**Goalball UK – Club Minimum Standards**

# 8. Membership

To meet the Goalball UK Club Minimum Standards, clubs are expected to have their own club membership forms.

A club membership form contains personal information so should be stored safely but it must be easily accessible at training sessions and competitions (to designated club members only) in case of an emergency. Goalball UK recommends using password protected Microsoft or Google forms.

A club membership form records important information so that communication and interaction with members is appropriate to each individual. It also allows clubs to collate demographic data/diversity information (e.g. age, gender, postcode, ethnicity, education or employment status, etc.) that can be used anonymously in targeted funding bids.

## Examples of things to include are:

* Full name (and preferred name)
* Gender identity (and pronouns)
* Date of birth
* Postal address (of parent/guardian if under 18)
* Telephone number (of parent/guardian if under 18)
* Email address (of parent/guardian if under 18)
* Emergency contact details – e.g. name, relationship, telephone number, etc.
* Details of any medical conditions (including medication taken) and/or disabilities or long term health conditions (including support required)
* Diversity information – e.g. ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, etc.
* Education/employment status
* Preferred communication preferences
* Details of membership type and cost
* Photography and video consent
* Code of Conduct agreement

You may choose to have different forms for different types of membership (e.g. Adult or Junior). Or you may just have one form for everyone. It is important that the details are reviewed frequently to ensure that they are up to date.

## New Members and Guests

A full club membership form does not need to be completed by a prospective new member (or guest) before they attend their first session. However, it is important that emergency contact details plus details of any medical conditions and/or disabilities or long-term health conditions are recorded.

Goalball UK also suggests that the Club Secretary has an informal conversation with them (and/or their parent/carer) - via the phone or email – in advance of their first session to find out more about them (e.g. their age, level of sight, previous experience, etc). This will ensure that the session they subsequently attend is appropriate to them and they know how to get to the venue, where to go when they arrive, what to bring, how the session will run, etc. It will also provide an opportunity for them to ask any questions and therefore hopefully alleviate any anxieties so that they feel welcomed, enjoy the session, and want to return.

## Goalball UK Membership

All members of clubs must also be members of Goalball UK. Please note, this is following 4 club training sessions or prior to attending their first competition (whichever comes first). If club members are not registered members of Goalball UK, then they will be ineligible to play in Goalball UK competitions.

More information on Goalball UK Membership can be found here - [Membership - Goalball UK.](https://goalballuk.com/membership/)

**Should you need any additional information in relation to membership please contact Tom Dobson at Goalball UK.**

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