

Membership Fee Increase FAQs

Can I switch membership categories?

Yes. You can change your membership category at any time. As long as you give us notice of your request to change by 20th of the month, your category will be changed from the start of the following month. If you would like to discuss the membership options open to you, please contact us either in person, on 01403 247572 or by email to info@bluecoatsports.co.uk.

If I am not happy with the membership fee increase and would like to cancel my membership, what should I do?

You are not tied into any contract for your membership at BCS. We want you to remain a member because you value the membership benefits that we provide. If you decide that you want to cancel your membership, you may do so at any time. You should give us your request to cancel, in writing, by 20th of the month and your membership will cancel from the end of that month. You should also cancel your Direct Debit to us with your bank.

What is the relationship between Bluecoat Sports (BCS) and Christ's Hospital school (CH)?

BCS is a registered charity which operates the facilities that are owned by CH. BCS pays a rental fee to CH for using the facilities. CH pays hire fees to BCS for using the facilities for school activities. Any surplus which BCS generates at the end of our financial year stays within the charity and is used to refurbish and enhance the BCS facilities, providing benefit to both the students of CH and the BCS members.

What does my membership fee pay for?

Your membership fee gives you access to use of the current facilities at BCS. You also receive a number of additional benefits with discounts from lots of local retailers by virtue of being a member of BCS. The list of these benefits can be found [here](#).

BCS receives hire income from CH and clubs hiring the facilities. We also receive income from people 'paying and playing' to use some areas of the Club and from our Swim Academy teaching children and adults to swim. Over 60% of our income comes from your membership fees. All of these income elements cover the operating costs of the Club, which includes the rental payment to CH. As above, any surplus which BCS generates stays within BCS and is used to refurbish and enhance the BCS facilities.

Have membership fees funded the Sports Expansion?

No. The new car park and all of the exciting new sports facilities that are coming soon, are part of an expansion project that has been funded entirely by CH. BCS funds have not been used for this project. However, income generated from the use of the new facilities will be used to pay back some of the cost of building them.

Will use of the new facilities (Padel, Athletics and the Trail) be included in my existing membership fee?

No. Members will need to pay additionally to use the new facilities.

Whilst we understand that not every member uses every area of the Club currently, the main BCS memberships have always included access to the swimming pool, fitness suite, group exercise classes and racket sports, regardless of which facilities you personally choose to use most. Introducing new activities like Padel, Athletics and use of the Trail into the core membership, and further increasing the membership fee to cover this when not all members will be able, or may not even want, to use it, wouldn't be fair to the wider membership base.

It should be noted that this 'pay and play' arrangement will be in place for at least the first three months of operation of the new facilities. During this period, we will closely monitor usage and feedback and we remain open to reviewing membership options and how access to these facilities is paid for in the future.

Padel

Due to Padel being a high-demand sport, and with only four courts available, we feel a 'pay for what you use' approach is a fairer way for these facilities to operate. We will have a 4-tiered pricing structure with a peak and off-peak price. **BCS members will be entitled to a discounted rate when booking a Padel court.** Detailed pricing for use of the courts will be confirmed and advertised by the end of September.

Athletics & Trail

Pricing and operating models for use of the athletics track and trail are yet to be confirmed and these will also be available by the end of September.