

2026/27 Fee Update – What's Changing and Why

As part of the budgeting process, Dogs West reviews its fees each year to ensure we remain financially viable and able to deliver services for our members.

The updated fees for the 2026/27 financial year have been approved by Governing Council and will take effect from **1 July 2026**.

Members will recall that last year, fees remained largely unchanged. While Dogs West is committed to keeping fees as affordable as possible, it is not sustainable for fees to remain unchanged indefinitely when operating costs continue to rise. Our operational and maintenance expenses have increased significantly over the past 12 months, with many service providers increasing their base fees and adding a fuel levy to our invoices.

Key points to note include:

Members

- **Membership Fees** have increased by between 2.5% and 3% (except Social Membership fees, which have increased by 5%, which equates to \$1)
- **Transaction Fees** have increased by between 2.6% and 4.3%, with fees rounded to the nearest whole dollar
- **Semen Usage Fees** have been removed to provide a fairer and more consistent approach.
- **Complaint Fees** have increased to \$200 where a complaint is lodged within 10 days of an incident and \$500 for complaints raised outside of 10 days
- **Appeals Fee** has increased to \$200

Clubs

- **Ground Hire Fees** have been increased by \$1 per hour for the arenas and the pavilion
- **Lighting fees** remain part of the ground hire fees, with lighting charges applicable in accordance with the seasonal timing schedule.
- **Canteen Hire Fees** are currently being finalised – the proposal is that a nominal daily hire fee be charged and that this be regularly reviewed over time

Looking Ahead

Currently, we anticipate expenses will exceed our income for the 2026/2027 year. As a result, we continue to explore opportunities to increase revenue, improve efficiencies and manage costs while maintaining the services and facilities for our members.

A full list of 2026/2027 fees is available on the Dogs West website.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the office.