf document which explains how we protect any data you give us.
- enter the requested information (name address etc.)

Page 2:

- use the tick-boxes to indicate the type of subscription you require
- enter the total amount (subscription payment + dog-walking fee/ gate-fob fee + donation )

Page 3:

- this contains the club's bank details for direct payments for online banking
- or you can use the "Notes" section to let the Membership Secretary know you will be sending a cheque or to arrange to pay by cash.

Alternatively, contact the Membership Secretary who can email a .pdf version, or post/deliver a paper Membership Form for you to complete and return with payment.

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There are separate links (and separate .pdf and paper forms) for :

- non-playing members (club supporters, dog-walking members or those wishing ground-access)
- senior male cricketers
- senior female cricketers

We have a waiting-list for junior membership, so prospective Junior and Family members should contact the Junior Convenor. Details are shown in the “Juniors” section of the club’s website.

**What’s the cost of membership?**

The cost of the different categories of membership is shown on the Membership Forms. Please refer to the appropriate web-form/form for prices.

**When are membership payments due ?**

As a cricket club, our membership “year” starts at the beginning of the cricket season in April. Membership Forms are sent to existing members in March/April each year. We give our members until the end of May to return their membership form and payment. At that point, any gate fobs held by lapsed members will be deactivated. We’d be obliged if lapsed fobs could be returned – you can just pop them in the post-box by the gate.

Members are welcome to join throughout the year by contacting the Membership Secretary.

## **Where does the money go ?**

The funds raised by the club are used to support its extensive adult and junior cricketing operations and to maintain the ground and pavilion. The ground is a significant asset, but also a considerable, and expensive, responsibility.

The club employs a cricket coach to support our junior section, some professional assistance for our largely volunteer ground-staff, bar-staff and cleaning. Otherwise, the club is run on an entirely volunteer basis by a combination of cricketing and local members.

As a limited company, accounts are presented for approval at the club's AGM each year so you can be sure that the club is being properly managed .

## **Why is the gate locked ?**

As a private club, access to the ground is restricted to members-only.

## **Why is there a charge for gate-access ?**

The club has charged its members an additional amount for gate-access for many years. Many of our members only visit whilst matches are in progress when the gate is unlocked. Those members who use the ground most frequently, particularly our dog-walking members, pay an additional charge to obtain a fob which opens the gate. We feel this increased use of the club's facilities justifies the additional charge.

## **How is this administered ?**

Numbered fobs are issued to club members on payment of the appropriate annual charge. Holding the fob against the small grey box next to the pedestrian gate allows it to be pushed open. Members should ensure the gate is closed behind them. A computer database controls access to the ground. If membership laps or is rescinded, fobs are deactivated and should be returned to the club.

## **What if my key-fob doesn't work ?**

We have had a handful of fobs which have failed. If your membership is up-to-date and your fob doesn't open the gate, please contact the Membership Secretary who will supply you with a new fob (without charge).

## **What if I lose my key-fob ?**

Simply contact the Membership Secretary to obtain a replacement (for a small administrative charge to cover the cost). The lost fob will then be deactivated.

## **Can members walk anywhere ?**

Pretty much - but members should keep off the "square" in the middle of the ground (actually, it's a rectangle, but that's being pedantic). This is a carefully-tended area - the most important part of the ground for the club's cricketing activities – so we appreciate our members and their dogs keeping off this area at all times (even during the off-season when the wickets are softer and even more susceptible to damage).

## **Are other games allowed on the ground?**

Cricket yes; other ball games – no thanks. There are various activities introduced by coaches as warm-up exercises, but otherwise, we discourage other sporting pursuits. Footballs kicked into the nets will damage the netting, excessive wear and tear on the turf would be inevitable and our neighbours would be subjected to avoidable, unacceptable noise levels if football was permitted. Historically, we have had problems with non-members trespassing in order to play football. If members were seen to play football on the ground, this would be more difficult to discourage.



### **Why is there a higher charge for dog-walking ?**

Our dog-walking members are our most frequent users of the ground and, apart from the cricket members who pay significantly more, gain most from their membership and thus pay a higher annual subscription.

### **Do I pay more if I have two dogs ?**

We have a few members who have more than one dog but we don't charge a higher amount. If a dog-walking member was to turn-up with Grange Loan's version of 101 dalmations, we might have to reconsider.....

