CHAPTER XVII
MEMBERSHIP

A. CLASSIFICATIONS

1. **Honorary Membership**

   a. The total number of Honorary Memberships shall not exceed 5% of the total active membership of the club; any fraction shall permit one additional Honorary Member.

   b. As a guide, the minimum age limit for Honorary Membership shall be established at thirty years.

2. **Life Membership**

   a. All applications for Life Membership shall be reviewed and qualifications confirmed by the international office for approval.

   b. Life Members approved after July 1, 1980, will receive, in addition to the silver card, one Life Member tab without cost. Additional tabs can be purchased.

   c. Life Membership may be revoked by order of the board of directors when due cause is shown.

3. **Membership in a Lions club shall be as follows:**

   a. **Active:** A member eligible to seek, if qualified, any office in this club, district or association and the right to vote on all matters requiring a vote of the membership; and such obligation shall include prompt payment of dues, participation in club activities and conduct reflecting a favorable image of this Lions club in the community. This membership category shall be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

   b. **Member-at-Large:** A member of this club who has moved from the community, or because of health or other legitimate reason, is unable regularly to attend club meetings and desires to retain membership in this club, and upon whom the board of directors of this club desires to confer this status. The status shall be reviewed each six months by the board of directors of this club. A Member-at-Large shall not be eligible to hold office or to vote in district or international meetings or conventions but shall pay such dues as the local club may charge, which dues shall include district and international dues. This membership category shall be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

   c. **Honorary**: An individual, not a member of this Lions club, having performed outstanding service for the community of this Lions club, upon whom this club desires to confer special distinction. This club shall pay entrance fees and

international and district dues on such a member, who may attend meetings, but shall not be entitled to any privileges of active membership. This membership category shall not be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

d. **Privileged**: A member of this club who has been a Lion fifteen or more years, who, because of illness, infirmities, advanced age or other legitimate reason, as determined by the board of directors of this club, must relinquish their active status. A Privileged Member shall pay such dues as the local club may charge, which dues shall include district and international dues. They shall have the right to vote and be entitled to all other privileges of membership except the right to hold club, district or international office. This membership category shall be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

e. **Life Member**: Any member of this club who has maintained Active membership as a Lion for 20 or more years and has rendered outstanding service to this club, their community, or this association; or any member who is critically ill; or any member of this club who has maintained such active membership for 15 or more years and is at least 70 years of age; may be granted Life Membership in this club upon:

(1) recommendation of this club to the association,

(2) payment to the association of $650.00, or its equivalent in the respective national currency, by this club in lieu of all future dues to the association, and

Nothing herein shall prevent this club from charging a Life Member such dues as it shall deem proper.

A Life Member shall have all privileges of active membership so long as they fulfill all obligations thereof.

A Life Member who desires to relocate and receives an invitation to join another Lions club shall automatically become a Life Member of said club.

This membership category shall be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

f. **Associate Member**: A member who holds their primary membership in another Lions club but maintains a residence or is employed in the community served by this club. This status may be conferred by the invitation of the board of directors and shall be reviewed annually. The club shall not report an Associate Member on its Membership Report.

An Associate Member may be eligible to vote on club matters, at meetings where they are present in person, but may not represent the club as a delegate at district (single, sub-, provisional and/or multiple) or international conventions. They shall not be eligible to hold club, district or international office nor district, multiple district or international committee assignments through this club. International and district

(single, sub-, provisional, and/or multiple) dues shall not be assessed on an Associate; PROVIDED, however, nothing shall prevent this club from assessing an Associate such dues as it shall deem proper. This membership category shall not be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

g. **Affiliate Member**: A quality individual of the community who currently is not able to fully participate as an Active member of the club but desires to support the club and its community service initiatives and be affiliated with the club. This status may be conferred by the invitation of the club's board of directors.

   An Affiliate Member may be eligible to vote on club matters at meetings where they are present in person, but may not represent the club as a delegate at district (single, sub, provisional, and/or multiple) or international conventions.

