

Ashtead All Stars

Joining Policy, Renewing Policy and Team Selection Policy

Joining Policy

Ashtead All Stars is proud to be a non-selective club at Mini level (year 3 and year 4). We take girls strictly in order from the waiting list to allow all girls the opportunity to join a club and play netball. If a year 3 or 4 girls leaves the club, their place will be offered to the next on the waiting list. There are no trials at this age.

In year 5 and above, if a space arises, we will hold trials for all those on the waiting list. At this stage we will only accept girls who are of a required standard, or who show potential, **and who can commit to all training sessions and League matches**. New players cannot accept a place in the Club without this commitment.

Renewing Policy

At the end of each season, existing members will be invited to re-join for the following year. However, if any existing members are persistently absent from training and persistently unavailable for matches then they may not be invited to re-join the club, so that this place can be offered to someone else from the waiting list.

Team Selection Policy

We expect girls to be committed to netball and committed to AAS. We would rather select a less able player who is committed to training and matches, than have a more able player who is not always available. This is the very essence of teamwork and the very essence of the nature of AAS. We nurture team spirit and club spirit, and we try and instil this in our players. Team selection is based on:

- Ability
- Attendance at training
- Availability for matches
- Attitude

Our coaches care. Please be assured that the coaches at AAS are all very experienced selectors. They are passionate about netball, passionate about the development of the girls, and passionate about the ethos of the club. All the coaches discuss selection together, and they spend hour upon hour ensuring that the best decisions are made.

The coaches will follow the AAS Team Selection Policy but will apply discretion where appropriate. The coach's decision is final, but coaches are happy to explain their selection to individual players and their parent(s)/carer.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why do girls have to commit to ALL the League matches?

Girls get used to playing as a team and when one person misses a match, the rest of the team are disadvantaged. This can also have a knock-on effect to other teams which have to move around to cover missing players, and it can often leave us short of players.

We understand there will always be exceptional circumstances when girls have no choice but to miss a match.

What are these exceptional circumstances?

A family holiday, a compulsory school event, injury or illness would all be circumstances by which players might miss a league match. Missing a match for hockey, football, dancing etc. is NOT an acceptable circumstance. Should you want to play in an Ashtead All Stars team you need to make netball your priority on the required dates. Netball is a team sport and we expect girls to be loyal to their teams.

Why don't you play with a squad of players to allow for flexibility?

A squad of players might suit some age groups and not others. If we select a squad of players for a team, the purpose of this would be to provide flexibility during a match, and not to allow for girls to miss matches due to other commitments. For most teams, we do not play with a squad of girls, as this leaves some good players on the side-line, when they could be making a difference to another team.

Why are you making girls choose between sports at such a young age?

We are not making girls choose between sports; but we are expecting girls to prioritise netball and commit to their netball team.

What happens if a player's priorities change over time such that they can no longer commit to training or matches?

AAS reserves the right to withdraw the opportunity to renew membership for any girl who has not attended training regularly and has not been sufficiently available for club matches, so that this place can be offered to someone else.