



## **POLICY CONCERNING PAYMENT OF REGISTRATION FEES**

### **World Scout Committee**

#### **Considering that:**

- the Registration Fee System was adopted at the 39th World Scout Conference in Brazil (January 2011),
- the current Registration Fee System was designed to distribute the burden of fees in the most equitable manner possible, taking into account the size and means of all WOSM Member Organizations<sup>1</sup>,
- the Regional and Global Support Centres heavily rely on Member Organizations to pay their fee in order to pay for staff, office space, programmes and events; the timing of fee payments is important for the planning of budgets and cash flow of WOSM; if fees are not collected timely and in full, operational budgets have to be modified to cut out planned activities, programmes and possibly staff, which could result in non-achievement of certain objectives in the annual and triennial plans,
- payment of annual registration fees is an obligation of membership under the WOSM Constitution, Article VII, §3(b),
- Scouts Honour and fairness to all WOSM Member Organizations require that there be a clear enforcement Policy which will encourage full and timely payment of registration fees by all WOSM Member Organizations,
- this Policy will allow WOSM to identify Member Organizations that are having financial difficulties early so any assistance needed can be discussed and any required training on financial matters can be provided.

#### **The World Scout Committee therefore adopts the following Policy:**

1. Registration fees are due when invoiced by the World Scout Bureau each year in October.<sup>2</sup> They become past-due on December 1<sup>st</sup>, and become delinquent on February 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Member Organizations" refers to both National Scout Organizations which are a single Scout Association as well as National Scout Organizations which are a Federation of several Scout Associations. The Federations are responsible for ensuring that the totality of the Scout Associations comprising them fulfil their financial obligations, otherwise it is the entire Federation which will be subjected to the terms of the policy stated above. It is therefore highly recommended that payments of fees continue to be made directly by the Federations.

<sup>2</sup> The Resolution passed by the 39<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference in Brazil, Annex 1.7, states that the annual fees are due to be paid on October 1<sup>st</sup> of every fiscal year.

<sup>3</sup> Registration fees for 2015/2016 budget year (October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>) will become delinquent on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

2. Member Organizations, who pay in full all their registration fees prior to December 1<sup>st</sup>, may claim a discount of 2%.
3. If registration fees become delinquent, the Member Organization will automatically be Provisionally Suspended<sup>4</sup> with loss of certain benefits as defined in Exhibit 1.
4. If registration fees are still not fully paid within 1 year (October 1<sup>st</sup>) the Member Organization will automatically lose all rights and privileges of WOSM Membership, including those listed in Exhibit 2.
5. If registration fees are still not fully paid by the date of the next World Scout Conference and the World Scout Committee decides to maintain its Suspension, a report will be delivered to the World Scout Conference with an invitation to the Provisionally Suspended Organization to make written or oral comments. The World Scout Conference then has the broadest power to then decide on an appropriate course of action in line with Article VIII, §1 (WOSM Constitution).
6. As soon as registration fees are paid in full, reinstatement will automatically occur to include all rights and privileges taken away due to non-payment of registration fees.
7. If fees are partially paid they will be applied to the oldest unpaid invoices first.
8. The Secretary General has the authority to review unpaid invoices of the World Scout Bureau by Member Organizations to help those, which are having financial difficulties. Out of respect for the Movement these discussions should be initiated by Member Organizations in such a situation prior to the point where the invoice becomes delinquent.
9. This Policy shall be communicated to all Member Organizations upon its adoption through a Circular and thereafter sent as an annex with each annual registration fee invoice. It replaces any prior policy on the payment of fees.
10. This Policy<sup>5</sup> shall become effective immediately upon approval by the World Scout Committee (October 2015).

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<sup>4</sup> The WOSM Constitution, Article VIII, §1, gives to the World Scout Committee the authority to Provisionally Suspend the membership of a Member Organization which, in the Committee's opinion, no longer fulfils the requirements of membership, including, inter alia, the requirement to pay registration fees regularly. If the Committee acts to Provisionally Suspend a Member Organization and does not subsequently rescind the action, the case will be reviewed by the next ensuing World Scout Conference, which has the broadest authority to decide on an appropriate course of action, including expulsion.

<sup>5</sup> Member Organizations who join mid-way during the fiscal year will be invoiced prorated fees and exempted from the above timelines in their first year of admission.

