

Ontario Blind Sports Association Membership Policy

The following is the Membership Policy information found within the OBSA By-Laws

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Categories – The Corporation has the following categories of Member:
- a) Athlete Member – An athlete who is registered as a member of the Corporation and who has agreed to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
 - b) Coach Member – A coach who is registered as a member of the Corporation and has who agreed to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
 - c) Official Member – An official who is registered as a member of the Corporation and has who agreed to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
 - d) Support Member – An individual who supports athletes participating in a sport or a representative from a Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) in one of the Corporation's sports, who is registered as a member of the Corporation, and has who agreed to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
 - e) Volunteer Member – A volunteer who is not an official, coach or support member, who is registered as a member of the Corporation, and has who agreed to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
 - f) Board Member – A board member who is registered as a member of the Corporation, and has who agreed to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.
 - g) Open Member – An individual who is a temporary member of the Corporation (such as a guide, participant in a 'try it day' clinic) or an organization like the CNIB, that is registered as a member of the Corporation, and has that agreed to abide by the Corporation's By-laws, policies, procedures, rules and regulations.

Admission and Renewal of Members

- 2.2 Admission of Members – Any candidate will be admitted as a Member or renewed as a Member if:
- a) The candidate member makes an application for membership in a manner prescribed by the Corporation;
 - b) The candidate member was at any time previously a Member, the candidate member was a Member in good standing at the time of ceasing to be a Member;
 - c) The candidate member has paid dues as prescribed by the Board;
 - d) The candidate member agrees to uphold and comply with the Corporation's governing documents;
 - e) The candidate member meets any other condition of membership determined by the Board;
 - f) The candidate member has met the applicable definition listed in Section 2.1; and
 - g) The candidate member has been approved by Ordinary Resolution by the Board or by any committee or individual delegated this authority by the Board.

Membership Dues and Duration

- 2.3 Year – Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the membership year of the Corporation will be January 1st to December 31st.
- 2.4 Dues – Membership dues will maintain the same as the previous year unless otherwise specified by the Board.
- 2.5 Duration – Membership duration is accorded on an annual basis and Members will re-apply for membership annually.
- 2.6 Deadline – Members will be notified in writing of the membership dues at any time payable, and if the membership dues are not paid within sixty (60) days of the membership renewal date or notice of default, the Member in default will automatically cease to be a Member of the Corporation.

Transfer, Suspension, and Termination of Membership

- 2.7 Transfer – Membership in the Corporation is non-transferable.
- 2.8 Suspension – A Member may be suspended, pending the outcome of a discipline hearing in accordance with the Corporation's policies related to discipline, or by Special Resolution of the Board at a meeting of the Board provided the Member has been given notice of and the opportunity to be heard at such meeting.
- 2.9 Termination – Membership in the Corporation will terminate immediately upon:
- a) The expiration of the Member's annual membership, unless renewed in accordance with these By-laws;
 - b) The Member fails to maintain any of the qualifications or conditions of membership described in Section 2.1 of these By-laws;

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- c) Resignation by the Member by giving written notice to the Corporation;
- d) Dissolution of the Corporation;
- e) The Member's death; or
- f) By Ordinary Resolution of the Board or of the Members at a duly called meeting, provided fifteen (15) days notice is given and the Member is provided with reasons and the opportunity to be heard. Notice will set out the reasons for termination of membership and the Member receiving the notice will be entitled to submit a written submission opposing the termination.

2.10 May Not Resign – A Member may not resign from the Corporation when the Member is subject to disciplinary investigation or action of the Corporation.

2.11 Arrears – A Member will be expelled from the Corporation for failing to pay membership dues or monies owed to corporation by the deadline dates prescribed by the Board and or staff.

2.12 Discipline – In addition to expulsion for failure to pay membership dues, a Member may be disciplined in accordance with the Corporation's policies and procedures relating to the discipline of Members.

2.13 Dues Payable – Any dues, subscriptions, or other monies owed to the Corporation by suspended or expelled Members will remain due.

Good Standing

2.14 Definition – A Member will be in good standing provided that the Member:

- a) Has not ceased to be a Member;
- b) Has not been suspended or expelled from membership, or had other membership restrictions or sanctions imposed;
- c) Has completed and remitted all documents as required by the Corporation;
- d) Has complied with the By-laws, policies, and rules of the Corporation;
- e) Is not subject to a disciplinary investigation or action by the Corporation, or if subject to disciplinary action previously, has fulfilled all terms and conditions of such disciplinary action to the satisfaction of the Board; and
- f) Has paid all required membership dues and other outstanding balances.

2.15 Cease to be in Good Standing - Members that cease to be in good standing, as determined by the Board or a Disciplinary Panel will not be entitled to vote at meetings of the Members or be entitled to the benefits and privileges of membership until such time as the Board is satisfied that the Member has met the definition of good standing.