



THE SARNIA RIDING CLUB

Purpose, Philosophy and Policies

Reviewed & Approved by SRC Board on March 27th , 2025

1. PURPOSE

1.1. The Sarnia Riding Club (“Club”) is a private, family-oriented Club that provides members with year-round athletic, recreational, and social programs in a unique lakeside setting.

2. PHILOSOPHY

2.1. The Club programs in squash, swimming, tennis, pickleball, and social events are provided by member involvement acting upon guidelines from the Board of Directors.

2.2. The programs are established to create an atmosphere which fosters healthy competition and the development of lifetime skills in water and racquet sports.

2.3. Membership fees are set for a financially stable, non-profit club.

3. MANAGEMENT

3.1. Day-to-day operations of the Club are managed by the Executive Director and their Management Team and Staff.

3.2. The Club Board of Directors, comprised of Ordinary Members of the Club, is responsible for overall governance by ensuring the Club is managed per by-law #1 of The Sarnia Riding Club.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1. Ordinary Members

4.1.1. Ordinary members have full access to the Club and are permitted to bring guests to use the Club facilities including the swimming pool, squash courts, wellness centre, pickleball courts, tennis courts and social events, subject to some limitations on frequency. Each adult ordinary member is entitled to vote at meetings of members and can be nominated or elected to sit on the Club’s Board of Directors.

4.1.2. The membership structure for Ordinary Membership is as follows:

- Family Membership: consists of a maximum of two adults and any number of children, provided the children reside at the same address and are either under 26 years of age or recognized as dependents.
- Couple Membership: consists of two adults residing at the same address.
- Single Membership: one adult, eighteen years old or older.

4.2. Associate Members

4.2.1. Associate members have some limitations on their rights to access the Club facilities and do not have a vote at meetings of members and cannot be nominated or elected to serve on the Club’s Board of Directors.

4.2.2. The membership structure for Associate Membership is as follows:

- Social Plus Membership: An introductory single membership for individuals between the ages of 18-30. These members have the same access as social members plus the addition of one ‘recreational booking’ (squash or tennis court or pickleball court or the pool or wellness centre) per week. They can also join leagues at the club and receive member discounts on activities at the Club. Once the year is complete, they can join the Club as an Ordinary Member or Associate Member at the ‘new member rate’.
- Social Membership: A couple or single membership. Social Members may use the non-sports areas of the Club, including the beach, but have no access to the pool, squash courts, wellness



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centre, pickleball courts, or tennis courts. They are welcome to bring guests to the beach and social events subject to some limitations on frequency.

- Child: A child under the age of 18. The child has full access to the Club, subject to some limitations based on age and availability. The parent of the child only has access to the Club to observe sports events or pick up and drop off their child. Child members over the age of 12 are permitted to bring guests to use the Club facilities including the swimming pool, squash courts, pickleball courts, wellness centre, tennis courts and social events, subject to some limitations on frequency.
 - Child Season Pass: An add-on option to an adult membership for one child (to be added to their membership). This effectively gives the child (under 12) access to the full Club when accompanied by the adult to whom their membership is attached. This child cannot be a child of a member, does not get member discounts for day camp or tennis and is not permitted to take part in swimming lessons.
- Grandchildren: Grandchildren who are under the age of 14 and who are accompanied by their grandparents who are Ordinary members. There will be no charge for the membership but will have the same access as a child's membership.
- Out of Town Membership: Members who do not live within a 60km radius of the Club.

4.3. All Memberships excluding Children's Memberships are required to pay a Capital Levy which is used for capital improvements.

4.4. Membership Term

4.4.1. Ordinary and social membership terms run from May 1 to April 30th annually. Members in good standing will have their membership automatically renewed annually, provided that payment for the renewal year is received on or before May 1.

4.4.2. Children's membership renews annually, similar to the ordinary and social memberships, up until the year the child turns 18.

4.4.3. Out of Town Membership terms are dependent on the length of membership. Renewal notices will be sent in April.

4.4.4. No member is permitted to use the Club in a new membership year until payment, per the membership fees payment requirements, has been received and processed by the Club.

4.4.5 New Members beginning in the 2025/26 season and hereafter will be subject to an initiation fee set by the board of directors.

