

**Parks & Leisure Services Terms and Conditions of Sports Hire (football and rugby)**

# By hiring a Parks and Leisure sports facility you are agreeing to these terms and conditions of hire. Please note that any breach of these terms and conditions may result in the cancellation of bookings without refund and the Council refusing to accept bookings from the Hirer in the future.

These terms and conditions apply to the hire of all sports pitches, parks and recreation grounds owned or managed by the Council of the Borough of Guildford, including, but not limited to, the following:

Cardwells Keep Kingston Meadows Onslow Village Shalford Park

Stoke Recreation Ground Stoke Park

Stoughton Recreation Ground Sutherland Memorial Park Woodbridge Road Sports Ground

# Definitions

* 1. “Booking” means a reservation of Council Facilities on a specified date, at a specified time and for a specified duration.
  2. “Booking Credit” means a credit which may be used for the next Booking the Hirer makes.
  3. “Council” means the Council of the Borough of Guildford.
  4. “Facilities” means the place where the activity or sport takes place.
  5. “Hirer” means the individual (aged eighteen or over), team, body, club, school or organisation who makes the Booking.
  6. “Users” means any player, spectator, Hirer or any other person who has any involvement whatsoever with the use of the Facilities during a Booking, including members of opposing teams.
  7. “Working Day” means between 8.30 am and 4.30pm from Monday to Friday inclusive, excluding bank and public holidays.

“Changing Room” means the allocated space at the Facilities, subject to availability, for the purposes of changing, showering and the use of the toilet facilities.

# Bookings and Cancellations

* 1. Requests for Bookings must be made by:
     1. By submitting the on-line booking request form located on our website .[www.guildford.gov.uk/sportspitchesandcourts](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/sportspitchesandcourts)
     2. A booking is not complete until it is confirmed by the Council to the Hirer via email.

Bookings will not be accepted by any other method.

* 1. Cancellations must be made in writing by either emailing [parks@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:parks@guildford.gov.uk)  and must be made at least five full working days prior to the date of the booking in order to secure a Booking Credit. Cancellations will not be accepted by any other method.
     1. A Booking Credit may not be issued if less than five working days’ notice is given. . Any failure to cancel the booking in accordance with these terms will result in any fees not being refunded.
     2. The Booking Credit may only be used towards the next booking; it may not be used against current invoices.
  2. The Council will aim to process all Booking applications within **five** Working Days of receipt.
  3. The Council cannot accept bookings made less than five working days in advance due to the work involved to ensure a pitch is prepared. Bookings made within this time will be at the discretion of the Council.
  4. Bookings made for Users aged under 18 years will qualify for the reduced youth rate. This must be requested at the time of booking otherwise the default adult payment will be charged. This charge will not under any circumstance be adjusted retrospectively. Evidence of age may be required.
  5. The maximum length of any one block booking is one fiscal year, i.e., 1 April through to 31 March of the following year. Block bookings made for longer than four months can be paid by instalments at the Hirer’s request. The Hirer should contact Financial Services at the Council on 01483 444851 or [finacc@guildford.gov.uk](mailto:finacc@guildford.gov.uk) on receipt of their invoice to arrange an instalment plan.
  6. The Council does not send out reminders to customers at the end of a block booking. Customers are advised to note the dates of the finish of their Booking and rebook as necessary, with as much advance notice as possible.
  7. Booking Credits remaining at the end of a season or fiscal year will not be carried over to the following year.
  8. Unused Booking Credits will only be refunded in the event of a customer no longer requiring the use of any Parks & Leisure sports facilities in the future.
  9. The Council may set off against any refund any amounts due from the Hirer, whether in relation to the booking or otherwise.

# Obligations on the Hirer

* 1. Payment of any invoices will be required by the due date shown on the invoice, regardless of whether the Facilities are used.
  2. The Hirer must leave the Facilities in a clean and tidy condition after use including but not limited to the removal of all litter, bottles, tape and orange peel and is responsible for ensuring that the Facilities are treated in a considerate manner. Boots must not be cleaned in the showers and sinks, and mud must not be removed from boots on or with any part of the changing facilities. The Council reserves the right to charge the Hirer for the full costs of cleaning the Facilities if they are not in a clean and tidy condition at the end of the Booking.
  3. The Hirer shall repay the Council on demand the cost of reinstating, repairing or replacing any part of the Facilities or any property in or upon the Facilities, which is stolen or deliberately damaged, or destroyed during the period of hire, or prior or subsequent thereto if in relation to or by reason of the hiring.
  4. The Hirer is responsible for providing adequate insurance cover for all Users of the Facilities during the Booking period. Clubs and other organisations should ensure that pitch hire and use of the Facilities is covered under a public liability insurance policy of at least £5,000,000. Evidence of appropriate cover must be produced if requested.
  5. The Hirer is responsible for providing accurate invoicing address details and ensuring that the Council has two up-to-date telephone numbers on which the Hirer(s) can be contacted. Any changes to the Hirer’s contact details must be notified in writing, stating the old details and new.
  6. Users shall not act in a manner which causes injury, damage or distress to any property or person, including Council staff and other users of the Facilities. Users shall obey any instruction given by ground staff and/or Parks and Leisure Officers. The Hirer shall be responsible for ensuring that the behaviour of all Users associated with the Booking complies with these Terms and Conditions and shall be jointly liable for any damage caused by such Users.
  7. The Hirer must ensure that all Users of the Facilities associated with their Booking wear appropriate footwear. Flat soled trainers are not recommended.
  8. The Hirer must comply with the Council’s Equalities and Diversity Framework and ensure that no Users associated with their Booking discriminate either physically, verbally or by their conduct on the grounds of race, nationality, colour, ethnic or national origin, religion, creed, sexual orientation, marital status, sex or disability. Details of the Council’s Equalities and Diversity Framework can be found on the Council’s website, [www.guildford.gov.uk,](http://www.guildford.gov.uk/) or are available upon request to the contact points listed at Clause 2.1.
  9. The Hirer must ensure that all Users of the Facilities associated with their Booking park correctly. All vehicles are parked at the owner’s risk and the Council shall not be responsible for any resulting loss or damage.
  10. Subject to Clause 4.1 below, the Hirer is responsible for providing nets, supports, corner flags, bats, sticks, balls and other associated equipment required in relation to their Booking.
  11. The Hirer must not use any of the Facilities without booking in advance and receiving confirmation from the Council of the booking for the Facilities being used. If any User is found to be using any of the Facilities without a Booking, then they will be retrospectively charged for.
  12. The sub-letting of any Booking is not permitted.
  13. The Hirer must ensure the/Facilities are inspected prior to use. If the Hirer or the Users consider the Facilities to be unsafe or unplayable then the Council must be immediately contacted by telephone at 07880 784947. Any Booking Credit in these circumstances will be at the discretion of the Council.
  14. The Hirer must ensure that any Cancellations made by the referee or umpire due to unsafe pitches or weather conditions are notified in writing to Parks and Leisure Services by emailing parks@guildford.gov.uk within two Working Days after the date of the game to receive a Booking Credit . The referee's/umpire's contact details must be included in the notification. Notifications received after two Working Days will not receive any Booking Credit.
  15. The Hirer must ensure appropriate risk assessments are in place prior to the booking date, a copy of which must be produced if requested by a council officer.
  16. Any breach of and/or failure to comply with these Terms and Conditions may result in the cancellation of all the Hirer’s current Bookings at the Council’s Facilities without the provision of a refund or Booking Credit and/or the refusal to accept any future bookings from the Hirer. The use of any such remedies is without prejudice to any other claim or remedy which the Council may have against the Hirer.