### **Why do you allow dog-walking on a sports ground ?**

We rely on the diligence of our dog-walking members clearing-up after their dogs. Please do not leave evidence anywhere on the ground, either on the playing field or its surroundings – be particularly vigilant when it's dark and you might not spot where your dog has been. A bin is provided for disposal of dog-waste (next to the gate). Do not dispose in any other bin or bucket, throw into the hedges or into our neighbours' gardens - Disgusting! Dog-walking members not adhering to these rules will have their membership withdrawn.

Dogs should be kept under reasonable control whilst on the ground. At no time of the year should dogs be allowed on the "square" – see the answer to the "*Can members walk anywhere ?*" question

### **When is the ground available for dog-walking ?**

The ground is open to all members, almost all of the time. During the cricket season - from mid-April until early September – there are dog-walking restrictions when certain cricketing activities are underway:

#### **1. During Matches - Restricted Access :**

- dogs can be walked on a lead outside the marked boundary
- during the season most Saturday and Sunday afternoons, normally 12 noon or 1 pm start
- there are a handful of senior matches on weekdays starting at 6 pm which use the whole ground
- junior matches midweek normally use a smaller out-field, leaving more room for dog-walking

#### **2. Junior Practice Sessions – No Dogs Permitted**

- Under 12 Practice Nights : 5.30 pm until 8.45 pm, usually Wednesdays
  - occasionally switched to Mondays (which will be posted on the Notice Board)
  - only during the cricket season (mid-April to end August)
  - weather-permitting !
- All-Stars Cricket Sessions
- new program for 2018 introducing cricket to 5 to 8 year old children
- Sunday mornings – 10 am. to 11 am. May/June only
- we are keen to ensure that our youngest cricketers are introduced to cricket in a safe environment without distractions.

#### **3. All other times – Dog-Walking Encouraged**

- but not on the square... and with the usual cleanliness expected !

The bar is usually open when senior matches are in progress. As a member, you would be very welcome to drop into the pavilion for a refreshment.

On rare occasions, the ground is sprayed for weeds. In these instances, a notice will be posted on the club's notice board closing the ground to dog-walkers for a day for health reasons.

We also run occasional barbecue functions on a few evenings during the season when we would discourage dogs from visiting the ground – too much temptation for some of our greedier canine members.

### **Who runs the club ?**

The club is run on behalf of its members by a management committee elected at the club's AGM in February. Committee members are drawn from the club's local and cricketing membership. Sub-committees oversee different aspects of the club's operations.

### **Is the club a charity ?**

The club does not qualify for charitable status. However, it does qualify as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) as it is a non-profit organisation run by volunteers in support of a healthy sporting pursuit where income is invested in the club and its activities. CASC status allows the club to claim Gift Aid (an additional 25%) on any donations (but not subscriptions) from UK tax-paying club members who indicate a preference to do so – see the notes on the Membership Forms or contact the Membership Secretary for further information on Gift Aid.

### **When is the bar open and can I buy a drink ?**

The club's bar is open when senior matches are in progress from the times published by the club. As a stipulation of the club's bar licence, only members and invited guests are allowed to buy alcohol from the bar. Opposition players and officials are designated as members for the day. Members may introduce visitors who should be signed-in by a club member before consuming alcohol.

### **What social events are organised by the club ?**

The club organises various social events through the year. Events are publicised on the club's website and notice-board. Suggestions for social events would be welcomed – please contact the Membership Secretary in the first instance.

### **How many members does the club have ?**

The club has over 400 members, a mix of local supporters, dog-walkers, current and former cricketers and our many junior and family members – one of the largest and most successful in Scottish cricket.

### **Who occupies the pavilion during the week ?**

The club rents the premises to a personal fitness company, InsideOut. They run exercise classes, physiotherapy sessions and other fitness-related activities.

For details, please see <http://www.insideout-pt.co.uk/> or contact 07951 201 102

**What about Playing Membership?**

The club has an extensive playing membership, senior and junior, male and female. Enquiries regarding the Playing Membership should be directed to the Membership Secretary (for senior players) and Junior Convenor (for players Under-18).

The club does not pay cricketers. The leagues we compete in have strict rules covering professional players and it is not the club's ethos to pay players.

If you have any additional questions, please contact :

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