

OTTER SWIMMING CLUB

Founded 1869



Otter subscriptions

The Club subscriptions are based on the calendar year. The default payment is in lump sum, in advance for the year. For new members there is a *flat rate joining fee*, and those who join in the year pay a *pro rata subscription rate*. The subscription amount covers almost all Club activities; some special sessions or events have additional charges. The subscription does not vary with the number of training sessions attended. There are discounts of the Active membership subscription for full-time students (50%) and those who live outside the M25 (75%).

There are two basic types of membership, Active and Non-Active. Active members include Life, Country (home outside the M25), and Temporary members. Active members have access to all the Club's programmes (although attendance at specified sessions may be dependent on the discretion of the coach and an individual's proficiency level). Non-Active members are a single category and have restricted or no access to the Club's activities; they are usually ex-Active members.

The ASA requires Club members to be registered, either as a competitor or a non-competitor, for ASA organised events or matches; the cost is included in the membership fee. Active members make the choice themselves how they wish to be registered. Non-Active members are automatically registered as non-competitor. However a small number of Non-Active members are registered with the ASA as competitors, for which there is an extra charge to the Non-Active fee. These members only appear at a few events outside the Club's normal activities.

The Club is open to all ages. Junior members are defined automatically by the ASA as less than 18 years at the start of the calendar year. Junior members are usually Active members (some children of members are Non-Active), and are by definition students. However Junior members who are Active members require specialised coaching supervision, which is only available in certain sections of the Club.

All members have to join by registering on the Club web site. Payment of subscriptions is either by lump sum in advance for the year, or by standing order monthly or quarterly, both of which are slightly more expensive than the lump sum to compensate for the deferred cash flow. The joining fee, which covers the fixed costs of joining, is paid with the first payment. Membership is formalised on receipt of the subscription money. Registering with the ASA is currently a separate process.

Temporary members generally do not pay by standing order (staying too short a time, no bank account etc.) and should pay in advance. The pricing of Temporary membership is the normal Active rate per month plus £10/m. This means that after 6 months it would be cheaper to have joined the Club, but the joining fee can then be waived. Until now student discount has usually been applied (if asked for!).