   They shall not be eligible to hold club, district or international office, nor district, multiple district or international committee assignment. An Affiliate Member shall be required to pay district, international and such dues as the local club may charge. This membership category shall be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

h. **Discounted Member**: A member of this club who pays discounted dues as a result of their family membership status, student status or participation in any other discounted membership program offered by the association who desires to retain membership in this club and meets the qualifications for discounted dues. The membership status shall be verified by the board of directors of this club. A Discounted Member shall have all rights of an Active Member but shall not be included in the club delegate formula calculation.

EXHIBIT A

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY CHART

CATEGORY	PROMPT PAY-MENT OF DUES (CLUB, DISTRICT AND INTERNATIONAL)	PARTICIPATION IN CLUB ACTIVITIES	CONDUCT REFLECTING FAVORABLE IMAGE	ELIGIBILITY TO SEEK CLUB, DISTRICT OR INT'L OFFICE	VOTING PRIVILEGES	COUNT TOWARD CLUB DELEGATE ENTITLEMENT
ACTIVE	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
AFFILIATE	YES	YES, WHEN ABLE	YES	NO	CLUB MATTERS ONLY	YES
ASSOCIATE	YES, CLUB ONLY	YES, WHEN ABLE	YES	NO	DISTRICT CONVENTION (PRIMARY) CLUB MATTERS ONLY (BOTH)	NO
DISCOUNTED	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
HONORARY	NO, CLUB PAY APPLICABLE INT'L AND DISTRICT DUES	YES, WHEN ABLE	YES	NO	NO	NO
LIFE	YES, DISTRICT & CLUB ONLY-NO INT'L DUES OBLIGATIONS	YES, WHEN ABLE	YES	YES, IF FULFILLS OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBER	YES, IF FULFILLS OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBER	YES
MEMBER AT LARGE	YES	YES, WHEN ABLE	YES	NO	YES, CLUB MATTERS ONLY	YES
PRIVILEGED	YES	YES, WHEN ABLE	YES	NO	YES	YES

B. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM AND FAMILY DUES PROVISION

1. The Family Membership Program provides families with the opportunity to join a Lions club, upon invitation, under a special family dues concession. The program is designed for either existing members who wish to invite other family members to join their club, and for clubs that wish to expand their community service by involving more families from the community they serve, subject to the provisions and regulations as described below.

2. For the purpose of this program, the eligibility definition for 'family' shall be as follows: A family includes all members living in the same household related by birth, marriage or other legal relationship. Common household family members include parents, children, spouses, aunts and uncles, cousins, grandparents, in-laws and other legal dependents.

3. The Family Membership Program is open to family members who are (1) eligible for Lions membership, (2) currently in or joining the same club and (3) living in the same household. New family members must be invited and approved by the club's board of directors. Family membership is limited to five qualifying family members per household, and new clubs must have a minimum of ten full paying members. Same-household residency is not required for members under age 26 if they are pursuing higher education or serving in their country's military.

4. The first family member (head of household) pays full international dues (as well as any applicable club, district or multiple district dues), and up to four qualifying family members pay half international dues. Life Members qualify as the full paying first member. All family members pay the one-time entrance fee and shall be Active Members with all rights and privileges, but discounted family members shall not be counted toward their club's total delegate entitlement. The designated head of household is not eligible for other dues discount programs.

5. To qualify for the family membership dues rate, existing qualifying family members shall be certified and reported as family members by the May 31 and November 30 deadline dates in order to be billed at the discounted family rate for that upcoming respective semi-annual dues billing. Subsequent family members, up to a limit of four more, who meet the Family Membership Program qualifications, shall be required to pay one half the normal international dues. Club officers reporting new family unit members to Lions Clubs International, shall certify the family relationship as well as the residence information. Clubs using the paper Monthly Membership Report form will submit the Family Unit Certification Form at the same time as the Monthly Membership Report listing the new member. Lions Clubs International will not issue credits to clubs that complete certification after the new member has been added; in these cases, the family unit billing rate will take effect with the next semi-annual dues billing.

6. In the case of newly chartered clubs, family unit certification shall be done at the time the members are added to the club either online via Lion Portal or on the Report of Charter

Members form. A minimum of 10 members who are paying full dues is required when utilizing the Family Membership Program to charter a new club.

