

Membership Terms – Conduct and Sanctions

Star Soccer Academy grassroots football club, operated by Star Sports Coaching Ltd. This section forms part of the club's Membership Terms and Conditions and applies to every player registration from the date shown. Where it conflicts with an earlier version of the Membership Terms, this section applies.

1. Definitions

- 1.1** "The club" means the Star Soccer Academy grassroots football club, including its affiliated teams and squads, operated by Star Sports Coaching Ltd. The Star Soccer Academy name and branding are owned by Star Soccer Academy Ltd and are used by the club under licence.
- 1.2** "Member" means a player registered with the club, and "Parent" means the parent or carer who registers the Member and accepts these terms on their behalf. Where a Member is under 18, the Parent is responsible for the Member's compliance with these terms.
- 1.3** "Club activity" means any training session, match, tournament, camp, trip, event or online group organised or run by the club, at any venue, and any online activity in the club's name.
- 1.4** "Club Policies" means the club's Safeguarding Children Policy, Players' Code of Conduct, Parents' and Spectators' Code of Conduct, Equality and Anti-Discrimination Policy, Anti-Bullying Policy and Player Review and Selection Policy, as published on the club website and updated from time to time.

2. Codes of conduct form part of this agreement

- 2.1** By registering a Member, the Parent agrees, on their own behalf and on behalf of the Member and any other adult who attends club activities with the Member, to comply with the Club Policies. The Club Policies form part of the contract between the Parent and the club.
- 2.2** The Parent will accept the Parents' Code of Conduct, and confirm the Member's agreement to the Players' Code of Conduct, in the Star app at registration and whenever the club reissues them. Failure to do so does not remove the obligation to comply.
- 2.3** The club may update the Club Policies. Changes take effect 14 days after the club notifies Parents through the Star app, and continued membership after that date is acceptance of the updated policies.

3. Breach

- 3.1** A breach occurs where a Member, a Parent, or an adult attending a club activity with the Member, fails to comply with a Club Policy. This includes, without limitation:
 - foul, abusive, threatening or discriminatory language or behaviour towards any player, parent, coach, official, opponent or spectator
 - shouting at, criticising or coaching players from the touchline
 - bullying, harassment or exclusion of any child or adult, in person or online
 - using club or team group chats or social media to criticise or make comments about individual children, families, coaches or officials, or to bring the club into disrepute
 - confronting another parent, coach or official rather than reporting a concern through the club's procedures
 - any conduct, in person or online, that brings the club into disrepute or damages its reputation
- 3.2** Conduct by a Parent or accompanying adult is treated as a breach by that adult. The club will not sanction a Member for an adult's conduct except as a last resort under clause 4.5.
- 3.3** The Star Soccer Academy name, logos and branding belong to Star Soccer Academy Ltd. Members and Parents must not use them, or present any group, page, social media account, kit or event as official or connected with the club, without the club's written permission. The club may require any such use to stop, and continued use after that is a breach of these terms.

4. Sanctions

- 4.1** Where the club finds that a breach has occurred, it may apply one or more of the following, depending on the seriousness of the breach and whether it is a first, repeated or continuing breach:

Level	Sanction	Typically used for
1	Verbal reminder, recorded	Minor first breach
2	Formal written warning, kept on file for the season	A clear breach, or a repeat of a minor one

Level	Sanction	Typically used for
3	Exclusion of an adult from attending matches and/or training for a stated period (touchline ban), or suspension of a Member from selection for one or more matches	A serious breach, or a breach following a written warning
4	Referral to the Leicestershire & Rutland County FA	Any breach that may also breach FA rules, including discrimination or abuse of officials
5	Termination of membership under clause 4.5	Serious or repeated breach where lesser sanctions have failed or would be inadequate

- 4.2** Sanctions are proportionate to the breach, applied consistently to everyone, and take account of any admission, apology and previous record.
- 4.3** Before applying a sanction at level 2 or above, the club will tell the Parent in writing what breach is alleged, give them a reasonable opportunity (normally seven days) to respond, consider that response and any other accounts, and confirm the decision and reasons in writing.
- 4.4** A Parent may ask for a level 2 or higher sanction to be reviewed by writing to the Club Welfare Officer within 14 days of the decision. The review is carried out by a person not involved in the original decision, who replies in writing within 14 days. The sanction stands while the review takes place.
- 4.5** The club may terminate a membership where there has been a serious or repeated breach of the Club Policies by the Member, the Parent or an accompanying adult, and where lesser sanctions have failed or would clearly be inadequate. Termination is decided by the owner, confirmed in writing with reasons, and takes effect on the date stated. Where membership is on a monthly subscription, the club will cancel the subscription from the termination date and refund any period already paid for beyond that date. Where a seasonal fee has been paid, the unused part of the season is refunded pro rata. The club will notify the Leicestershire & Rutland County FA where required by FA rules.
- 4.6** Nothing in these terms prevents the club from taking immediate interim action, including asking an adult to leave a venue, where it reasonably considers this necessary for the safety or welfare of any child or adult.

5. Raising concerns and no victimisation

- 5.1** Parents and Members are encouraged to raise concerns through the club's Safeguarding Children Policy. Raising a concern in good faith, or being involved in one, is not a breach of these terms and will not be taken into account in any sanction, review, selection or registration decision.
- 5.2** Making an allegation the person knows to be false, or using a complaint process to harass another person, is a breach of these terms.

6. Membership period and renewal

- 6.1** Membership runs for one season and ends on 31 May each year, unless ended earlier under these terms. Membership does not renew automatically.
- 6.2** The club decides which players to offer places to for the following season under its Player Review and Selection Policy, and reserves the right not to offer a place. Where a place is offered, it is subject to acceptance of the club's then-current terms and policies.
- 6.3** Where a squad place is not offered, the club will tell the Parent in writing by 31 May, with the reasons drawn from the player's reviews and any spring trial, and will offer a training-only place in line with the Player Review and Selection Policy. The Parent may accept that place or leave the club, in which case membership ends on 31 May. Any monthly subscription ends on 31 May, and a new subscription starts on re-registration.

7. General

- 7.1** These terms are governed by the law of England and Wales.
- 7.2** Nothing in these terms limits any right the Parent has under consumer law, and nothing limits the club's obligations under The FA's rules and regulations, which take precedence where they conflict.
- 7.3** Existing Members: this section takes effect for existing memberships on 12 October 2026. The club will notify all Parents through the Star app. Continued membership after that date is acceptance of this section.

Acceptance: Parents accept these terms, including this section and the Club Policies, in the Star app at registration and whenever they are updated. Where the app cannot be used, the club will provide a paper copy. Approved by Matt Finnigan, Owner, on behalf of Star Sports Coaching Ltd, September 2026.