4.5. Membership Refund

4.5.1. There will be no refunds for membership fees, except at the discretion of the Board, which may determine that the circumstances warrant a prorated refund or membership deferral. Circumstances such as the death of a family member who is part of a membership, or a sudden disability that prevents the use of the facility would warrant consideration.

5. USE OF THE FACILITIES

5.1. General

5.1.1. Members are permitted access to the Club property 24 hours per day, 7 days per week with the following limitations:

- The Clubhouse is accessible during office hours and requires FOB access after hours for gym use only.
- The Squash building requires FOB access.
- The pool is only accessible during pool operating hours and when a Lifeguard is present.



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- Guest sign-in via e-mail to the office or at the pool or bar.
 - The beach is not supervised, and no Lifeguard is on duty at the beach.
 - Lights on the tennis courts may not be utilized after 11 pm.
 - The SRC is a pet-free facility.
- 5.1.2. Smoking is only permitted beside the Garden Shed in the northwest corner of the parking lot.
- 5.1.3. Alcoholic beverages consumed on Club property must be purchased from the Club and be consumed in the designated areas, as per the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario. There is no alcohol allowed in the pool area and tennis or pickleball courts.
- 5.1.4. Audio devices must be used with earphones only.
- 5.1.5. Skateboards, motorized scooters, and motorbikes may be used for entry and departure from the Club. They are not to be ridden around the Club property.
- 5.2. Members' Use of the Club
- 5.2.1. The Club provides recreational facilities, swimming, tennis, pickleball, and squash lessons, as well as conference & banquet services. The Club facilities are intended for the use of its members; however, non-members may rent the facility for conference and banquet use, provided that they have a member sponsor.
- 5.2.2. Members cannot receive remuneration (i.e. wages, pay, gratuities of money or material items, etc.) by using the Club's facilities or property to train or instruct other members or non-members. Members who want to use the Club's facilities and/or property to receive instruction or lessons must obtain prior approval from the Club Management.
- 5.2.3. All requests for exclusive use by members of any of the rooms in the Clubhouse must be made and approved by Club Management and may incur an additional fee.
- 5.2.4. Any child under 12 must be accompanied by a guardian who is at least 14 years old and must stay within close reach.
- 5.3. SWIMMING POOL
- 5.3.1. The swimming pool shall be maintained and operated per the Ontario Public Pools Act, which requires, but is not limited to:
- Every bather shall take a cleansing shower or bath using soap and warm water before entering the pool.
 - No person infected with a communicable disease or having open sores on his or her body shall enter the pool.
 - No person shall pollute the water in the pool in any manner and spitting, spouting of water and blowing the nose in the pool or on the deck are prohibited.
 - No person shall engage in boisterous play in or about the pool.
 - No person shall bring a glass container onto the desk or into the pool.
 - No food or beverage other than water is allowed in the pool and on the deck.
 - No person shall enter the pool if the black dot in the deep end is not visible.
- 5.3.2. The Club Management and Lifeguards have complete authority in the pool area and bathers shall obey the Lifeguards' instructions at all times while in the pool area.
- 5.3.3. Running, pushing, dunking or improper behaviour will not be tolerated in the pool area.
- 5.3.4. Bathers may use a DOT-approved personal floatation device (PFD) in the shallow end only. Water wings are not DOT-approved, so are not permitted. Puddle jumpers are permitted as



