



Membership Policy

88.9fm delivers a quality, diverse and independent alternative to mainstream media that nurtures and encourages community participation.

Purpose

To facilitate the involvement of the community through financial membership and subscriptions that both sustain the station and guarantee its accountability to the community and government.

Membership

Members of Tamworth Broadcasting Society Inc. (referred to as the Association, or the Station) are required to support its purposes and comply with its Rules of Association (Constitution), a public document which sets out Members' rights, responsibilities, voting and other meeting procedures and the processes for the election, roles and responsibilities of the Committee of Management (Board of Directors).

Members of the Board of Directors must be individual financial members of the Association.

Membership application forms are made available on the station's website, at the premises or by post on request. Completed applications for membership are to be received in the first instance by the Chair of the Board and submitted to the Board for approval before membership can be granted.

Where an application for Membership has been rejected by the Board, the rejected applicant can request written reasons for the rejection which will be forwarded in writing within 14 days of receipt of an application. The rejected applicant may apply in writing for an appeal of the decision through an ordinary general meeting of the Association, convened within 28 days of the date of receipt of the request. At such a meeting, the rejected applicant will have a right to be heard.

Membership fee

Initial membership fees and annual renewal fees are inclusive of GST. All annual membership shall become due on the first of June in any given calendar year.

New applications for membership made in the second half of any calendar year will only attract a membership fee of one half of the current fee applicable to the applicant's membership category.

Membership categories

The Rules of Association set out the categories of Membership of the Association:

Membership by individual persons

- The station encourages the greater inclusion in its presenter and member base of young people, women, people with indigenous and other culturally diverse backgrounds and people of all abilities and orientations.
- The Committee of Management will seek appropriate opportunities to promote and attract such membership.
- The annual fee for Single Membership is \$15, or Concession \$7.50 (pensioner, unwaged, full-time student, health card).

Membership by not-for-profit community groups

- The station encourages local not-for-profit community groups to become financial members with voting rights, defined in the Rules as Ordinary Membership, in order to develop a broad-based input, support and promotion of the station among each group's own community and supporter base.
- The annual fee for group/ organisation membership is \$40.00

Lifetime membership

- Shall be available only to those persons nominated by the Board of Directors who, in their opinion, have made an outstanding contribution to the Station.

Corporate membership

- Although the Rules of Association make provision for Corporate Members, this category is inactive as it is not currently required under this policy.

Members are an invaluable part of the station's existence and the Board of Directors, management, staff and volunteers endeavour to encourage and support one another's contribution to the station. However, in the event of any disputes, the Internal Conflict Policy which sets out a detailed process for the resolution of conflict within the station, will apply.

Additionally, Grievance procedures as set out in the Policies & Procedures Manual apply in cases of disputes between members. Where the Board/ Management is unable to resolve a dispute between Members, a decision will be made on the necessity of independent mediation or arbitration or consider impartial legal or other expert advice as required.

Other relevant policies

Members, subscribers, committee, staff and volunteers are encouraged to read this policy in conjunction with other station policies, as appropriate.

More information

If you have a query about this policy or need more information, please contact the Station Manager.