



**EMERALD<sup>™</sup>  
WARRIORS**  
RFC

# **EMERALD WARRIORS RFC MEMBERSHIP POLICY**

WEF 15 JUNE 2021

## **Mission statement**

The Emerald Warriors RFC commit to promoting interest, knowledge, and pride in inclusive rugby and supporting the appreciation and enjoyment of sport for all while working to ensure the highest standards of rugby experience, integrity and professionalism to nurture social inclusion and facilitate the sustainability of our club.

## **Vision**

The Emerald Warriors RFC vision is to be the leading inclusive club, not only in Ireland, but in the world, leading by example and achieving success as players, coaches and supporters where our members and our allies are accepted and can participate in, and enjoy, the benefits of rugby, sport and its collective experiences.

## **Scope of policy**

The Emerald Warriors RFC recognises its responsibilities in respect of ensuring that its policies and procedures benefit not only its members but also its stakeholders including the wider community, sponsors, the LGBT+ community and other partners. The committee of the club is responsible for the implementation of this policy, however, the success of it depends on the commitment of all members and potential members. In this regard, this policy document applies to all members and potential members of the Emerald Warriors RFC.

## **Policy objectives**

- To provide clear direction for members and potential members on matters relating to membership.
- To ensure that a standardised approach for managing membership applications and charges is upheld.
- To demonstrate that an equitable approach to the management of membership charges is in place for all members.

## **Types of Membership of the Emerald Warriors RFC**

There are a number of different types of membership of the Emerald Warriors RFC. In section 6.2 of the club's constitution three types of membership are outlined. These are general membership, full membership and honorary life membership. These are further sub-divided into six membership categories below for the purposes of administrative ease and user friendliness.

The following is a list of all membership sub-types and a description of each:

### **1. Full Contact Player**

This is a playing member who participates in Full Contact Rugby training, leagues, matches, tournaments, etc. This type of membership will primarily be eligible to participate in full contact training, leagues, matches, tournaments etc.

### **2. Full Contact Player - Student/Unemployed/Senior**

This is a discounted option for full contact players and there are three sub categories as follows:

- a. Student** - This membership option is available only to individuals who are in full-time education. To qualify, persons applying for student membership must provide confirmation of the full-time status of their course to the club's membership secretary at the time of making the application for membership. Members and potential members in part-time education are excluded from this membership option.

b. **Unemployed** - Membership is available to persons who wish to play for the club's contact teams and are unemployed on a full-time basis for more than six weeks at the time of applying for membership. Persons who are working part-time, have retired, or self-employed do not qualify for this membership type. Confirmation of unemployment status must be submitted at the time of application for membership and must take the form of a letter from the Department of Social Protection or copy of receipt of unemployment benefit.

c. **Senior** - For members to be eligible for this category you need to have reached your 65th birthday.

### 3. Non-Contact Player

This is a playing member who participates in non-contact training, leagues, matches, tournaments, etc. such as tag rugby. This type of membership does not include eligibility to participate in full contact training, leagues, matches, tournaments etc, however, if a non-contact player wished to join the full-contact offerings, a 'top up' can be made to their membership through payment of the difference in the membership fees for both categories.

### 4. Non-Contact Player - Student/Unemployed/Senior

This is a discounted option for non-contact players and there are three sub categories as follows:

a. **Student** - This membership option is available only to individuals who are in full-time education. To qualify, persons applying for student membership must provide confirmation of the full-time status of their course to the club's membership secretary at the time of making the application for membership. Members and potential members in part-time education are excluded from this membership option.

b. **Unemployed** - Membership is available to persons who wish to play in non-contact teams for the club and are unemployed on a full-time basis for more than six weeks at the time of applying for membership. Persons who are working part-time, have retired, or self-employed do not qualify for this membership type. Confirmation of unemployment status must be submitted at the time of application for membership and must take the form of a letter from the Department of Social Protection or copy of receipt of unemployment benefit.

c. **Senior** - For members to be eligible for this category you need to have reached your 65th birthday.

### 5. Pavilion (Non-Playing)

Pavilion membership involves full membership for non-playing members of the club. This membership option includes the same benefits of playing membership including voting rights with the exception of the entitlement to play for the club.

### 6. Pavilion (Non-Playing) - Student/Unemployed/Senior

This is a discounted option for pavilion members and there are three sub categories as follows:

a. **Student** - This membership option is available only to individuals who are in full-time education and do not wish to play for the club. To qualify, persons applying for pavilion (student) membership must provide confirmation of the full-time status of their course to the club's membership secretary at the time of making the application for membership. Members and potential members in part-time education are excluded from this membership option.

b. **Unemployed** - Membership is available to persons who do not wish to play for the club and are unemployed on a full-time basis for more than six weeks at the time of applying for membership. Persons who are working part-time, have retired, or self-employed do not qualify for this membership type. Confirmation of unemployment status must be submitted at the time of application for membership and must take the form of a letter from the Department of Social Protection or copy of receipt of unemployment benefit.

c. **Senior** - For members to be eligible for this category you need to have reached your 65th birthday.

## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Upon applying to become a member of the EWRFC, applications are submitted to the Club's Committee. Membership applications are proposed and seconded as outlined in section 6.7 of the Club Constitution. The EWRFC Committee reserves the final decision on all membership applications. In applying for membership you thereby agree to the [Members Code of Conduct](#) and [Club Policies and Procedures](#).

## **INTRODUCTORY PERIOD**

The Emerald Warriors RFC wishes to offer all members of the wider community an opportunity to experience the collective benefits of sport and rugby and welcomes everyone to join the club. Contact and non-contact players are welcome to train with our teams for a number of weeks before having to make a decision about formally joining the club. In the interest of fairness and establishing clear guidance, the number of training sessions potential members can participate in before they must pay membership fees is set at four. After this period, potential members will not be facilitated to participate in or join training sessions until the issue of membership fees has been resolved in full.

## **REPRESENTING THE CLUB**

Only persons registered as members of the Club can represent the Emerald Warriors RFC in any official capacity. This includes playing contact or non-contact on behalf of the Club at league level or at any other fixtures including the Hadrian Cup, Union Cup or the Bingham Cup. Please note that this is not an exhaustive list and other fixtures may include events organised by any IGR affiliated teams, the IRFU and Leinster Rugby.

## **DATA PROTECTION**

The club holds itself to the highest standards of data protection and commits to upholding the privacy of its members in full adherence to the standards set out in the General Data Protection Legislation (GDPR). The club recognises the sensitive nature of information provided in relation to membership and membership applications and this information will be handled with sensitivity and care under the duty of the club's membership secretary. For further information, please see the [EWRFC Data Privacy and Protection Statement](#).