7. Per the association's constitution, formal membership is limited to individuals who are above the age of majority. Therefore, adolescents and minor children shall not be entitled to formal membership and not be added to the membership roster. In such cases, clubs are encouraged to sponsor Leo clubs, or organize a Cub club, for these younger family members as desired.

8. No credits will be issued to clubs that change a Lions join date in order to receive the family dues rate.

9. To verify same household residency and other eligibility requirements, the club secretary shall complete certification for each family unit and provide a certification key code indicating the type of supporting documentation they reviewed for determining the family members meet the eligibility requirements. The application shall be completed using Lion Portal, or submitted in paper form for clubs reporting member additions using the hard copy Monthly Membership Report.

10. Clubs that add more than 10 family members in a month shall be required to provide additional documentation to LCI confirming their eligibility for family membership, and such members will not be added to the association's membership records until such documents have been reviewed.

11. Family member units, under the Family Membership Program, shall receive only one copy of LION Magazine.

12. Family members shall not count toward the club delegate entitlement until they have been full dues paying members for a year and a day.
13. Clubs determined by the association to be misapplying the Family Membership Program or misusing it to affect voting delegate strength may be required to pay full dues for all family members in the club to the point at which the misuse was found to occur. Furthermore, the association retains the right to prohibit such clubs from adding family members under the Family Membership Program for a period of two years after the infraction.

14. In cases where the family membership discount has been abused or misused in which the family membership discount has been applied to family members not living in the same household (with the exception of those members under age 26 if they are pursuing higher education or serving in their country's military) or to non-family members, a full investigation will be conducted.

C. STUDENT MEMBER PROGRAM AND DUES PROVISION

1. The Student Member Program provides students with the opportunity to join any Lions club, including campus clubs, upon invitation, under a special student dues concession. The program is designed for Campus Lions clubs and for clubs that wish to expand their humanitarian service by involving more students from the community they serve, subject to the provisions and regulations as described below.

2. The Student Member Program is open to students between the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction in which they reside and through the age of 30.

    a. For the purpose of this program, the eligibility definition for "student" shall be as follows: A student is an individual enrolled in an educational institution. New student members must be invited and approved by the club's board of directors.

    b. Any membership awards program that includes campus clubs or student members as part of the earnings recognition module will not be fulfilled until all outstanding dues and fees are paid.

3. Students members, who meet the qualifications as outlined in paragraph 2 above, shall be required to pay one half of the normal international dues and be exempt of any entrance fees. Once a student meets this qualification, the student shall continue to receive the concession until graduation, notification of student status change or once the student reaches age 31, whichever comes first. It should be further recommended that districts and multiple districts consider either exempting or lowering their dues for student members as deemed appropriate.

4. Additionally, students over the age of 30 and who are joining or chartering a Campus Lions Club are eligible to pay a discounted entrance/charter fee of $10USD. All Qualifying student members shall be Active Members with all rights and privileges, but discounted student members shall not be counted toward their club's total delegate entitlement. Student members may choose to waive their dues discount to count toward their club's delegate entitlement, but not until they have been full dues paying members for a year and a day.

5. Student members shall be required to provide documentation verifying enrollment in an educational institution and age. The district governor, guiding Lion or club secretary shall complete the appropriate documentation as listed on the Student Member webpage for each student member, indicating the type of supporting document they reviewed to verify enrollment in an educational institution and age or submit information via the Lion Portal.

6. In the case of Campus Lions clubs, student members shall receive an extended billing adjustment period for the semi-annual billings in order to accommodate the typical school schedule. Campus Lions clubs have through March 31 for the January per capita billing and through September 30 for the July per capita billing to amend the club roster. Lions

Clubs International will give credits to clubs for roster adjustments submitted within this time period.

7. In the case of a newly chartered campus club, or a club with a majority of student members, each charter member who qualifies for the Student Member Program is required to prepay one year International dues at the student member rate at the time of charter.

8. Clubs determined to be misapplying the Student Member Program may be required to pay full dues for all student members in the club to the point at which the misuse was found to occur. Furthermore, the association would retain the right to prohibit such clubs from adding student members under the Student Membership Program for a period of two years after the infraction.

