



Membership Policy

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to contribute to the growth and development of equestrian sport for all Ontarians in a safe sporting environment by providing an individual member category with rules and requirement within Ontario Equestrian (OE), including member obligations, fees and the terms/conditions of membership.

Membership is required to participate and/or compete at any OE or Equestrian Canada (EC) competitions and/or events.

The membership application process will be in accordance with OE Bylaws dated June 12, 2023, Article II.

2. DEFINITIONS

The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

- a) *Board*: The Board of Directors of the Corporation.
- b) *Corporation*: Ontario Equestrian Federation Incorporated.
- c) *Days*: Total calendar Days, irrespective of weekends or holidays.
- d) *EC*: Equestrian Canada
- e) *Good Standing*: As described in Section 10 below.
- f) *Governing Documents*: the Articles, By-laws dated June 12, 2023, and the Corporation's policies, procedures, rules, regulations and any other similar documents.
- g) *Member*: All categories of membership within OE, as well as individuals employed by or engaged in activities with OE, including but not limited to, Athletes, Coaches, Judges, Officials, Volunteers, Directors, Officers, Administrators, spectators and parents of OE members.

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all prospective, current and past Members of OE.

4. MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

OE has the following membership category:

Individual Member: Any individual (18 years or over) including but not limited to: a recreational rider, a competitive rider, a coach, or an official who is interested in the purposes of Ontario Equestrian, who wishes to compete in any competition organized by Ontario Equestrian, who has applied for and been issued a Membership, and who has agreed to abide by Governing Documents.

5. ASSOCIATE CATEGORIES

OE has the following associate category:

Junior Associate: Any individual under eighteen (18) years, who has applied for registration as a Junior Associate with the corporation, and who has agreed to abide by the Governing Documents will be considered a Junior Associate.

Entitlement

Upon payment of an annual fee set by the Board, a Junior Associate shall be entitled to:

- a) Compete in any competitions organized by the Corporation
- b) Be covered by an insurance purchased by the Corporation; and
- c) Receive newsletters and other information documents from the Corporation.

Not Entitled to Vote

Junior associates are not Members and therefore shall not be entitled to received notice of, attend, or vote at any meeting of Members.

6. ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIPS

A membership will be issued to a candidate or will be renewed if:

- a) The candidate member makes an application for membership in a manner prescribed by the Board;
- 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 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 4(a) of this Policy; and
- g) The issuance of a membership to the candidate member has been approved by the Board or by any committee or individual delegated this authority by the Board.

7. MEMBERSHIP AND ASSOCIATE ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL PROCESS

The following requirements must be met before issuance or renewal of membership or associate status:

- a) *Individual Member:*
 - i. Register via online registration system, completing all required fields;
 - ii. Complete an annual concussion waiver via the online registration system;
 - iii. Payment of membership dues;
 - iv. Completion of EC's Concussion Awareness and Fostering Healthy Equestrian Environments e-learning modules every three years; and
 - v. Agree to comply with OE's procedures, policies, and Code of Conduct.
- b) *Junior Associates:*
 - i. Register via online registration system, completing all required fields;
 - ii. A parent or legal guardian, 18 or older, must complete an annual concussion waiver on the Junior Associates behalf via the online registration system;
 - iii. Payment of associate dues;

- iv. Completion of EC's Concussion Awareness and Fostering Healthy Equestrian Environments e-learning modules every three years; and
- v. Agree to comply with Ontario Equestrians procedures, policies, and code of conduct.

8. MEMBERSHIP DUES AND DURATION

- a) Year: Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the membership year of OE will be January 1st – December 31st.
- b) Dues: Membership dues will be determined annually by the Board.
- c) Duration: Membership duration is accorded on an annual basis, and Members will re-apply for membership annually.
- d) Deadline: Members will be notified in writing of the membership dues at any time payable, and if the membership dues are not paid within thirty (30) Days of the membership renewal date or notice of default, the Member in default may become subject to discipline in accordance with 9(d) of this policy.

9. TRANSFER, SUSPENSION, AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- a) Transfer – Membership in the Corporation is non-transferable.
- b) Termination – Membership in the Corporation will terminate immediately upon:
 - i. The expiration of the Member's annual membership, unless renewed in accordance with this policy;
 - ii. Subject to Section 9(c), resignation by the Member by giving written notice to the Corporation;
 - iii. Dissolution of the Corporation;
 - iv. The Member's death; or
 - v. A decision of the Board to terminate the Member's Membership in accordance with section 9(d).
- c) May Not Resign – A Member may not resign from the Corporation when the Member is subject to disciplinary investigation or action of the Corporation.
- d) Discipline – A member may be disciplined in accordance with Sections 2.10, 2.11 and 2.12 of the Corporations By-Laws dated June 12, 2023.

10. GOOD STANDING

- a) Definition: A Member will be in good standing if:
 - i. The Member has not ceased to be a Member;
 - ii. The Member's Membership is not subject to current suspension of the Corporation;
 - iii. The member has not been declared by the Board not to be in Good Standing;
 - iv. the Member is not subject to a current disciplinary investigation or action by the Corporation, or if subject to disciplinary action currently, has fulfilled all terms and conditions of such disciplinary action to the satisfaction of the Board;
 - v. the Member was the subject of a disciplinary investigation or action by the Corporation and has fulfilled all terms and conditions of such disciplinary action to the satisfaction of the Board;

- vi. has not been suspended or expelled from membership, or had other membership restrictions or sanctions imposed, by the national governing body for equestrian sport in Canada (known as EC); or
 - vii. is not subject to a disciplinary investigation or action by the national governing body for equestrian sport in Canada (known as EC).
- b) *Cease to be in Good Standing* - Members that cease to be in Good Standing, as determined by the Board will not be entitled to vote at Members' Meetings 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.

This Policy serves as a framework to providing rules and requirements of membership within OE.

If you are unclear about the requirements of this Policy, please contact the Executive Director at OE as follows:

Ontario Equestrian

320 Harry Walker Parkway North
Unit 2
Newmarket, ON L3Y 7B8
905.709.6545

Reviewed and Approved by the Ontario Equestrian Board of Directors: March 25, 2026
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