

A Guide to Change of Club Eligibility & Exemption

Athletes Responsibility

1. Resign from your current club in writing, keeping a dated copy.
2. If you owe your club any monies they are quite within their right to request payment and not accept your resignation until your debt has been cleared or discharged.
3. When changing clubs you will need to complete a current Change of First Claim Club and Exemption Application form, obtainable from the England Athletics website www.englandathletics.org under Clubs and Club Affiliation. Or you can email eligibility@uka.org.uk.
4. Make sure that two club officers from the club you are leaving sign section 4A
5. You must join your new club within 28 days of leaving your previous club. You cannot apply for a change in eligibility until you have joined your new club.
6. Send your completed application to Athletics Services enclosing a cheque for £10.00 made payable to Athletics Services.
7. Once your application has been received it will be checked and you will receive an acknowledgement email. This will inform you of any problems with your application and the date of the Regional Eligibility Committee that will consider your application.
8. If there are any problems with your application they will be specified in your acknowledgment email or letter.
9. You will receive an email or letter informing you of the committee's decision informing you of the date you will be able to compete for your new club in team competition.

Please note:

- **A 4 month period of suspension** from team competition applies automatically to all athletes who join a new first claim club. Only the Regional Eligibility Committee has the power to rescind or reduce the suspension period (it could be reduced to any monthly period between 1 and 4 months). An extract from Rule 5(7) which defines these issues is shown below.
- Athletes in the U15 or U13 age groups may change clubs once in each age group and be exempt from the suspension period but all changes must be reported of the Change of First Claim Club Exemption Application form in order to benefit from this exemption. The £10.00 fee is not payable for these notifications.
- Regional Eligibility Committee decisions cannot be determined by age of ability factors. All are treated equally and fairly.
- You're new and former clubs may both support your application for exemption and the Regional Eligibility Committee will receive this support positively but this should

not be accepted as a guarantee that the committee will approve your application. Similarly an objection should not be interpreted as a final decision that you will have to serve the full 4 month suspension.

- Athletes who compete in team competition for their new club before the completion of the 4 month suspension or receiving a notice of exemption may be subject to disciplinary action.

Rule 5(7)

Where eligibility is not defined in the paragraph above, athletes are eligible to represent a club in Open Team Competition when they join their first club as a first claim member. Where athletes have resigned their membership of their previous club, without claiming exemption, they are not eligible to represent their next first claim club in any Open Team Competition confined to first claim members until the first day of the month following the expiration of the 4 months from the date of receipt of notice of resignation by the Honorary Secretary of the Eligibility Committee of the Association in which the headquarters of the club they wish to represent are situated. All such changes must be registered with that association

Where athletes make an application to the appropriate Eligibility Committee claiming exemption under Rule 6, the date that they become eligible to compete for their next first claim club in Open Team Competition shall be the first day of the month so determined by that committee. This period shall not be longer than 4 months, unless the athlete concerned has provided false information to that committee. In that event, the time of the granting of such first claim status shall run from the date of receipt of correct information and may be longer, therefore than 4 months.