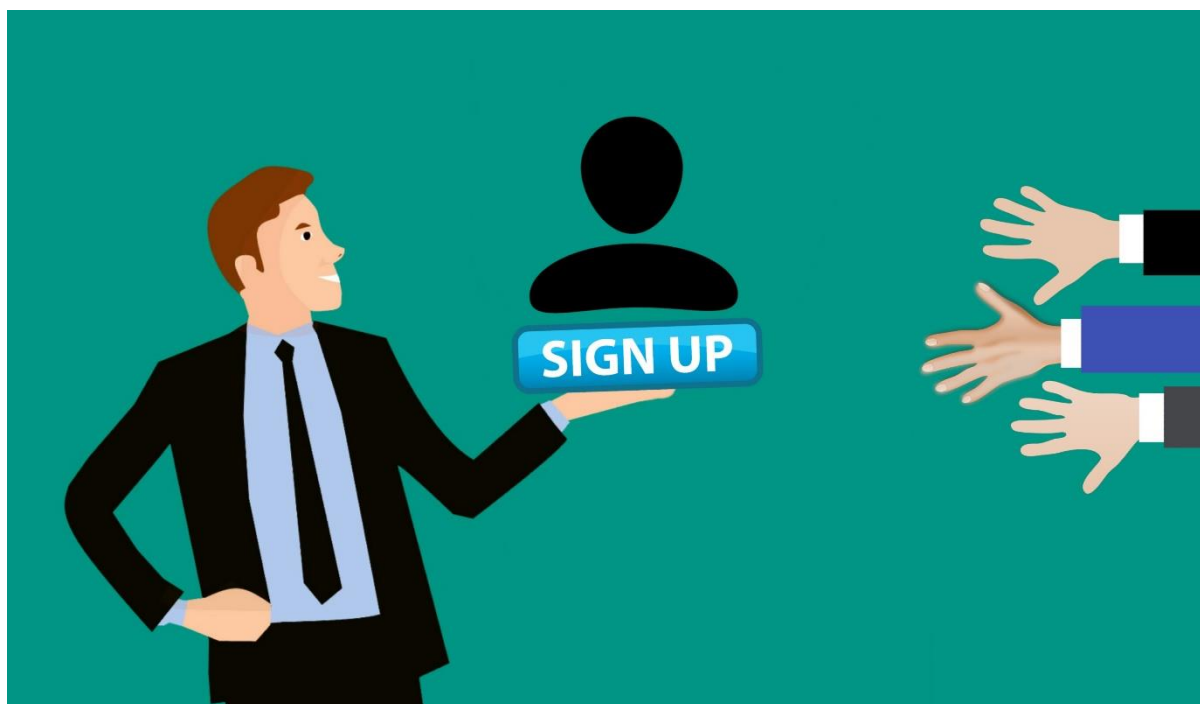


EDINBURGH, LOTHIAN and BORDERS BRANCH

(a charity registered in Scotland No: SC009110)

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION



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1. Rule 6. Policy

The Association shall be democratic, non-sectarian and non-party and shall not be affiliated, directly or indirectly, to any sectarian organisation or to any political party or party organisation or trade union, employers' organisation or staff organisation. In no circumstances shall the Association or any of the Area Councils, Regional Committees or Branches publicly express any views in connection with any political or industrial dispute or engage in any activities in connection therewith.

2. Membership Rules

BR 8. Branch Membership

(1) The details of membership of Branches are fully covered in the Rules and Byelaws:

- a) Rule 7: eligibility for membership;
- b) Byelaws 4 and 5: admission to membership;
- c) Rule 8: the rights, privileges and conditions of membership; and
- d) Byelaw 7: subscriptions.

Rule 7. Membership – Classes of Membership

(1) There shall be the following classes of membership of the Association:

- (a) Ordinary Member: open to persons who meet the eligibility criteria in paragraph (2) of this Rule;
- (b) Associate Member: open to anyone who is not eligible for Ordinary Membership who accepts the aims and objects of the Association and who commits themselves to work actively to promote such aims and objects. (Refers to Associate Members of the Association);
- (c) Junior Member: open to members of an ACO, and to air-minded young people between the ages of 12 and 17 (inclusive) who accept the aims and objects of the Association, and (d) Life Member (an Ordinary Member who paid a life-time membership fee), application for and conversion to this class of membership ceased on 30 June 2004.

(2) A person shall be eligible for Ordinary Membership of the Association if they fulfil the criteria set out in (a), (b) or (c) below and pay the annual subscription determined by the Association in Annual Conference:

(a) They have served an aggregate period of not less than three months in one of Her Majesty's Air Forces as defined in the Royal Charter Articles 6 and 7. Periods of service in more than one of Her Majesty's Air Forces may be aggregated in order to satisfy this condition, and service shall include attachment or secondment for temporary or special duties (so long as the person concerned was, during his period of secondment or attachment, subject to Air Force Law or Service Law or, in the case of any other of Her Majesty's Forces, having a separate code of law to that code); Provided the date of effect, of their admission to membership, may be the date of attestation if they subsequently and satisfactorily complete initial Officer or Recruit training.

(b) Is a spouse, partner, civil partner, widow or widower of an Ordinary or Life Member of the Association, who is an Associate Member of the Association and who wishes to change their class of membership.

(c) Adult WOs, Senior NCOs, Civilian Instructors or Cadets who are current or past members of the RAF Air Cadets, and have served satisfactorily for a minimum of two years.

