

Regulation A1: Membership

Revised: November 2020

Approved: November 2020

1. Membership

- 1.1 There shall be six classes of membership of the Robert Gordon University Student Association (the "Union"), which shall be as follows:
- 1.1.1 Ordinary Membership ("Ordinary Members");
 - 1.1.2 Associate Membership ("Associate Members");
 - 1.1.3 Life Membership ("Life Members");
 - 1.1.4 Honorary Membership ("Honorary Members");
 - 1.1.5 Reciprocal Membership; and
 - 1.1.6 Temporary Membership.
- 1.2 The Executive Committee shall have the right to withdraw membership from individuals in all categories of membership, with the exception of Ordinary Membership.

2. Ordinary Members

- 2.1 All full-time and part-time students of Robert Gordon University ("the University") enrolled on an award-bearing course and the Sabbatical Presidents of the Union shall be Ordinary Members of the Union.
- 2.2 Every enrolled student of the University shall be entitled to exercise their right to opt out of membership in accordance with the Education Act 1994. In opting out such individuals shall no longer be Ordinary Members of the Union.
- 2.2.1 Students who exercise this right shall not be unfairly disadvantaged, with regard to the provision of services, facilities or otherwise, by reason of their having opted out of membership.
- 2.3 Ordinary Members shall be the only members eligible to stand for election to any office, and be eligible to vote in Elections, Forums and General Meetings.
- 2.4 Ordinary Membership shall cease if an individual should no longer be a matriculated student of the University or, if they are an Ordinary Member by virtue of being one of the Sabbatical Presidents, upon their demission or resignation of office.

3. Associate Members

- 3.1 Associate Members are not entitled to hold office or be present at, or take part in, any General Meetings of the Union.
- 3.2 All students of the University who have associate student status shall automatically be Associate Members of the Union. In addition, the following may, on written application to the Executive Committee and payment of an annual subscription at a rate to be determined by the Executive Committee, become Associate Members:

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- 3.2.1 members of staff of the University and Union during the term of their employment;
- 3.2.2 former students of the University who have been an Ordinary Member of the Union for at least one academic session, but have not completed a course leading to a qualification; and
- 3.2.3 members of the community who join individual societies and sports clubs affiliated to the Union.

4. Life Members

- 4.1 Former students having obtained a qualification from the University and who were Ordinary Members for at least one academic session, or former students who have held an associate membership for two or more years, may make written application to the Executive Committee to become a Life Member of the Union.
- 4.2 Life Members shall pay a one-off subscription at a rate to be determined by the Executive Committee.
- 4.3 Life Members are not entitled to hold office or be present at, or take part in, any General Meetings of the Union.

5. Honorary Members

- 5.1 The Chancellor, Principal, Deputy Principal and Vice Principals of the University and the Trustees of the Union shall be Honorary Members of the Union ex officio.
- 5.2 The Union may admit to honorary life membership of the Union any person whom it wishes to honour for services to the Union.

6. Reciprocal Members

- 6.1 The Union may enter into reciprocal membership agreements with other like-minded students' associations or unions, which allow entry into each other's premises.
- 6.2 Reciprocal membership agreements must conform to the Licensing (Scotland) Act 2005.
- 6.3 Reciprocal Members are not entitled to hold office or be present at, or take part in, any General Meetings of the Union.

7. Temporary Members

- 7.1 People requiring access to premises occupied by the Union property - including, but not limited to trades people and works people - shall be treated as Temporary Members while on such premises.

8. Honorary Patron

- 8.1 The position of Honorary Patron is one that shall be purely ceremonial. An Annual General Meeting shall have the power to elect one individual at any one time to the position of Honorary Patron. The position shall have a term limit of two years, although any such individual shall have no limits on the number of terms of office they shall hold.