



## **ENGLAND BOXING LIMITED ('EB') CLUB MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

General guidance on membership can be found in clauses 3 to 23 of EB's Articles of Association (the Articles), found [here](#). In this Policy, 'Regional Association' shall be given the same meaning as in the Articles.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with EB's Individual Membership Policy (available on the Vault).

### **A. Purpose of this policy (this 'Policy')**

1. The purpose of this Policy is to explain how club membership of EB works and what it involves: the criteria for recognition by EB as a boxing club, how to apply for membership, the applicable membership fees, the benefits of membership, the responsibilities of member clubs and the rights of EB in relation to its member clubs.
2. You become a member club once your application (which is made online through The Vault (EB's online membership platform) has been approved by your Regional Registrar, payment of the EB club membership fee (the 'Club Membership Fee') has been received online via The Vault and you are registered as a member club ('Member Club'). As a Member Club you benefit from EB club membership ('Club Membership'). EB reserves the right to assess a club's application at any stage during the application process, including reviewing the outcome.
3. In the event of a conflict arising between any provision relating to membership set out in the Articles and/or this Policy, and any provision in the policies, procedures, rules and regulations of any Regional Association or Member Club, the provisions in the Articles and/or this Policy shall prevail (see clause 29 of the Articles).
4. EB reserves the right to reject the application of any club at its sole discretion, and to terminate or suspend the membership of any Member Club at any time (see sections D and F respectively).

## **B. Benefits of Membership**

5. By a club becoming a member of EB, it is joining a membership organisation that dates back to 1880 and a network of fellow boxing clubs throughout the country.

6. Specifically, by being affiliated to EB, the individual members of Member Clubs ('Individual Members'), have the opportunity to take part in EB local, Regional and National competitions and Championships and may also be considered for the England Talent Pathway. This is a programme established to help boxers and coaches fulfil their potential at international level; from schoolboys and girls all the way through to Olympic level boxers via the GB Boxing programme. Membership also allows Member Clubs and their Individual Members to compete internationally against fellow IBA members (as long as approval has been sought in accordance with EB's requirements for boxing abroad, which can be found [here](#)).

7. Member Clubs are also given access to a Club Support Officer (click [here](#) for contact details), who can help support and develop the Member Club in the following ways:

- (i) By providing advice on governance issues including policies and procedures.
- (ii) By offering guidance on the different types of available funding and assisting Member Clubs through the application process.
- (iii) By providing national governing body representation at a local level (through letters of support, representation at council meetings and negotiations with third party organisations such as the Charity Commission).
- (iv) By assisting with club development initiatives such as outreach programmes and helping Member Clubs increase their network in the local community (including with schools, housing associations, the police and charities).

8. Member Clubs may host shows and competitions, subject to the requirements set out at section G below.

9. Member Clubs (and Individual Members who are registered on The Vault and are members of a Member Club) are covered by EB's insurance programme. EB's insurance programme covers all activities controlled, sanctioned, recognised or authorised by EB including;

- (i) taking part in training
- (ii) competing in contests or competitions;

(ii) travelling to train and / or compete; and (iv) public liability for tournaments or shows. For further details of what is covered please visit EB's insurance microsite which can be accessed via [The Vault](#), Knowledge Base.

10. Member Clubs also benefit from EB support and training. This includes access to safeguarding rules, policies and procedures which provide a framework for Member Clubs to respond to safeguarding concerns effectively and to deliver the sport in a safe manner.

### C. Criteria for recognition as a boxing club by EB

11. A boxing club, whether registered as a company or as a charity (or equivalent organisation) or not, that wishes to be affiliated with EB must satisfy the following criteria:

(i) have at least one Level 2 coach<sup>1</sup> as its head coach who:

a. is registered with EB on the Vault and is an Individual Member of that Member Club;

b. oversees the coaching and delivery of training at that Member Club and is present at that Member Club premises;

c. has undergone and satisfied the following:

i. An approved risk-assessed Disclosure and Barring Service ('DBS') check (once registered, Individual Members can apply for an EB DBS by accessing the Knowledge Base on the Vault);

ii. EB accepted safeguarding training and

iii. EB accepted first aid training;

d. A newly-formed Member Club in its first year of membership with EB may operate with a Level 1 coach as its head coach (provided that he/she obtains the Level 2 qualification as soon as is reasonably practicable and within the guidelines of EB's coaching programme). For the avoidance of doubt, however, no sparring or boxing may take place without a Level 2 coach present;

(ii) have in place the following:

a. a committee consisting of an appointed chairperson, secretary, treasurer, and club welfare officer (It is considered good practice by the NSPCC that the CWO is a regular attendee at the club but is not **a coach of the club or a partner or**

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<sup>1</sup> Only EB coaching qualifications, Levels 1- 4, are recognised and accepted.