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- long as the guardian is within arm's reach. The use of puddle jumpers for children while in daycare is not permitted.
- 5.3.5. Starting blocks are to be used only during swim team, swim lessons or when approved by a Lifeguard.
- 5.3.6. Swimmers may not swim past the black line in the deep end, closest to the diving boards, when the diving boards are in use.
- 5.3.7. The wading pool is intended for use by non-swimmers under the age of 5 who are accompanied by an adult.
- 5.3.8. The pool will be closed when lightning is present, until thirty minutes after the last lightning strike.
- 5.3.9. To enter the deep end of the pool, all children must successfully pass a Swim Test which involves swimming two widths of the shallow end of the pool without touching the bottom or stopping and demonstrating face wet & in water, with a Lifeguard observing. A list of bathers who have passed the swim test shall be maintained in the Lifeguard office.
- 5.3.10. Diving Board Rules:
- 5.3.10.1. The low dive board is accessible only by bathers who have successfully passed the swim test.
- 5.3.10.2. The high dive board is accessible only by bathers who have successfully passed the High Dive swim test. This involves threading water for 30 seconds and swimming a full length (25m) using front crawl. A list of bathers who have passed the High Dive swim test shall be maintained in the Lifeguard office.
- 5.3.10.3. Any person over the age of 12 is permitted to use the boards during open swim so long as they have successfully passed the proper swim test. Any person under the age of 12 must be supervised by a parent or guardian (over the age of 18) in the immediate pool area to use the high dive. Any person under the age of 12 must be supervised by a guardian over the age of 14 in the immediate pool area to use the low dive. Bathers must jump straight off the board and cannot be assisted when landing.
- 5.3.10.4. After jumping from either diving board, swimmers must immediately swim to either the shallow end or to the nearest ladder.
- 5.3.10.5. Diving is only permitted from the diving boards and the designated areas on either side of the pool between the black lines in the deep end.
- 5.3.10.6. The Club reserves the right to temporarily close the diving boards when the pool is open. (e.g., During adult swim, during wedding ceremonies or due to a large volume of people in the pool).
- 5.3.11. Slide Rules:
- 5.3.11.1. Bather must be able to climb the ladder without assistance to use the slide.
- 5.3.11.2. Only one rider is permitted on the slide at all times.
- 5.3.11.3. Do not climb the ladder to the slide until the rider ahead has entered the water.
- 5.3.11.4. Do not slide until the landing area is clear.
- 5.3.11.5. Slide feet first in a sitting position.
- 5.3.11.6. Clear the landing area by swimming toward the shallow end.
- 5.3.11.7. Puddle jumpers may not be worn on the slide.
- 5.3.11.8. Swimmers in life jackets must have a guardian assist them in clearing the landing area. Guardians assisting must be off to the side, not directly in the landing area.
- 5.3.12. Adult Swim
- 5.3.12.1. The Club offers a fixed time for adult members wishing to swim laps and adults wishing to utilize the pool. This time is called "Adult swim".



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5.4. TENNIS/ PICKLEBALL

- 5.4.1. Shirts and appropriate tennis or running shoes must be worn on the courts.
- 5.4.2. Excessive noise and objectionable language or behaviour are prohibited.
- 5.4.3. Any activity other than the specified racquet sport is strictly prohibited.
- 5.4.4. Abuse of the court surfaces (e.g., Gum disposal, spitting, littering, leaning on nets, tapping of racquets, dragging hoppers) is prohibited.
- 5.4.5. Courts may be blocked out by the Club for leagues, tournaments, and lessons.
- 5.4.6. Courts are reserved through the ClubLocker booking system on the Club website. For play without reservations, court use is on a first-come, first-serve basis. Priority will be given to official club leagues, tournaments, and lessons.
- 5.4.7. Members who fail to reserve a court through ClubLocker will be asked to give up their court to the players who have made reservations.

5.5. SQUASH

- 5.5.1. Squash courts are reserved through the ClubLocker booking system found on the Club website.
- 5.5.2. Members with a court reservation are given priority.
- 5.5.3. Courts may be reserved by the Club for leagues, tournaments and lessons.
- 5.5.4. Shirts and appropriate indoor court shoes must be worn on the courts.

5.6. FITNESS CENTRE

- 5.6.1. Fitness equipment is provided for the use of Members aged 16 or older unless accompanied by a guardian (18 years or older).
- 5.6.2. There will be no loitering in the fitness centre by any persons under the age of 16.
- 5.6.3. Booking the Peloton is done through the ClubLocker booking system found on the Club website.

