



## Membership Terms, Governance & Conditions

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### 1. Purpose

These Terms & Conditions set out the framework for membership, governance, safeguarding, operational standards, and service provision within Taekwondo Council UK (TCUK).

TCUK works collaboratively with clubs, instructors, associations, and affiliated organisations to support safer practice, participant welfare, governance standards, inclusion, and professional development while respecting the independence and identity of affiliated clubs and styles.

These Terms are intended to support fairness, transparency, accountability, and operational standards consistent with recognised UK sporting, safeguarding, governance, and martial arts good practice.

Membership of TCUK does not transfer ownership, operational control, grading authority, or independent identity of affiliated clubs, instructors, associations, or organisations.

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### 2. Membership Framework

Membership of TCUK provides recognition within the organisation together with access to applicable services, benefits, governance support, educational opportunities, development resources, and operational systems.

Membership categories may include:

- Student Membership
- Instructor Membership
- Coach / Assistant Instructor Membership
- Club or Organisational Membership
- Associated or Affiliate Membership

Each membership category may have separate eligibility requirements, responsibilities, benefits, and operational conditions.

Membership benefits, services, and opportunities may vary between membership categories and may be amended where reasonably necessary.

Membership remains conditional upon reasonable compliance with applicable:

- safeguarding requirements
  - welfare standards
  - conduct expectations
  - governance procedures
  - operational policies
  - and membership requirements
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### **3. Eligibility & Responsibilities**

Members are responsible for:

- maintaining accurate and up-to-date membership records
- maintaining required qualifications appropriate to their role
- maintaining required certifications where applicable (including DBS/PVG/AccessNI and First Aid)
- complying with applicable TCUK policies and procedures
- supporting safeguarding, welfare, inclusion, and safer practice standards
- cooperating reasonably with governance, safeguarding, disciplinary, welfare, and compliance processes where necessary

TCUK recognises qualifications and experience from a wide range of legitimate Taekwondo organisations, clubs, associations, federations, and governing bodies.

Failure to maintain reasonable membership requirements may result in temporary restriction, suspension, or removal of membership where reasonably necessary.

Membership does not guarantee grading eligibility, instructor recognition, event participation, competition entry, operational approval, or access to specific activities or services.

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### **4. Safeguarding & Welfare**

TCUK is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and adults at risk.

All members are expected to comply with applicable TCUK safeguarding policies, safer practice guidance, and relevant UK safeguarding legislation.

TCUK seeks to operate consistently with recognised safeguarding good practice applicable to martial arts activity within the United Kingdom.

Where reasonably necessary for safeguarding or welfare purposes, TCUK reserves the right to implement temporary precautionary measures, including suspension pending investigation or risk assessment.

TCUK aims to act reasonably, proportionately, fairly, and in good faith when applying safeguarding, welfare, governance, disciplinary, and operational procedures while prioritising participant safety and welfare.

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## **5. Code of Conduct & Professional Standards**

Members are expected to act professionally, ethically, respectfully, and in a manner which supports participant welfare and the reputation of TCUK and affiliated activity.

Members must not engage in conduct likely to:

- place participants at risk
- undermine safeguarding standards
- bring TCUK or affiliated activity into serious disrepute
- or create unreasonable operational, welfare, or reputational concerns

TCUK will normally seek to support members in resolving concerns wherever reasonably possible and subject to available operational resources and capacity.

Serious, repeated, or unresolved conduct concerns may result in disciplinary action in accordance with applicable TCUK procedures.

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## **6. Membership Fees & Payment**

Membership fees are set by TCUK and communicated in advance.

Payment is currently accepted by BACS transfer or Direct Debit unless otherwise agreed.

TCUK intends to transition to Direct Debit as the primary payment method from October 2026 in order to support administrative efficiency, membership management, and operational consistency.

Reasonable notice will be provided prior to implementation of any mandatory payment arrangements.

Failure to maintain agreed payment arrangements may result in suspension of membership or associated membership benefits where applicable.

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## **7. Membership Status & Charging**

Student membership charges may be based upon individuals recorded as active on approved TCUK administration systems and holding valid in-date membership status where applicable.

Affiliated clubs, organisations, and instructors are responsible for maintaining reasonably accurate records.

TCUK may periodically review membership records, status, or participation data where reasonably necessary for governance, safeguarding, insurance validation, operational administration, or compliance purposes.

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## **8. Instructor Membership & Insurance**

Instructor memberships must remain valid and up to date.

Certain membership levels may include access to insurance-related membership benefits and BMABA-related educational opportunities.

TCUK is a membership organisation and is not an insurance broker, insurance provider, or regulated insurance adviser.

Insurance-related benefits are provided through third-party insurers or providers and remain subject to insurer terms, policy conditions, operational requirements, safeguarding requirements, and eligibility criteria.

Members without included insurance-related benefits remain responsible for ensuring they hold appropriate independent cover where required.

No insurance-related benefit shall be considered active until membership acceptance and eligibility have been confirmed.

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## **9. BMABA & Development Opportunities**

Certain membership categories may include access to BMABA-related educational, governance, safeguarding, inclusion, and instructor development opportunities.