**relation of the coach.** It is recognised that there will be difficulties with smaller clubs with this requirement but the Regional Welfare Officer will advise when this causes particular problems for a club);

b. a constitution, and

c. a club bank account (with two unrelated signatories);

d. a child safeguarding policy;

(iii) provide a safe environment for training to take place, which meets national health and safety requirements<sup>2</sup> and includes, as a minimum:

a. toilets and changing facilities for all Individual Members;

b. clean running water;

c. a first aid kit that complies with British Standard BS 8599-1 (for first aid kits) and that is regularly maintained (click [here](#) for details);

d. an accident report book;

e. up-to-date local Health & Safety and Fire Certificates; and

f. A defibrillator (as of 1 June 2022 this will be a mandatory requirement). Member Clubs owe a duty of care to, and are responsible for the health and safety of all their individual members whilst on Member Club premises.

Each Club must have the ability to access a defibrillator and must know how to use the unit. The defibrillator must be a maximum distance of a five-minute full journey on foot from the club (there and back, and to get any necessary access).

Should the Club not have a defibrillator within the designated distance area, then they must obtain a defibrillator and are responsible for the maintenance of it.

All Boxing Shows should have easy access to a defibrillator near the ring.

(iv) If it is a new club, have its premises within no less than one mile of an existing EB Member Club, subject to population density in the area and the membership capacity of the pre-existing Club Member(s). Any dispute arising from matters relating to this clause should be dealt with in accordance with section H below;

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<sup>2</sup> Anyone (including volunteers) with control of premises like a gym has a duty to see that the premises, access to them and plant (e.g. sports equipment) and substances provided are safe for the persons using them so far as is reasonably practicable <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/37/section/4>

(v) be identified by a club name that is appropriate, inoffensive and does not infringe the intellectual property rights of any other Member Clubs (or any third parties). For the avoidance of doubt, this includes giving a club the same or a similar name to an existing Member Club (or any third parties). Any dispute arising from matters relating to this clause should be dealt with in accordance with section H below; and

(vi) have available, and regularly check and maintain, the following equipment (as a minimum):

- a. 4 punch bags or wall pads (properly secured and structurally safe);
- b. 4 sets of punch bag gloves;
- c. 1 training ring, either permanent or portable, measuring a minimum of 12ft x 12ft, with 4 corner posts and 4 sets of ropes, the inside floor of which must have a foam and canvas protection measuring a minimum of 1" thick;
- d. skipping ropes;
- e. head guards; and
- f. gloves of the appropriate weight for sparring; 10oz, 12oz or larger.

12. All equipment must be of sufficiently high quality, safe and suitable for use.

#### **D. Procedure for becoming a Member Club**

13. If you are a Level 2 coach (or in the case of a newly-formed club, a Level 1 coach), chairperson, or owner of a boxing club and you wish for your club to be affiliated with EB, you will need to:

(i) complete the 'Club Registration' form on The Vault, which can be accessed [here](#); and

(ii) pay the applicable Club Membership Fee.

14. The Club Membership Fee is paid on an annual basis and is non-refundable. The amount of the Club Membership Fee is determined by EB and is due and payable from 1st June each year, unless otherwise advised. Details of the amount due for any given year can be found on The Vault. Additional Regional Association membership fees may be applicable. However, if a Regional Association wishes to set an additional membership fee or increase its existing fee, this should first be voted upon and passed by Member Clubs at the next Regional Association AGM and in accordance with the Articles.

For more information, please visit the website of the Regional Association closest to you or contact the relevant Regional Association secretary. Contact details can be found [here](#).

15. The approval process by EB for Club Membership includes:

- (i) review and consideration of the online application by the applicable Regional Association;
- (ii) a visit to inspect the boxing club's premises (by a regional representative); and
- (iii) verification of relevant paperwork (see 11(i) to 2(iii) above);

16. Decisions regarding the admission of a club as a Member Club should be made following due process, be unbiased and given in good faith. If an application is rejected, the applicant will be notified in writing (with reasons given) and the Membership Fee will be returned. If the reasons given for the rejection are capable of being remedied by the applicant, the applicant may be given the opportunity to remedy the reasons and to reapply.

17. If, after reasons have been given, a club considers the basis for its rejection as a Member Club is unfair, it should refer the matter to a representative of the Membership Sub-Committee of EB for resolution (via the EB Membership Services Department). A panel of no less than three members of the Sub-Committee (of which no member of the panel will be from the region concerned), shall consider and decide the matter following due process.

18. For assistance, guidance, or support in dealing with such matters, please contact the EB Membership Services Department. Contact details can be found [here](#).

## **E. Responsibilities of Member Clubs**

19. As a Member Club of EB, you/the club committee agree(s), not to act against the interests of EB or the sport of boxing and not to harm the reputation of EB or the sport of boxing in any way.

20. It is the responsibility of each Member Club to obtain insurance that will cover the premises, contents, personal accident, travel, and public liability, for any claim by an individual or organisation that may visit or hire the club facility. These are not covered by EB's insurance policy mentioned above.

21. On becoming a Club Member, you/the committee agree to: (i) comply with the various rules of boxing, and (ii) ensure that individual members of your club also

comply with these rules when engaged in boxing related activity.<sup>3</sup> These rules govern important issues such as conduct, anti-doping, diversity and equality, safeguarding, social inclusion, whistleblowing, and the technical rules of the sport. They are set out in the EB Code of Conduct, the EB Anti-Doping Rules (which are composed of the UK Anti-Doping Rules and the IBA Anti-Doping Rules), the EB Safeguarding Policies, the EB Rule Book, and other EB policies, as well as all relevant IBA documents, including IBA's Statutes, Code of Ethics, Disciplinary Code, Anti-doping Rules and Technical and Competition Rules. All relevant documents can be downloaded from the EB website and should be read prior to applying for Club Membership of EB. The documents can be found [here](#).

