

MEMBERS

1) TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

NASSPDA consists of

- a) Individual members: open to all individuals who accept, abide by, and comply with the mission statement of NASSPDA and who live in North America
- b) Couple members: open to two individuals who wish to register as a couple at a discounted fee (may be life partners or dance partners but limited to one partner for the duration of their membership year) and who accepts, abides by, and complies with the mission statement of NASSPDA and who lives in North America.
- c) Student members: open to all individuals living in North America who have a valid Student ID from an accredited educational institution. Student members wishing to compete should be prepared to present their student ID at NASSPDA-sanctioned competitions.
- d) Organization members: open to all legal entities, clubs and groups located in North America, whose main concern is same-sex partner dance or LGBT sports including same-sex partner dance or who are organizing a same-sex competition and who accept, abide by and comply with the mission statement of NASSPDA. Each organization must designate an individual to vote on behalf of the organization. The designated individual may also have an Individual Membership in his or her own name. Organizational membership cannot be used to determine eligibility to win any NASSPDA title.
- e) Team Membership: open to formation teams, who wish to compete for the annual NASSPDA Championship title and who accept, abide by, and comply with the mission statement of NASSPDA and who live in North America. Each team must designate an individual to vote on behalf of the team. The designated individual may also have an Individual Membership in his or her own name.
- f) Honorary members: individuals who have rendered outstanding services because of their extraordinary contribution to the same-sex partner dance community at large.

2) OBTAINING MEMBERSHIP

- a) Individual, Couple, Student, Organization, or Team Memberships:
 - i) An individual, couple, student, organization, or team membership is obtained by submitting an application to NASSPDA. NASSPDA reserves the right to reject any membership application for cause.
- b) Honorary Memberships:
 - i) Any member in good standing may nominate an individual for Honorary Membership by submitting a written application (*details TBD*).
 - ii) Honorary Memberships shall be granted by a 2/3 vote of the Board.
 - iii) Honorary Memberships shall be announced at the next Annual General Meeting
- c) Rejection of an application by the Board.

- i) In case of refusal of membership, the Board shall inform the applicant in due course of this decision in writing. The applicant shall have the right to appeal this decision and address the General Membership at the following Annual General Meeting.
 - ii) The General Membership may still grant membership to the applicant by 50% plus one vote of those present.
 - d) Membership year will be one year from date of registration.
- 3) **ENDING OF MEMBERSHIP**
- a) Membership in the Association ends by:
 - i) Death, if the member is an individual.
 - ii) Bankruptcy or dissolution of the legal body of the member.
 - iii) Written withdrawal of membership.
 - iv) Failure to pay the annual membership dues in good time.
 - v) Honorary Membership is for life unless the member acts contrary to the Association's rules or decisions or if the member harms the Association in an unreasonable way.
 - b) Exclusion by the Association: Exclusion from membership by the Board occurs when the member acts contrary to the Association's rules or decisions or when the member harms the Association in an unreasonable way.
 - i) The Board shall inform the member in due course of this decision in writing. The excluded member shall have the right to appeal this decision and address the General Membership at the following Annual General Meeting
- 4) **OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS**
- a) Annual membership dues.
 - i) There is an obligation to pay annual membership dues for:
 - (1) Individual members
 - (2) Couple members
 - (3) Student members
 - (4) Organization members
 - (5) Team members
 - ii) There is no obligation to pay annual membership dues for honorary members.
 - iii) There is no principle right to recover the membership fee when the membership has ended.
 - iv) The amount of the membership fee for each category of membership is reexamined periodically and set currently as follows:
 - (1) Individual members: USD\$30
 - (2) Couple members: USD\$50
 - (3) Student members: USD\$20
 - (4) Organization members: USD\$100
 - (5) Team members: USD\$50
 - (6) Honorary members: \$0
 - b) Members have an obligation to abide by the Association's rules and regulations.
 - c) Members represent the Association and are therefore expected to behave in an appropriate manner.
 - d) Membership in NASSPDA is non-transferrable.

5) RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

- a. All members are entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting.
- b. All members are entitled to express their opinions at the Annual General Meeting and at other times and by other currently undefined ways.
- c. Voting rights
 - i. An individual, each partner of a couple, and a student member has one vote.
 - ii. An organization member has one vote to be cast by the designated individual.
 - iii. A team member has one vote to be cast by the designated individual.
 - iv. An honorary member has one vote.

6) PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS

- a. All individual and honorary members are entitled to run for the Board.
- b. All members are entitled to join a Board committee subject to Board approval.
- c. All individual, couple, student, team, and honorary members have access to the North American Championship title.
- d. Other privileges as they may be added.