

HARDSHIP POLICY

By-Law # in Master LCC By-Laws Document	26
Last Reviewed / Updated	24 July 2025
Version Control <i>(ensure any updates are consistent across both this document & the master by-laws document)</i>	
Description of Change	General Meeting Date
Part of an overhaul/creation of existing/new Club By-Laws	Approved 28 July 2025

(a) Purpose

The Lyndoch Cricket Club (LCC) is committed to providing an inclusive and supportive environment for all members. This Hardship Policy aims to ensure that no individual is excluded from participating in cricket due to temporary financial hardship. As per Clause 5.18 of the Constitution, the Club will make available a process to pay subscriptions in instalments.

(b) Scope

This policy applies to all registered players and/or their parents/guardians (for junior members) who may be experiencing financial difficulties and require assistance in meeting their membership fees.

(c) What is financial hardship?

Financial hardship refers to a situation where a member is temporarily unable to meet their financial obligations due to unforeseen circumstances such as:

- Loss of income or employment
- Illness or injury
- Family crisis or domestic issues
- Natural disasters
- Other personal or financial challenges

(d) Club support available

The Club may offer one or more of the following supports, subject to approval:

- Flexible Payment Plans (extending the payment period or scheduling smaller, regular instalments – this can be achieved by the PayPal Pay in 4 function during the online registration process)
- Partial Fee Waiver (reduction of total Club fees payable based on need and circumstances)
- Full Fee Waiver (in exceptional cases, full waiver of Club membership fees, excluding Cricket Australia National Registration and Insurance fee or other fees set outside the control of the Club)

(e) How to apply

Members seeking hardship assistance should:

- Submit a request for support in writing detailing:
 - A brief written explanation of the hardship, including any relevant supporting documentation (confidential and optional)
 - The type of hardship assistance being requested (as outlined in By-Law 24(d) above)
- Submit the request in writing to the Club President, Treasurer or Vice President – Juniors (via email or in person)

(f) Assessment process

Applications will be reviewed by a sub-committee consisting of the Club President, Treasurer, and either Vice President – Seniors or Vice President – Juniors (dependent on the category of member applying). The Secretary can be called upon to mediate if there is a conflict of interest within these roles or there are less than two (2) different individuals on the sub-committee due to a person holding dual roles on the Executive.

- All applications will be treated confidentially and with respect
- The sub-committee may contact the applicant for further clarification if needed
- A decision will be made within 14 days of receiving the request

(g) Confidentiality

All hardship requests and associated discussions will be kept strictly confidential. Only those directly involved in the assessment process will have access to the information provided.

(h) Obligations of the Member

Members applying and therein approved for hardship assistance are expected to:

- Communicate openly and honestly with the Club
- Adhere to any agreed-upon payment plans or terms
- Remain committed to training, matches, and club activities, or for parents/guardians, ensuring the relevant child(ren) under their care as part of the hardship request do the same

- All members approved for hardship assistance with a partial or full Club fee waiver must make themselves available to volunteer their time to support Club events or other initiatives
 - Non-compliance may result in the hardship assistance agreement being retracted and the member will be liable to pay the full amount relevant to their membership circumstances