(3) A person shall forfeit their eligibility for membership if they have been dismissed or discharged from Her Majesty's Services for misconduct.

(4) A person whose eligibility for membership is forfeit under paragraph (3) of this Rule may apply to the Council to have that forfeiture waived and, if they satisfy the Council there are special circumstances in their case (of which the Council shall be the absolute judge), the Council may declare they are eligible for membership and such a declaration shall be binding on all Branches.

(5) Qualification for admission to and removal, from membership, shall be further prescribed in the Byelaws.

(6) A register of Members shall be maintained as prescribed in the Byelaws.

Rule 8. Membership – Rights, Privileges and Conditions

(1) Provided they have paid the annual subscription to the Association, an Ordinary, Associate or Life Member has full voting and deliberative rights, at the Branch(es) where they are a registered member; they are welcome to attend meetings of other Branches, Annual and Area Conferences but have no voting rights unless specifically elected or appointed.

(2) A Junior Member is welcome to participate in Branch meetings, Area and Annual Conferences but has no voting rights.

Byelaw 4. Membership – Other Classes of Membership

Associate Members

(1) A person shall be eligible for Associate Membership if they fulfil the criteria set out in (a) to (d) below:

(a) They are not an Ordinary or Life Member of the Association;

(b) They are not eligible for Ordinary Membership of the Association;

(c) They accept the aims and objects of the Association and commit themselves to work actively to promote such aims and objects;

(d) They pay the annual subscription determined in such manner as shall be prescribed.

Honorary Life Member

(2) The prescribed conditions for Honorary Life Membership of the Association are:

- (a) The member must have been an Ordinary or Life Member or Associate of the Association for not less than five consecutive years and have paid any subscription for which they are liable.
- (b) A Branch of which they are a Member must have passed a resolution in General Meeting proposing that the member is recommended to the Council for consideration that they should be appointed as an Honorary Life Member of the Association. A copy of the signed resolution and minutes of the meeting shall be forwarded to the Secretary General for submission to Council.

Junior Membership

(3) A person shall be eligible for Junior Membership if they are a member of a uniformed Air Cadet Organisation, or are air-minded young people between the ages of 12 and 17 (inclusive) who accept the aims and objects of the Association.

Byelaw 5. Membership – Admission to Membership

(1) Every member of the Association must be a member of at least one Branch or Central or Area Membership Roll. In the first instance, a member will be allocated to a Branch, which will be designated as their 'home' Branch. Every application must be in a form specified by the Council.

(2) The Branch Committee of the home Branch has full discretion over admission to membership of the Branch, but must not refuse it unreasonably. The Committee must record any reasons for rejection and submit them to its Area headquarters. The Secretary of the Branch must inform the applicant whether their application has been accepted or rejected. Membership of the Branch will date from the day the Branch Committee decides to register the applicant and admit them to the Branch. An applicant may raise a complaint, in accordance with the procedures authorised by the Council, against rejection of an application for membership, giving the grounds for the complaint.

(3) If the Council later finds someone was not eligible for membership or was admitted to a class of membership in error, it may terminate the membership at once or transfer the person to the correct class of membership.

(4) Members may also seek to be registered with other Branches provided they disclose the name of the Branch(es) of which they are already a member. Such additional registration must be notified to headquarters in a form specified by Council.

(5) A member registered with more than one Branch shall have the full rights of a member in respect of each Branch with which they are registered, and may with the approval of the relevant Branch Committee, act as officials of the Branch and may offer themselves for election to the Branch Committee.

Byelaw 7. Membership – Subscriptions

(1) Members shall pay such annual subscription as appropriate to their class of membership as determined by the Association at an Annual Conference.

(2) Members' first annual subscription shall be due on receipt on application.

(3) Subsequent annual subscriptions of members who joined the Association prior to 1 January 2017, shall be due on the first day of January in each year; for members joining after 1 January 2017, subsequent annual subscriptions shall be due on the anniversary of their joining (or on such other date as may be determined by the Council subject to subsequent approval by Annual Conference).

(4) The prescribed period after the first day of January in each year or the anniversary of their joining (or such other date as may be determined by Council subject to subsequent approval by Annual Conference) at the expiration of which membership ceases if the subscription has not been paid, shall be one month.

(5) Members are only required to pay one annual subscription as prescribed, regardless of the number of Branches with which they are registered.

(6) A member who can prove, each year, they are unable, for whatever reason, to keep paying their annual and branch subscription may be permitted by the Branch Committee to remain a member, despite non-payment of such subscription, on terms set by that Branch Committee. The Branch is responsible for providing, solely from the branch subscriptions paid by other members of that Branch, the portion of the membership fee due in respect of any member so excused.

(7) Branches must forward the full amount of any subscriptions received for members to the Headquarters. Part of each subscription for a member of a Branch will be returned to the home Branch, at the beginning of each subscription year, based on the membership of the Branch at the end of the previous subscription year.

(8) The membership rebate for those on an Area Roll will be allocated within the Association's budget to facilitate events within the Area (including Regions) at the discretion Of the Area Council.

(9) A Branch may determine, at an Annual General Meeting, Members shall pay an additional annual amount to the Branch for its funds.

3. RECORD OF ONGOING REVUES

VERSION	DATE	ACTION	REASON	PERSON
Draft	April 2021	Draft		Dave Prior Branch Treasurer
1.0	April 2021	Publish		Dave Prior Branch Treasurer
1.1	Jan 2022	Review	Review	Dave Prior Branch Treasurer