TCUK strongly encourages instructors, coaches, assistant instructors, volunteers, and affiliated personnel to engage with relevant safeguarding, governance, welfare, inclusion, and professional development opportunities appropriate to their role.

From October 2027, designated safeguarding, welfare, governance, and instructor development training may become mandatory for specified instructor, coaching, safeguarding, welfare, and affiliated roles where reasonably necessary.

From March 2028, designated inclusion and equality-related training may also become mandatory for specified instructor, coaching, safeguarding, welfare, and affiliated roles where applicable.

TCUK is also a licensed partner of UK Coaching and may support members in accessing additional recognised coaching, safeguarding, inclusion, welfare, governance, and instructor development opportunities where appropriate.

Reasonable notice will be provided prior to implementation of mandatory requirements.

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## **10. Third-Party Providers & Systems**

TCUK works with third-party providers, systems, and operational partners including, but not limited to:

- BlackCulm
- insurers and insurance administrators
- educational and safeguarding providers
- coaching and governance partners

BlackCulm is independently operated and not controlled by TCUK.

Access to certain systems or services may be included within applicable membership categories.

TCUK accepts no liability for interruption or performance issues relating to independent third-party systems or providers but will act reasonably to support members wherever possible.

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## **11. Membership Cancellation, Suspension & Refunds**

Members may request cancellation of membership at any time by providing written notice to TCUK.

Cancellation will normally take effect at the end of the current membership or billing period unless otherwise agreed.

Membership fees are generally non-refundable once membership has commenced or where membership-related services, administration, systems access, insurance-related benefits, or operational support have been provided.

Where payment is made by Direct Debit, members remain responsible for ensuring any active payment arrangements are properly cancelled following confirmation of membership cancellation where applicable.

Cancellation of membership does not automatically remove liability for any outstanding agreed fees, active billing periods, or payment obligations already due.

TCUK reserves the right to temporarily restrict, suspend, or terminate membership where reasonably necessary for:

- safeguarding or welfare concerns
- serious conduct concerns
- failure to maintain membership requirements
- failure to maintain agreed payment arrangements
- operational or governance concerns
- or serious breach of TCUK policies or procedures

TCUK will normally seek to act reasonably, proportionately, fairly, and in good faith while prioritising participant welfare, safeguarding, and operational integrity.

Nothing within these Terms affects statutory rights applicable under UK consumer legislation.

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## **12. Refunds**

Membership fees are generally non-refundable once the membership period has commenced or membership-related services, administration, systems, or benefits have been provided.

TCUK may consider refund requests on a case-by-case basis where reasonably appropriate.

Nothing within these Terms affects statutory rights applicable under UK consumer legislation.

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### **13. Complaints & Appeals**

TCUK seeks to operate fair, transparent, accessible, and proportionate complaints and appeals procedures.

Members may raise concerns, complaints, or appeals in accordance with applicable TCUK procedures.

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### **14. Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**

TCUK is committed to promoting equality, diversity, inclusion, participant welfare, and non-discrimination.

TCUK supports inclusive participation while respecting the independence and identity of affiliated clubs, instructors, organisations, and styles.

Discrimination, harassment, victimisation, bullying, abuse, or exclusionary behaviour will not be tolerated.

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### **15. Data Protection & Privacy**

Personal data will be processed in accordance with:

- UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- safeguarding obligations
- governance requirements
- and legitimate operational purposes

Information may be shared with relevant third parties where reasonably necessary for:

- safeguarding
- insurance administration
- governance
- membership administration
- welfare management
- compliance

- or operational purposes

Further information regarding data processing, safeguarding processing, retention, lawful basis, data sharing, and member rights is available within the TCUK Privacy Policy.

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## **16. Liability**

Nothing within these Terms excludes or limits liability for:

- death or personal injury caused by negligence
- fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation
- or any liability which cannot lawfully be excluded under UK law

TCUK shall not normally be liable for indirect or consequential loss arising from membership, participation, or third-party systems or services.

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## **17. Changes to Terms, Policies & Governance**

TCUK reserves the right to amend membership terms, governance arrangements, operational requirements, fee structures, and associated policies where reasonably necessary.

Members will normally be provided with reasonable notice of significant changes.

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## **18. Governing Law**

These Terms & Conditions shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws applicable within the part of the United Kingdom in which the member ordinarily resides or operates, including:

- England and Wales
  - Scotland
  - or Northern Ireland
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## **19. Acceptance**

By applying for, renewing, maintaining, or participating in membership, members acknowledge and agree to comply with:

- these Terms & Conditions
- applicable TCUK policies and procedures
- safeguarding requirements
- operational standards
- and membership responsibilities

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## **Taekwondo Council UK (TCUK)**

Independent national governing and membership organisation supporting Taekwondo clubs, instructors, associations, and participants across the United Kingdom.

Website: <https://www.tkdngb.co.uk>

Privacy Policy: <https://tkdngb.co.uk/en/privacy-policy>

Email: [council@tkdngb.co.uk](mailto:council@tkdngb.co.uk)

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