



20th April 2021

Re: DEFINITION OF A "MEMBER"

Dear Sir / Madam,

There appears to be some who are still not quite sure about the definition of "Member", when it comes to affiliation fees payable to the Association.

We can answer this simply by saying; one membership, one family, one fee. If a child is studying full time, living at home and under 25, they can remain on their parent's membership whilst attending trips in their parent's vehicle. We have been informed that some clubs have two membership fees for one family i.e. husband pays single membership and wife/partner pays a single membership; in this case we also require one payment per person. If a family has split and becomes two families, then each family is required to pay an affiliation fee.

Our insurance in the past did not define the term "member", and therefore the public liability cover was open to a number of interpretations. As part of our ongoing improvement in matters of insurance we have been able to define a Member not as one person but as one family, being mum, dad and their dependent children up to the age of 25. The same applies to same sex relationships, and de facto relationships, one family one fee.

The next question relates to Honorary Members of clubs. An Honorary Member is still a member, and therefore an affiliation fee is due as they are not honorary members of the association, only honorary members of the club. If a club provides honorary membership, they are saying that this person is a valued member of their club and do not require them to pay a membership fee. Effectively the club then subsidises that person so that he or she receives all the privileges of club membership. It therefore follows that the club must pay an affiliation fee to affiliate that member, and their family who are then also covered under the club's insurance policy.

If a member is classed as an Associate Member of a club then they too are a Member, and an Affiliation Fee applies.

Our insurance protection is significant for our members, and it is important that the correct number of memberships be completed on both the Annual Affiliation Renewal Form and the Monthly New Member Affiliation Renewal Form to ensure that you are insuring all the members of your Club. The legal rule of "acting in good faith" is very important.

In your club you may have other examples of membership, and further information can be obtained on these forms of membership by contacting the Association Office.

Yours Sincerely,

Wayne Hevey
Chief Executive Officer

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VICTORIA

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