22. As a Member Club, if the club commits a breach of the Boxing Rules, the club and /or its Individual Members and/or its supporters may face disciplinary action in accordance with the EB Disciplinary Procedure, which can be found [here](#).

23. You should note that as a Club member of England Boxing:

- The club, its officers and members, together with the parents/guardians of any members who are under the age of 18 years of age and anybody else who is actively involved in the club, are bound by the EB Anti-Doping Rules for a period of twelve months from the beginning of their membership and for a further twelve months thereafter upon each renewal.
- An officer of the club must promptly inform the Regional Registrar and the England Boxing Membership Services Manager in writing of the retirement from competitive boxing of any member who holds a BCR1 (A Boxer Medical Record Book) using the form found [here](#).

24. The various rules of boxing may be revised, updated, and amended from time to time. Member Clubs are responsible for checking the EB website for the latest versions of all of the relevant rules, policies and procedures. EB will make efforts to ensure that substantive changes to any of the various rules, policies and procedures that make up the various rules of boxing are promptly communicated to clubs via its digital channels and on the appropriate section of the Knowledge Base (accessible through the Vault). Queries relating to the various rules of boxing may be addressed to the EB Membership Services Department. Contact details can be found [here](#).

25. Membership records will be kept by EB for a period of 10 years to accord with the requirements of the WADA Code, its associated international standards and United Kingdom Anti-Doping (UKAD).

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<sup>3</sup> Boxing activity includes, but is not limited to, training, sparring and taking part in tournaments and competitions.

## **F. Termination and Renewal of Membership**

24. A Member Club can terminate its membership at any time by informing EB in writing. No refund or part-refund of the Membership Fee will be given unless EB or the regional representative has rejected an application in accordance with section D above.

25. In order to ensure its continued membership of EB, on or before 1st June of any given year, Member Clubs should submit an online renewal application via The Vault and pay the applicable Membership Fee, unless otherwise advised. If a Member Club fails to renew annual membership via the Vault, Club Membership will cease on 31st May of that year, unless otherwise advised. Club membership cannot be transferred.

26. EB reserves the right to refuse, terminate or suspend the membership of any Member Club at any time, and in its sole discretion. If EB exercises such right, the Member Club will be notified in writing and will be given the opportunity to refer the matter to the Membership Sub-Committee of EB (in accordance with section H below).

## **G. Hosting Events**

27. Some Member Clubs of EB may wish to host competitive events throughout the season. Such events may include: For One Night Only, Domestic Boxing, Regional Tournaments, and/or Championships. In accordance with section 6.4 of the EB Rulebook, all EB events must be licensed and a permit obtained (by application to the Regional Secretary or their nominee on behalf of EB), as a condition of the insurance of the participants. In order to host competitive events, Member Clubs must also meet the requirements and responsibilities imposed on Member Clubs set out in sections 5 and 6 of the EB Rule Book, which can be found [here](#).

## **H. The Member Club – Regional Association Relationship**

28. Regional Associations may have, at their discretion, additional rules and/or regulations covering membership of Member Clubs to the applicable Regional Association. However, such rules and/or regulations must be published and easily accessible, fair and consistent with the Articles and the terms of this Policy (which in the event of a conflict will prevail).

29. Should an issue or dispute arise between a Member Club and the applicable Regional Association, which negatively affects one or both parties (and which the parties have been unable to resolve, fairly and sensibly, amongst themselves), the matter should be referred to a representative of the Membership Sub-Committee of EB for resolution (via the EB Membership Services Department).



A panel of no less than three members of the Sub-Committee (of which no member of the panel will be from the region concerned), shall consider and decide the matter following due process.

30. Member Clubs are not permitted to change regions other than in exceptional circumstances and only once all avenues for resolving the underlying issue have been exhausted (see clause H(29) above). An application to change region must be submitted in writing to a representative of the Membership Sub-Committee of EB for consideration (via the EB Membership Services Department).

31. For assistance, guidance, or support in dealing with such matters, please contact the EB Membership Services Department. Contact details can be found [here](#).

## **I. Personal Data**

32. The transfer, storage and processing of data personal to Individual Members is subject to the EB Privacy Policy which is available to view on the EB website [here](#).

33. If Individual Members are not happy for their data to be collected in this way, they must inform EB in writing.

## **J. Contact us**

34. You can contact EB's Head Office using the following contact details:

- By telephone: 0114 223 5654
- By email: [enquiries@englandboxing.org](mailto:enquiries@englandboxing.org)
- By post: England Boxing, EIS Sheffield, Coleridge Road, Sheffield, S9 5DA

Any notification to EB made in accordance with this Policy, unless otherwise stated, should be made by email or post.

**Approved by the England Boxing Board Ltd at item 10.1 of its meeting, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021**