



# **Transfer of Membership Policy**

**Approved Edition**

**October 2019**

# BRITISH TAEKWONDO TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIP POLICY

## 1) INTRODUCTION

British Taekwondo, as the officially recognised Member National Association (MNA) for World Taekwondo and World Taekwondo Europe in the United Kingdom and its dependant territories, is tasked with managing the interests of all member groups, clubs and its individual members.

Participation, collaboration and cooperation between all practitioners who are members of British Taekwondo should be encouraged to grow the sport & Martial Art and raise standards.

As such, all individual members have the universal right and insurance cover to train at other British Taekwondo clubs and participate in events hosted or sanctioned by British Taekwondo.

## 2) TRANSFER OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual members of British Taekwondo may wish to transfer their membership from one club to another. This may be for a variety of reasons, such as, but not limited to:

- Moving to a new house or location
- Personal disputes between club leaders, individual members or parents
- Breakdown in other relationships within clubs
- Personal preferences to move to another club

As a basic principle, it is not British Taekwondo's role to intervene or mediate when complex personal disputes result in an individual member wishing to leave a club.

It is British Taekwondo's aim to encourage any individual leaving a club to continue practising World Taekwondo, within another registered British Taekwondo club.

The exception to this aim, is when individual members are expelled from an existing club for criminal or disruptive behaviour.

### **Procedure to request transfer of individual membership**

Individual members wishing to transfer membership from one registered British Taekwondo club to another should:

- a) Send a written request (letter or email) to British Taekwondo membership services (contact details below) including name, membership number and date of birth.
- b) Provide details of the existing club and the club you wish to transfer your membership to.
- c) State the reason(s) for wishing to leave.

*If the individual membership is for a child or vulnerable adult, then the parent or legal guardian with responsibility and access to the membership profile on the hub should contact membership services (contact details below)*

- British Taekwondo membership services will then contact and inform the existing club of your intention to leave.
- British Taekwondo membership services will then contact the new club and inform them of your wish to transfer your membership and reasons.
- It is at the sole discretion of the leadership of the new club that you wish to transfer membership to, whether to accept or decline the transfer request.
- There is no right to appeal this decision should the new club decline to accept the transfer of membership.

#### **\*Individuals expelled from a club**

Where individuals have been asked to leave a club and have been formally expelled, it is the responsibility of the club to inform British Taekwondo immediately, with the reasons for expulsion.

- If the reasons relate to criminal behaviour, then authorities should also be informed.
- If the reasons relate to a safeguarding concern, these should be reported to the British Taekwondo Safeguarding officer.
- If the reasons relate to a Code of Conduct issue or simple breakdown in relationship, these should also be highlighted.

British Taekwondo will deal with the above on a case by case basis, taking formal advice when necessary.

Any subsequent request to transfer membership from an individual that has been expelled from a British Taekwondo club and wishes to join another British Taekwondo club will be suspended until any investigation has been concluded.

- British Taekwondo reserves the right to withdraw membership from any individual found to be acting unlawfully or in breach of the Code of Conduct.
- In these cases, transfer of membership will not be authorised.

#### **Poaching**

As a basic principle, British Taekwondo does not support any form of coercion of members to leave one club and join another. However, as this can conflict with an individual's right to move clubs, it is not British Taekwondo's role to intervene or mediate when an individual member has indicated they wish to do so.

It is British Taekwondo's aim to encourage any individual leaving a club to continue practising World Taekwondo, within another registered British Taekwondo club

### 3) TRANSFER OF CLUB

The transfer of clubs between British Taekwondo and Member Groups is discouraged as it can lead to local disagreement.

Club instructors / coaches/ leadership cannot in principle request the wholesale reassignment of individual memberships.

Individual members are the only persons with this right as described earlier in this policy document.

Should club transfers be necessary, the following procedure should be followed;

<b>Transfer of a British Taekwondo Club to a Member Group</b>	Requires written approval of the British Taekwondo board
<b>Transfer of a Member Group Club to British Taekwondo</b>	Requires written approval of the British Taekwondo board & Group Member President
<b>Merge of Member Groups</b>	Requires written approval of the British Taekwondo board & Group Member President

In any cases of disagreement, the board of British Taekwondo will have the final decision based on the best interests of all parties concerned. There is no appeal in this regard.

### 4) OTHER STYLES AND CLUBS

British Taekwondo welcomes all Martial Artists and encourages everyone to join the World Taekwondo and World Taekwondo Europe officially recognised body that provides access to education and advancement opportunities, training programs in Sport and Poomsae, National Championships, National teams, Olympic pathways and access to the highest level of international events in the World.

British Taekwondo especially welcomes all practitioners of other Taekwondo styles and Martial Arts.

Clubs and individuals wishing to join British Taekwondo can do so by adhering to the following policy principles:

- a) Individual members of clubs that belong to other styles of Taekwondo or completely different Martial Arts are free to join any British Taekwondo Club or Member Group provided that they genuinely train at that club on a regular basis.
- b) Individual members training at British Taekwondo registered clubs and Member Groups must take out British Taekwondo membership and insurance.
- c) Individual members also training at another style/ club or another Martial Art completely must take out membership and insurance within that club. British Taekwondo insurance is only valid when training in a British Taekwondo club, with a registered British Taekwondo Instructor or Member group and taking part in British Taekwondo hosted or sanctioned events.

- d) Club instructors / coaches / leadership of clubs wishing to convert / join British Taekwondo are welcome to do so and should contact membership services to discuss the opening of a new club.
- e) Club instructors must also take out the required insurance cover, have the relevant cleared disclosure checks and attend any qualification courses as required to open a British Taekwondo club.

**British Taekwondo Contact Details:**

**Membership Services  
British Taekwondo  
Manchester Regional Arena  
Gate 13, Rowsley Street  
Manchester  
M11 3FF**

**Email:** [membership.services@britishtaekwondo.org](mailto:membership.services@britishtaekwondo.org)

**Telephone:** 01623 382 020 (option 1)