D. LEO-LION PROGRAM AND DUES PROVISION

1. Leo-Lion Program provides current or former Leos an easy transition to Lions. Current and former Leos, who have been a Leo for at least a year and a day and are between the age of legal majority and 35, may choose to pay one half of the normal international dues and be exempt of any entrance fees. A member who meets the initial Leo-Lion requirements shall continue to qualify for the Leo-Lion program until the member reaches the age of 36. Discounted Leo-Lions shall not count toward the club delegate entitlement. Leo-Lion Members may choose to waive their dues discount to count toward their club's delegate entitlement, but not until they have been full dues paying members for a year and a day. All Leo-Lion members are eligible to participate in and receive other benefits of the program as long as they remain eligible.

2. In the event that a group of at least 10 current or former Leos apply to charter a new club with other like-like minded individuals, this club may be chartered as a Leo-Lion Club. Additionally other members joining a Leo-Lion club who are between the age of legal majority in the jurisdiction in which they reside and age 30 shall qualify for membership under the Young Adult membership type. Young Adult members in Leo-Lion Clubs shall receive the same Leo-Lion program discount of half international dues and entrance/charter fee waiver. Individuals over the age of 30 may join the Leo-Lion club, but do not qualify for the discount and fee waiver. Discounted Young Adult members shall not count toward the club delegate entitlement. Young adult members may choose to waive their dues discount to count toward their club's delegate entitlement, but not until they have been full dues paying members for a year and a day.

3. Former Leos shall be required to provide documentation verifying Leo membership and age. Young adults joining a Leo-Lion club shall be required to provide documentation verifying age. The district governor, Guiding Lion or club secretary shall complete a Leo to Lion Certification Form or submit via the Lion Portal for each former Leo and Young Adult member, indicating the type of supporting document reviewed to verify Leo membership and/or age.

4. Existing members must be listed as a Leo or former Leo in their membership history in order to update their member type to Leo-Lion. To receive former Leo status as an existing member, the Leo to Lion Certification Form (LL-2) must be submitted to Lions Clubs International or submit information via the Lion Portal.

5. Clubs determined to be misapplying the Leo-Lion or Young Adult Member Program may be required to pay full dues for all Leo-Lion and Young Adult members in the club from the point at which the misuse was found to occur. Furthermore, the association retains the right to prohibit such clubs from adding Leo-Lion and Young Adult members for a period of two years after the infraction.

E. GUIDING LION PROGRAM

The Guiding Lion program is designed to assist newly chartered and established clubs.

1. **Appointment for Newly Chartered Clubs**. The appointment of an experienced Lion is required prior to the chartering of a new club.

    a. The appointment is based upon the recommendations of the district governor, and the sponsoring club president and is reported on the Lions Club Charter Application.

    b. The two-year appointment begins on the charter approval date.

    c. The Guiding Lion cannot be a member of the newly organized club nor the current district governor. This Lion is provided with a Guiding Lion Pin during the charter ceremony to recognize his or her position.

    d. Up to two guiding Lions may be appointed if needed.

2. **Appointment for Established Lions Clubs**

    a. All clubs may benefit from the support of a guiding Lion and the assignment of a guiding Lion is required as part of the Club Rebuild Program.

    b. The appointment is based upon the recommendations of the district governor in consultation with the club president and is reported to the Membership Development Division.

    c. The two-year appointment begins on the date the appointment is reported.

    d. The Guiding Lion cannot be a member of the assigned club nor the current district governor.

e. This Lion is provided with a Guiding Lion Pin to recognize his or her position.

3. **Guiding Lion Responsibilities**

   a. Attend most club meetings, both general and board meetings.

   b. Provide a training course for club officers and members with support provided by the district.

   c. Ensure that the club is active in service and fundraising projects and supports LCIF initiatives.

   d. Ensure ongoing membership growth.

   e. Involve club officers and members in district and multiple district activities.

   f. Ensure that the club is in good standing with Lions Clubs International.

   g. Ensure that the club routinely submits membership and activity reports and reports new club officers in a timely manner.

   h. Submit quarterly report to Lions Clubs International Headquarters and the district governor.

   i. No guiding Lion may be assigned to more than two clubs at any point in time.

