Criteria for Allocation of the Colchester and Tendring AC (CAT AC) London Marathon club place.

1. Members must have entered the London Marathon independently via the public ballot for that year.

2. Members must be full, affiliated members of CAT AC and have been a member for 1 full year previously to the London Marathon Ballot opening i.e. members joining from 1st April in any given year will not be eligible for the ballot place which comes available at the end of that year.

No new members are eligible – only renewing members. The Member must also continue to be an affiliated member in the year of the Marathon. This is to make it a fair process for existing members and to discourage membership just for the purpose of gaining a marathon place. Members must be affiliated in the month of April in the previous year to count as an eligible member for the full year (see example 3 below).

Example 1 - eligible

1st Apr 2025 – 31st Mar 2026 – fully affiliated member for the whole year from renewal of membership as of 1st Apr

1st Apr 2026 – 31st Mar 2027 – renews membership and takes affiliation.

Eligible for CAT AC draw for 2027 marathon place.

Example 2 – not eligible

1st Apr 2025 – 31st Mar 2026 – is a member for whole year from 1st Apr but does not affiliate

1st Apr 2026 – 31st Mar 2027 – renews membership and takes affiliation.

Not eligible for CAT AC draw for 2027 marathon place due to not being affiliated in previous membership year.

Example 3 – not eligible

1st April 2025 – 31st March 2026 – becomes a member after April 2025 e.g. 1st May 2025 & takes affiliation

1st April 2026 – 31st March 2027 – renews membership and takes affiliation.

Not eligible for CAT AC draw for 2027 marathon place as member not affiliated for full previous year.

3. Members must be a regular attendee at CAT AC to be eligible to take a Club place. Whether someone is a regular member will be determined at the Club's discretion with guidance from the Membership Secretary.

4. If members are unsuccessful in gaining a place via the Public Ballot they must retain their original London Marathon Ballot Rejection Slip/email & hand it to the Club (when requested) so that it can

be put into the Club Draw organised by CAT AC. Only slips/emails handed in by the advertised deadline will be accepted.

5. 2nd Claim & Social Members are not eligible due to lack of affiliation status with CAT AC.

6. If members are unsuccessful in the Club Draw in any year but continue to enter as an individual, they can enter the ballot in subsequent years. This also applies if members hand a club place back before the transfer deadline – they may still apply for the following year.

7. Places obtained through the Club Draw cannot be transferred to anyone else. If the place can no longer be used, it must be handed back to CAT AC before the Transfer deadline date for the re-allocation of the place to those in the original draw.

8. If a member who is successful in gaining a club place becomes injured or there are other circumstances which mean they cannot take part in the race and this becomes apparent after the transfer deadline, deferment is possible up until the day before the marathon and should be discussed with Club organisers where possible prior to this.

9. As much as is possible, Club Places should be used in the year they are obtained. The Club ethos is to give as many people as possible the opportunity to experience the London Marathon. If for any reason someone cannot use their club place that year and they enable someone else to have the London Marathon experience by informing the Club organisers prior to transfer deadline date, then the person who transfers the place will be eligible to have their rejection slip for the current year entered in the club ballot the following year. Therefore in this situation for the following year only, this individual may have two slips in the club ballot if they were once more rejected by the Public Ballot.

10. Once a member has gained a Club place they are not eligible to go in the draw for the following 2 years (3 years in cases where the place was not used in year of allocation but deferred to the following year, this applies whether the place was used or not) – this is in order to give as many members as possible the opportunity to take part in this event.

11. If club places exceed the amount of eligible members, the above criteria can be relaxed at CAT AC Committee discretion. Members must still hold a current rejection slip. If all club places are still not taken then any interested member can put themselves forward for consideration.

12. Members who are lucky enough to receive a place through the Club ballot must wear the authorised CAT AC Vest for the race. *Can be a combined with Charity at Committee discretion.

13. Key dates:

Exact dates vary from year to year and responsibility for checking these rests with the athlete, approximate dates are as follows:

April – Public ballot opens – members to enter independently

October – rejection status to be notified to Club Co-ordinators & expression of interest in club place

November – CAT AC advised of number of club places allocated to the club for that year

December – successful members advised of allocation of club place

Early January – club athlete registration

Early February – transfer deadline