6. MEMBER'S HOUSE ACCOUNT

- 6.1. The Club permits each Membership in good standing to have a "House Account" where charges for membership fees, social events, lessons, camp and leagues are charged.
- 6.2. All food and beverage charges are subjected to a 15% gratuity unless otherwise stated by signing their chit and altering the gratuity amount.
- 6.3. The Club Office issues statements the first week of each month showing outstanding charges on the House Account.
- 6.4. Members have 30 days following the issue of statement to question any charges.
- 6.5. Payment in full on the statement balance shall be made by the Member within 30 days of the statement being issued. Payment can be made via e-transfer, cheque, cash, debit or credit card.
- 6.6. If a member chooses to pay their membership fee via credit card, they will be subjected to a 2% charge that allows the Club to recoup the charges from credit card companies.
- 6.7. Interest may accrue at a rate of 5% per month on unpaid balances.
- 6.8. Use of the House Account is deemed a membership privilege and may be revoked by the Club at any time.
- 6.9. Memberships will not be renewed for members that have outstanding balances on their House Account from the prior year.

7. GUEST POLICIES



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7.1. Guests are very welcome. Many of our current members have joined because they were once invited as guests. Members must ensure they understand and follow the guest policies that are in place to protect the Club and ensure that:

- Members' access to the facilities is not compromised by excessive use by non-members.
- The SRC does not suffer undesirable liability exposure.
- The financial health of the Club is facilitated by the purchase of memberships by users.

7.2. REGISTRATION of GUESTS

7.2.1. All guests must be registered before the use of the SRC facilities (swimming pool, squash courts, tennis courts, pickleball courts, fitness centre, beach). Guests can be registered in the pool, at the bar, or by leaving a message at the Club house office in person, by phone, or by email at office@sarniaridingclub.com.

7.2.2. Non-members are not required to register when being a spectator at Club sponsored functions (e.g., A swim meet, a tennis tournament, a pickleball tournament, a squash city league, a squash tournament, and social functions).

7.3. GUEST RESTRICTIONS

7.3.1. Use of any of the following constitutes a visit; swimming pool, tennis courts, pickleball courts, wellness centre, squash courts, or beach.

7.3.2. Guest use of the facility is limited to that of the member.

7.3.3. Host members must accompany their guests when on the Club's property.

7.4. GUEST FEES

7.4.1. Daily guest fee rates are set by the Board of Directors and are charged per day per visit.

7.4.2. Guests brought to social events are subject only to the non-member fee for the event (if applicable).

7.5. VIOLATION OF GUEST POLICIES

7.5.1. The Club Management will monitor guest presence regularly and will send a written notice of any violations to the member.

7.5.2. The Club reserves the right to impose a surcharge for each violation attached to the member's bill.

7.5.3. Subsequent abuse of the guest regulations will be referred to the Board of Directors for further action.

8. REGISTRATION FOR PROGRAMS, LESSONS, LEAGUES, AND EVENTS

8.1. How to Register

8.1.1. Members and non-members of The Sarnia Riding Club must fill out and submit in advance a registration application for programs, lessons, leagues, and events. Applications are via email or in the Club office. Member registration forms are available via email. Registration forms can be received:

1. Dropped off at the Riding Club office.
2. E-mail directly to rec@sarniaridingclub.com
3. Fill out the registration form online.



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8.2. Payment

8.2.1. Members' registration will be charged to their accounts. Non-members must make payment in full at the time of registration.

8.3. Day Camp

8.3.1. Due to space limitations and restrictions, there are a limited number of spots in Day Camp.

Members of the Club are guaranteed priority in our Summer Day Camp Program until May.

31. Priority access is given to Ordinary Members and Associate Grandchildren Memberships. Starting June 1st, day camp registration may be open to non-members depending upon availability.

8.3.2. The Club does not guarantee that it can accommodate all Member requests to add Member children to Day Camp. This will be subject to availability, staffing and space limitations.

8.3.3. Registration for Day Camps is not restricted to Members as attending these camps may encourage a non-member to become a Member. Priority is always given to members when registering.

8.3.4. Fees for Day Camp and PA Day Camps are set annually by the Board of Directors. Fees are set such that a non-member pays more than a Member.

8.3.5. Subject to space availability, Members and non-members have until 1 week prior at noon to register for the following week's day camp session. Registrations submitted and approved after this time will incur a late fee. Session changes will be made to the best of our ability and are dependent on availability. All changes must be made by noon 1 week prior to the start date of the next session.

