Babies will have to pay in London 2012

Babies will not be allowed into this year's Olympic Games events unless they have their own seat. The 2012 organisers have said that every child, including small babies carried in their parents' arms, must pay a full-price ticket.

The organisers admitted their decision has attracted protests from family organisations. Parents said they are being forced to pay full price for babies who have not yet been born. One woman described it as the "biggest fraud in the history of London". Another said: "The whole thing is ridiculous, there are people who bought tickets before their babies were even conceived – can they possibly buy a ticket for a child that doesn't exist yet? There should be more complaining about this policy. It's crazy. I don't know what mums will do with babies they are still breastfeeding".

A representative of MumsNet, an organisation that defends the rights of mothers, said: "this anti-baby policy is completely unreasonable", adding that it "clearly shows that mums were not involved in devising this policy. I attended several hockey games and opening ceremonies at the Vancouver Games with a three-month-old and there was no problem".

Until now the organisers' answer has been firm: In the Games webpage you can read: "Everyone attending the Olympic Games must be a ticket holder, no matter how old they are."