# Obligations on the Council

* 1. The Council will provide the Hirer with one pitch at the Facilities per Booking; the use of changing facilities; and goal posts (as appropriate). The Council cannot guarantee the availability of any specific pitches at any Facilities. Pitches are allotted on the day at the discretion of the Council’s officers. The Council does not guarantee availability of showers, but these are provided where possible.
  2. The Council will provide a Booking Credit for Cancellations made by the referee or umpire due to unsafe pitches or weather conditions , provided written notification is received by Parks and Leisure Services by any of the contact details listed at Clause 2.1 within two Working Days after the date of the game. The referee's/umpire's contact details must be included in the notification. Notifications received after two Working Days will not receive a credit.
  3. The Council reserves the right to cancel and/or move to an alternative site any Booking(s) without prior notice if, in their ultimate discretion, an officer of the Council considers that the Facilities are unsafe or unplayable. In the event of any such cancellation, or if an alternative site is unavailable or impractical to travel to, the Council will provide a Booking Credit for the full value of the Booking. The Council will not accept any further costs or liability for any consequential losses suffered by the Hirer due to any such cancellation.

# Payment of Invoices

* 1. Only hire fees over £150 have the option of an invoice sent to the hirer.  All fees below this, must be paid by card prior to the booked date.
  2. Pitches must be paid for by the working day before the hire, unless an invoice has been raised. Courts not paid for by this time will be automatically cancelled.
  3. Invoices for payment will be sent to you by the Financial Services department after each booking has been processed. Payment will be due within fourteen days of date of issue of the invoice.
  4. Should the Hirer not pay any invoice within 14 days of the due date on the invoice, the Council will not permit the Hirer to make any future bookings until the Council has received payment in full. Any unpaid existing booking will also be cancelled. Invoices will be deemed received by the Hirer on the third day from the date of the invoice.
  5. Full payment will not be deemed to have been received by the Council until all funds have cleared.
  6. If any invoice remains unpaid 28 days after the due date on the invoice, then the Council may take immediate legal action against the Hirer to recover all monies due.

# Limitations and Exclusions

* 1. The Council does not accept liability for any loss suffered by the Hirer because of any Booking cancellation or unforeseen unavailability of the Facilities.
  2. The Council does not accept any responsibility whatsoever for any loss or damage howsoever caused to the personal property of the Users of the Facilities.
     1. The Council will not accept liability for any personal injury or loss of life howsoever caused to any Users of the Facilities, unless resulting from negligence on the part of the Council.
  3. The payment of a booking fee for a sports pitch does not create or cause to create any interest in the land by any means and does not imply any relationship of landlord and tenant.

6.4 The Council may remove (and store if practical) any property left behind by the Users after the expiry of the booking. The Council shall not be held responsible for any damage to or theft of any such property during any such removal or storage. The Hirer is responsible for ensuring that all property is removed and agrees that the Council shall be entitled to dispose of any property left at the Facility and not claimed within 28 days.

# Block Booking Discount

* 1. Block bookings must comply with the following rules to qualify for the block booking discount of 10% (equivalent to one free session):
     1. A minimum booking of ten sessions must be made
     2. Each session must be for the same sport or activity
     3. Each session must take place at the same Facilities
     4. The interval between each session must be at least 1 day and not more than 14 days.
  2. No refund can be provided for the cancellation (by the Hirer) of any sessions of a block booking. An alternative date instead that conforms with the requirements above may be made instead.

# General and Guidance

* 1. It is recommended by the Football Association that children aged less than 11 years do not play on full-sized football pitches. Junior pitches are available for children in this age category.
  2. Parking at all Facilities is extremely limited, and the Council therefore recommends that all Users use public transport or car share when possible.