

Membership Policy – Wellington Repertory Theatre

POLICY PRINCIPLES DETERMINING THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS OF WELLINGTON REPERTORY THEATRE.

THIS POLICY IS REFERENCED IN THE CONSTITUTION AND SHOULD BE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS

Objectives

The aims of this Policy are:

1. To set out the rights and obligations of members as referenced in section 4 of the Wellington Repertory Theatre Rules.

Policy Statement

1. This policy applies from the later of April 2025 or the acceptance of the Wellington Repertory Theatre Incorporated updated Rules by the Registrar under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.

Membership Definition and Rights

2. A member of Wellington Repertory Theatre (the 'Society') is an individual or entity that has paid the relevant subscription fee to the Society or where the Committee has determined that their contribution to the Society has been so great as to confer the rights and obligations of membership.
3. There may be different types of membership, as the Board may from time to time determine. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - a. Individual Membership
 - b. Family Membership
 - c. Student Membership
 - d. Life Membership
4. Each type of membership may confer different benefits and obligations on the member in relation to level of service offered by the Society and the subscription fees payable.
5. Members of the Society have the following rights:

- a. They may vote at general meetings of the Society.
 - b. They may nominate persons for membership.
 - c. They may be elected as Officers of the Society.
 - d. They are entitled to be kept informed of the Society's activities.
 - e. They may participate fully in the activities of the Society.
6. Membership is deemed to remain in force for a period of 12 months from when the subscription fee has been paid.
 7. Non-payment of subscription fees by the renewal date is deemed as resignation from the Society.
 8. The Society may (but is not obligated) to offer a 'grace period' following membership expiry.

Patron

9. The Committee may, from time to time, and with the consent of the individual, appoint a Patron of the Society. This may be any person from with the community who:
 - a. has a recognised interest in the performing arts;
 - b. has a position of responsibility in the community;
 - c. may have been a former Member of the Society;
 - d. fulfils any other relevant criteria determined by the Committee.
10. The Patron is an honorary position. Patrons shall have all the rights of a Member as per Section 5 but will not be liable for any subscription or fee of any kind to the Society for these privileges.

Life Membership

11. The Committee may confer Life Membership on individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the Society.
12. Life members may exercise all the rights and privileges of membership of the Society as per Section 5, but will not be liable for any subscription or fee of any kind to the Society for these privileges. They are otherwise subject to the Rules in the same way as are other members and shall have the rights of Full members.

Membership Obligations

13. **Refunds:** Members are not entitled to a refund of their subscription fee once paid.
14. **Communication:** Members must not communicate on behalf of the Society unless delegated by the Chair.
15. **Conduct:**
 - a. Members must not bring the Society into disrepute.
 - b. Members are to maintain a positive standard of behaviour at the Societies' meetings or events.
 - c. Members should not interfere with the reasonable enjoyment experienced by other members at the Societies' meetings or events.
16. Members acknowledge that the Society provides a 'safe space' to explore an interest in theatre, no matter age, race, gender or experience, as a condition of their membership.

Dispute Resolution

17. Dispute resolution should take the contents of this Policy into account.
18. Disputes between members should be managed by the Chair in the first instance.
19. If this is not appropriate, the Dispute will be referred to the Committee for resolution.
20. A member complaint should be acknowledged within 7 days. Resolution may take longer.
21. The Society Committee has discretion as to whether it allows a member to remain a member (s 4.2 of Constitution).