8.4. Swimming Lessons

8.4.1. Swimming lessons are run in accordance with the Lifesaving Society program in 2-week sessions throughout the summer.

8.4.2. Members must register by noon on the Thursday before the next session of swimming lessons.

8.4.3. Late registration may incur a late fee and is subject to availability.

8.4.4. Fees for Swimming Lessons are set annually by the Board of Directors.

8.4.5. With the exception of the Bronze, NLS, and Adult Endurance Swim Classes non-members are not permitted to register for swimming lessons.

8.5. Tennis Lessons

8.5.1. Tennis lessons are run in sessions in the spring/fall after 4 pm, and two-week sessions throughout the summer in the mornings. Summer afternoon sessions may be added if required due to the number of registrants.

8.5.2. Private lessons, booked through the Recreation and Events Coordinator, are also available.

8.5.3. Members and non-members must register by noon on the Thursday before the next session of tennis lessons.

8.5.4. Late registration may incur a late fee and is subject to availability.

8.6. Squash Lessons

8.6.1. Squash lessons shall be coordinated through the Recreation & Events Coordinator.

8.6.2. Late registration may incur a late fee and is subject to availability.

8.7. Leagues

8.7.1. Registration for leagues is done through the Office who work in agreement with the respective Volunteer League Convenor.

8.7.2. Participants are required to register in advance of the start of the league, each season.

8.7.3. A list of League participants is forwarded to the Volunteer League Convenor by the Club office for scheduling and the league fee is charged to the member account.



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8.8. Events

8.8.1. Registration for events is done by contacting the Recreation & Events Coordinator or filling out a form online.

8.9. Event Cancellations

8.9.1. Cancellation requests must be submitted in writing or by e-mail 1 week prior to the start of the event to receive a full refund.

8.9.2. Refunds

8.9.2.1. No refund will be provided if the participant leaves mid-session due to behavioural reasons.

8.9.2.2. No refund will be provided if the participant does not attend.

8.9.2.3. No refund for inclement weather or rescheduled lessons/leagues.

8.9.2.4. No refund in case of illness or injury.

9. CONDUCT OF MEMBERS

9.1. Members shall be responsible for the conduct of themselves and their guests and shall be responsible for any damage resulting to the Club property.

9.2. DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

9.2.1. When disciplinary action becomes necessary for any Member or Guest of the Club, the following practices and procedures shall be followed:

Minor Disciplinary Action: (violation of pool rules, berating Club Staff, intentional misuse of club facilities, other inappropriate behaviour)

The Member shall be given a full explanation of the infraction, and the Member shall be provided with an opportunity to explain. Documentation of the infraction, explanation, and conclusion shall be noted for future reference and filed in the office. Where the infraction involves a child under the age of 18, the parent or guardian may be notified.

Major Disciplinary Action: (behaviour that is extremely offensive and inappropriate and/or causing harm to others or their safety or damage to the Club property; continued minor disciplinary actions and violation of rules)

A suspension of Club privileges for up to a day can be given out at the discretion of the Lifeguard or Club Management. This will be documented and filed in the office. Where the infraction involves a child under the age of 18, the parent or guardian will be advised immediately of the suspension of Club privileges.

A suspension of Club privileges for up to one week will be at the discretion of the Executive Director, keeping in mind the seriousness of the act, other warnings, and past practices. Where the infraction involves a child under the age of 18, the parent or



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guardian will be advised immediately, and the documentation of the suspension will be filed in the office.

Any suspension of Club privileges beyond one week will be approved by the Board. Lengthy suspension will normally only be imposed where previous suspensions of one week or less have been issued or the single action itself is extremely offensive or hazardous. Where the infraction involves a child under the age of 18, the parent or guardian will be advised, and documentation of the suspension shall be kept in the office.

If the conduct of any member of the Club or any member's family or guest(s), while on Club property, is in the opinion of the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors to be injurious to the character and interest of the Club (to its members individually or collectively), or if any such member willfully infringes any of the Club's by-laws or rules or policies, or if any member demonstrates inappropriate behaviour, then the Directors of the Club may by resolution suspend the member's membership for a period of time until the conduct stops or the problem is resolved. The Board of Directors may terminate the membership if the issues are not resolved.