

New NSAC Membership & Training Fees Structure for 2012

The Headline is that the new payments setup will separate membership from training fees/term payments. Membership will cost from between £10 and £20 per year. This will be in addition to training fees/term payments.

To improve the efficiency in the collection of training fees, we have added options to the current term payment system. You can continue to pay term payment fees as before; however, you now have the option to pay annually. Training fees will remain the same.

In separating club membership fees from training fees, we better accommodate members who do not train for part or all year and or require competition affiliation. There are five membership options for the year as below.

Membership fees are annual and need to be paid at the start of each year, during the first term or upon joining the club and need to be submitted with the membership form on which you select your membership option.

As part of your membership you will receive a nice credit card style membership card which will entitle you to discounts at outlets and venues, including discount at Club fun-days.

This will take effect from the new term in January 2012. A more detailed explanation of these changes and rationale is given on the attached page.

Membership Fee's

- Under 11s (school years 3, 4, 5) - £10. This will include a club –t-shirt.
- Over 11s, including seniors - £20.
- Second-claim members - £10.
- Family membership - £40 (3 or more in the same family).
- Social member - £10 (for those who wish to be associated with the club).

Training Fee's

These will remain at £35 per term; however, the following discounts will apply.

- £5 discount for prompt payment (made before the 3rd week of the term).
- £5 discount per term for siblings.
- We will also accept annual payment of £90, (£75 for siblings) for ease of payment (This does not include membership).

All fees will be payable either by cheque or by direct credit into the clubs bank account. Bank details will be provided upon request. **Please note that we will not accept cash payments this year.** It is requested that cheques have the name of athlete(s) on the rear.

Example: Athlete 'A' an Under 15 athlete will pay £20 membership plus £90 annual training fee - £110 in total. This can be made in one annual payment. If paid together with a term payments it would be £50 for first term and £30 for subsequent terms again total £110(siblings £95) assuming prompt payment made.

An updated club membership form is on the club website – www.nsac.org.uk. Please complete a form and hand in with your payment. Copy attached.

Please contact membership@nsac.org.uk for any membership enquiries.

Membership & Training Costs Explained

In making the decision to introduce a membership fee, we carefully considered the service offered by the club and feel that despite the overall increase we still offer excellent value for money. Most athletics clubs charge separately for membership and for training.

Training Fees

The term and annual training fees cover the cost of venue hire, equipment, and Filton track hire. Over the past year the cost of these venues has increased considerably. Training fees at other clubs (usually paid at each session) range from £2.50 - £5.00. Our £90 annual/term training fee ensures efficiency of collection allowing coaches to coach and equates to approximately £2 a week. It should also be noted it's possible for any member to train up to 5/6 times per week, which can work out as little as only £0.35 per session.

During 2011, the club funded a number of coaching courses to provide support for Chris and the other lead coaches. As a result of this proactive approach to coach development, we now have 30 qualified coaches. During 2012, we plan to further increase the number of coaches and also pay for a number of parent volunteers to attend an Officials course, so that they will be able to help officiate at club competitions.

Membership Fees

We have also separated club membership fees from the above training fees, as not all members train all year or require competition affiliation. We have created five different membership options for the forthcoming season to fit individual situations.

Our success as a club has meant that we compete in the Avon League and South-West league and have now been accepted to compete in the National Young Athletes League (NYAL); this means significant additional league affiliation fees so that athletes can compete without payment.

To encourage further participation in Cross Country competition, the Club will be funding more cross-country events than ever before so that individual athletes competing for the Club will only pay entry fees on limited occasions for races.

At present, the venues to be used for the South West Athletics League and National Young Athletes League are not known. However, it is likely that they will involve travelling some significant distances. For example, it is expected that at least one of the SWAL fixtures will be in Cornwall, and the NYAL fixtures could be held in Swansea or the West Midlands. Therefore, the club will be looking to subsidise transport for some of these events.

All athletes aged 11 and over need to be affiliated with England Athletics. In the past, the cost of this has been taken from the training fees. However, it has become clear that a separate fee needs to be paid for this and for affiliation in the various competitions in which the club competes. For under 11s (school years 3, 4, 5) who do not need to affiliate and have less opportunity to compete, their fee is reduced and they will receive a free club t-shirt. A club t-shirt can also be purchased at the cost price.

There is substantial benefit from the prompt payment discount for the whole year, to the members and Club. The club benefits from saved time and cost associated with collecting payments. However you may wish to continue to split payments over the year.

Membership Card Benefits

We are at the early stages of developing a comprehensive list, but here are some of the benefits already available on production of a membership card.

Sixways Sports, Clevedon – 10% discount (01275 872814), The Sports Shop, Portishead – 10% discount (01275 842573), Easyrunner – 10% discount – (0117 9297787)
NSAA/AC Fun-days - £1 discount per day, All Works Plumbing & Heating – 5% discount on all work (01275 338088).