4. **Certification.** Guiding Lions are encouraged to become certified by successfully passing the Certified Guiding Lion course prior to appointment. To maintain certification, Certified Guiding Lions must recertify every three years.

5. **Presidential Certified Guiding Lion Award**. Guiding Lions who complete the Certified Guiding Lion course and served successfully as a Guiding Lion for two years, as outlined in the Certified Guiding Lion Program, may apply for the award. The award will be forwarded to the district governor for appropriate presentation.

6. **Replacing a Guiding Lion**. If a replacement of a guiding Lion becomes necessary, a successor shall be appointed by the current district governor with the approval of the assigned club president.

F. CONTINUOUS MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Committee shall use its discretion in granting continuous membership in cases in which a political situation is involved in a country.

G. FEES

1. New members shall pay an entrance fee of US$35.00.

2. The entrance fee for former and existing Leo club members upon verification of at least a year and a day of Leo service shall be waived.

3. The charter fee for former and existing Leo club members upon verification of at least a year and a day of Leo service shall be waived.

H. MEMBERSHIP AWARD PROGRAMS

Key Award Program

1. Effective July 1, 2002, Membership Key Awards will be earned for a total of new members sponsored, who have met the requirements for eligibility, in the following increments:

2 Membership Key	100 Membership Key
5 Membership Key	150 Membership Key
10 Membership Key	200 Membership Key
15 Membership Key	250 Membership Key
20 Membership Key	300 Membership Key
25 Membership Key	350 Membership Key
50 Membership Key	400 Membership Key
75 Membership Key	450 Membership Key
	500 Membership Key

Each key will comport with its specific design as approved by the board and will, as appropriate, bear the number of sponsored members appropriate for said key.
All keys will be made to be worn on the lapel.

All Membership Keys, beginning at the 25 – member key level will be accompanied by a medallion matching the key in design but proportionally larger. The medallion will be made to be worn suspended from a ribbon.

Awards resembling the official Membership Key Awards of Lions Clubs International may not be used by any Lions clubs or districts.

2. **Eligibility**

   a. A new member must remain a Lion for one year and a day before the name may be used as credit toward a Membership Key.
   b. The name of the new member and the sponsor must be reported via Lion Portal, with the sponsor's member number and club number.
   c. No sponsor shall receive more than one key of the same type.
   d. Transfer and reinstated members cannot be used as credit for a key.
   e. Only one sponsor can receive credit for a new member.
   f. Requests for sponsor changes must be received by LCI Headquarters within 90 days of the new members' join date.
   g. Key awards will be issued to a sponsor if the new member's club is in good standing.

3. Chevrons

   a. Charter Monarch and Monarch Milestone Chevrons will be awarded each year on the following membership anniversaries: 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75 and over. In addition to the chevron, beginning in 2023-2024, Lions achieving 25 and 50 years of service will also receive a pin.

   b. Former Leos, choosing to become Lions, can retain their Leo service years as part of the Lions records. The Leo to Lion Certification Form (LL2) is used for this purpose.

4. Jesse Robinson's Membership Growth Cup

To remember our heritage and build for the future, district teams can leave a legacy by earning the Jesse Robinson's Membership Growth Cup. As an award on which their name will be forever engraved to inspire future generations.

At the conclusion of each ~~the~~ Fiscal Year beginning in 2022-2023, membership net growth percentage for the top performing district in each CA will be recognized with the presentation of the Jesse Robinson's Membership Growth Cup. Should a tie occur, the district with the largest growth will be awarded. This award will be engraved with the names of the district team, to include the District Governor, the First and Second Vice District Governor and the Immediate Past District Governor. A replica will be given to each team member. Each subsequent year, it will be presented to the next district achieving the award, who will have their names added, building the legacy of this award.

I. REPORTS

The Cumulative Membership and Club Summary Report shall contain both club and charter member data and membership data uniformly ending on the last day of each calendar month and culminating on June 30 of each calendar year.