

Part 2 - Membership

- 2.1** A person may apply for membership in the society and, on acceptance by a majority of the directors, is a member.
- (a) A person whose application for membership in the society is not accepted shall be provided in writing with a reason for such rejection.
- 2.2** Members and club directors need not reside in the Regional District of Nanaimo but must live within driving distance **in order to regularly attend club functions**.
- 2.3** The membership year runs from January 1st to December 31st.
- 2.4** Every member must uphold the constitution and comply with these bylaws and comply with any rules or policies adopted by the club from time to time, including the Code of Ethics.
- 2.5** Membership fees will be determined by the executive with input from club members, and may be revised from time to time.
- (a) Any member who has not paid by January 31st loses their status as a ‘member with voting privileges’.
- (b) Any member who has not paid their dues by the last day of February will be removed from the register of members, and will need to reapply as a new member.
- (c) The directors may choose to apply a ‘late’ fee to member renewals after December 31st.
- 2.6** A person ceases to be a member of the society:
- (a) by delivering his or her resignation in writing to the club secretary or by mailing or delivering it to the address of the club,
- (b) on their death, or
- (c) on being expelled.
- 2.7** Membership Categories:
- (a) Voting Members:
- (i) Single Members – have all the rights and benefits of a member and one vote in any and all cases, subject to meeting the Voting Privileges (below).
- (ii) Family Members – includes up to two adults living in the same household and all children less than 18 years of age. The adults will each have a vote, subject to meeting the Voting Privileges.

(iii) Life Members – Must have been a member with Voting Privileges for 25 consecutive years. Each life member has the right to vote.

(b) A member with Voting Privileges must meet the following requirements:

- (i) has paid his or her current annual membership fee, and any other subscription or debt due by the member to the club, and
- (ii) who is not being disciplined for being in violation of the Constitution, Bylaws or Code of Ethics.

(c) Non-voting Members:

- (i) Juniors – have all the rights and benefits of club membership except the right to vote or to hold office.

Note: For the purposes of membership, Juniors and children in family memberships refer to children under the age of 18. When the child turns 18, they will remain a Junior or child in a family membership until December 31 of the year in which they turned 18.

- (ii) Associate Members – those who become members between September and December of the current calendar year. They have all the rights and benefits of club membership except the right to vote. On January 1st they will become Regular Members.

- (iii) Members from 2.7 (a) (i) or (ii) who do not meet the Voting Privileges

2.8 All members must have attended at least 3 meetings within the past year in order to vote at the AGM.

- (a) Notwithstanding the above, the Board may exempt members from this proviso on an annual basis, based on special circumstances including work schedules and mobility issues.