

STAR: Life on (the) Board

If you think that being a member of the STAR Board is all about attending meetings once a month, you would be very surprised! It can just need a few minutes of your time a day, depending on your role, and depending on what is happening in the world of Reading Football Club. If you take on a specific role though, such as Media, Diversity & Inclusion, or Communications, you can expect to be spending more time working on STAR things. And it's not a short-term commitment. Board members serve for three years before stepping down and then to standing for re-election if they wish to continue.

Of course, the monthly board meeting is an important part of being a board member. Board meetings are on the second Thursday of each month, kicking off at 19:30 and usually lasting for about 2 hours. Even attending that needs some preparation though. An agenda is circulated beforehand and there will be items on you need to be prepared for. The previous months minutes are signed off, so it is important you have read them before the meeting. There are also likely to be policies for review, which need to be read and commented on in advance. STAR financials are circulated before, and any questions can be asked at the meeting. Other regular items are liaison with the Club, external liaison, and engagement with fans. These give everyone the opportunity to update the rest of the board on what they have done. Other things may also be included, depending on what people are working on.

Taking on an additional role may take up several hours a week, depending on what it is and whether other meetings are involved as part of it. You might need to meet with someone at the Club, a supplier / third party, or others from the board. Occasionally there may be a need to have a meeting during the day. Every week is different though, and some may only take up a little time and others more.

Board members are sometimes asked to attend events or represent the board in other ways, such as a radio or TV interview. When we are representing STAR in any way, including when we post or comment on social media, it is really important that we keep to the expected standards and policy.

This year's STAR Board elections are here. So, if you're passionate about Reading Football Club, feel you can rise to this challenge and commit the time, stand for election to the board and tell us what you have to offer!