

# ORCA Swimming Club

*Membership Terms & Conditions 2025/2026*



## Membership Basis

The Club Constitution sets out the full terms and conditions of membership of ORCA Swimming Club, together with the byelaws below. A copy of the Club Constitution is available at [www.orcaswimming.club](http://www.orcaswimming.club) or upon request from the Club Secretary. The Club Management Committee reserves the right to alter the byelaws and change the membership terms and conditions and/or the membership fee structure at any time.

## Membership Subscription

All members will pay an annual ORCA Club Membership Fee which is payable in January, when membership to the club is renewed, *PLUS* an annual Swim England (SE) membership fee which is also due at this time. Members will also pay a monthly squad training fee via a regular recurring payment, e.g. direct debit or standing order. The monthly squad training fee is payable over 12 identical payments, taking into consideration pool and seasonal closures e.g. Christmas, Easter & Summer breaks.

## ORCA Annual Club Membership Fees

Each year in November, the Management Committee will set the fees for the forthcoming year's membership. This is an annual payment to the Club made by every member when they **join or renew** membership. This fee supports the administration and other associated costs of running the Club over a 12-month period from January to December each year. ORCA Swimming Club's fees are to be paid in full in accordance with the amounts stated on the current online ORCA Membership Form.

## Swim England (SE) Annual Membership Fees

Members joining the Club or renewing their membership are also required to join Swim England. There are 3 levels of membership, [Swim to Train](#), [Swim to Compete](#) & Club Support. Members attending Club Swimming and Local Team Fixtures will pay for [Swim to Train](#) membership. Those swimming within the squad structure and competing at Licensed Meets, National Regional & County Championship events will pay for [Swim to Compete](#) membership. Members can upgrade to Swim to Compete for competitive swimming status at any time during the year should they decide they wish to compete in L1,2 or 3 open meets or the Arena League as appropriate. More info can be found here <https://www.swimming.org/members/tag/club-membership-options/>

## Accounts in Arrears Process

Orca Swimming Club, like any other club, relies on regular timely payment of all swimming fees. The club cannot afford to cover the costs of any member defaulting on payments, it would also be unfair to pass the burden onto the other members by unfairly increasing fees. It is also a waste of time and resources for our Treasurer to have to chase fees. Therefore, the formal arrears process will be followed:

- If a direct debit/regular payment has not been received after the due date, email chasers will be made in the first instance.
- If payment is not received for 2 consecutive months, a notice of termination and a final request for payment will be given with a 7-day deadline and the Executive Committee notified.
- If there is no attempt to clear the arrears or no contact with the Treasurer, the swimmer's membership will be terminated.

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*The club would urge anyone who is experiencing any difficulty to make contact before the process above is instigated. We do not wish to have to turn any swimmer away from training, but this will happen if payment is not made.*

### Volunteer Workforce Fees

The Club will pay the Club Support membership fee for its volunteer workforce and obtain Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) clearance as appropriate to their role within the Club. Child Safeguarding training for volunteers and their poolside uniform will also be paid for by the Club.

### Methods of Payment

The annualised squad training fee is divided into 12 equal payments payable by regular recurring payment. ORCA uses a direct debit collection via *Go Cardless*, which is the Swim England preferred payment partner. We encourage all swimmers to set up a direct debit so monthly swimming fees are paid on time every month. Any initial payments required upon joining the Club, i.e. Club Membership, can be paid by Bank Transfer. **We no longer accept cheques as a method of payment.** After the initial trial swim, new members are offered the remainder of that particular month as a settling in period, they will then be expected to pay the squad fees from the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month following the trial period.

### Dual Swim England Membership Fees

The Club recognises that swimmers may wish to register with a second swimming Club and become a dual registered with Swim England. Annual SE membership fees will only be collected for the members primary named swimming club (listed on the SE membership online register). However, ORCA Swimming Club's annual membership fees are still payable in full as per the amount stated in the membership area of the ORCA website.

### Annual Training Fees Review

The Management Committee will review the monthly squad training fees on an annual basis and set the different squad training fees for the year ahead. It should be noted that Oldham Community Leisure Ltd (OCLL) review the pool hire fees and often increase the pool costs for the Club each year. This increase in pool hire costs will be passed onto the membership as appropriate.

### Refunds & Termination of Membership

The major items of Club expenditure are committed on an annual basis, Swim England and ORCA annual membership fees are paid for a full year from January to December. Once paid these Club membership fees are non-refundable. Members who wish to terminate their membership or amend their squad membership must do so via email to the Membership Secretary – [orcamembership@orcawimming.club](mailto:orcamembership@orcawimming.club) and Club Treasurer – [orcatreasurer@outlook.com](mailto:orcatreasurer@outlook.com) giving notice of their intention to leave the club.

If you no longer wish to continue swimming, you **must** cancel any standing order or direct debit with your bank. Members who leave the club but continue to pay squad fees will **NOT** be entitled to a refund, the responsibility for the cancellation of any recurring payment lies with the member and **NOT** the Club.