**Exhibit 1**  
**Provisional Suspension with loss of certain benefits**  
**for non-payment of registration fees**

If registration fees become delinquent the World Scout Committee will automatically Provisionally Suspend the Member Organization with loss of certain benefits as defined in this Exhibit 1.

- a) The right to vote at any upcoming Regional Conferences and other regional events requiring a voting process.<sup>6</sup>
- b) The right to have individuals participate in the World Scout Youth Forum.
- c) The right to have proposals for projects or other financial support reviewed and endorsed by WOSM, including Messengers of Peace, and other grants which seek WOSM's endorsement such as USFIS.<sup>7</sup>
- d) To have individual members of the Provisionally Suspended Member Organization join or be reappointed to sub-committees, working groups, task forces<sup>8</sup> or stand for election<sup>9</sup> in any Regional or World level organs of WOSM.<sup>10,11</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Insofar as the Constitution of the Region requires its members to be in good standing of WOSM.

<sup>7</sup> Limited exceptions can be granted by the Secretary General for Member Organizations that are seeking grants due to natural and human-made disasters and those that are specifically designed to help with essential capacity strengthening which will help improve the overall financial health of the Member Organization.

<sup>8</sup> Individuals from a Provisionally Suspended Member Organization may participate in World and Regional open call to join sub-committees, working groups or task forces – nominations will become null and void if full registration fee payment is not received prior to the selection process.

<sup>9</sup> An individual member from a Provisionally Suspended Member Organization who is nominated for election shall be accepted, but the candidature will be declared null and void if the full registration fee payment is not received by the time of the opening of the World or Regional Conference.

<sup>10</sup> Individuals that have been elected or appointed to a committee, subcommittee, task force, work group can continue to serve in their positions even if their Member Organization is Provisionally Suspended during their term.

<sup>11</sup> Vacancies of elected and non-elected positions cannot be filled with individuals from Member Organizations that are Provisionally Suspended. The World Scout Committee can grant thirty days for the Member Organization to make their fee payment in full before the vacancy is filled.

**Exhibit 2**  
**Provisional Suspension with loss of full rights**  
**for non-payment of registration fees**

If the registration fees are not fully paid within 1 year of the invoice date the Member Organization will lose all rights and privileges of WOSM Membership<sup>12</sup>, including those listed below and in Exhibit 1.

- a) The right to vote at an upcoming World Scout Conference.<sup>13</sup>
- b) The right to participate in Regional and Global events, training sessions, workshops, seminars, meetings and other activities organised under the auspices of WOSM.
- c) The right to have youth members participate in World or Regional events under the auspices of WOSM.<sup>14</sup>
- d) The right to host a Regional or World Scout Event organized under the auspices of WOSM.<sup>15,16</sup>
- e) The right to receive the services and publications of the World Scout Bureau.

The loss of rights will not excuse the Member Organization from the moral and legal obligation to pay all delinquent registration fees owed at the time of being Provisionally Suspended.

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<sup>12</sup> The WOSM Constitution defines rights and privileges in Article VII, §2

<sup>13</sup> WOSM Constitution, Article XI, §5

<sup>14</sup> Youth Members from a suspended Member Organization will be able to participate in World or Regional events organised by another NSO for a period of twelve months following the date of Provisional Suspension. This exception will not apply to the World Scout Youth Forum and items in Exhibit 1, in which youth from Provisionally Suspended Member Organizations will not be allowed to participate. It is the responsibility of the Provisionally Suspended Member Organization to make sure that their youth members (especially those that could be affected by this Policy) are aware of the risk of not being able to participate due to non-payment of registration fees.

<sup>15</sup> A Provisionally Suspended Member Organization may bid to host a Regional or World Scout Event organised under the auspices of WOSM. The bid shall be accompanied by proof that the Provisionally Suspended member organization has the financial viability to bear the financial consequences of organising and running the event. The bid will be declared null and void if full registration fee payment is not received by the time of the opening date of the World or Regional Conference.

<sup>16</sup> If a Member Organization is Provisionally Suspended after it had been entrusted with the organisation of an event organised under the auspices of WOSM, and was selected through a regular and democratic process of bidding and voting at a World or Regional Conference it may continue to organise and run that event, and have its members, young people and adults, not only run that event, but also participate in it. The World Scout Committee, however, reserves the right to ask the Provisionally Suspended Member Organization to demonstrate the financial viability of such event and that it can bear the financial consequences of organising and running it.