



## SECTION 2: CLUB MEMBERSHIP

**Terms of Membership** - membership of the Club is open to all those interested in photography, but the decision on whether to accept a request to become a Member is solely at the discretion of the Club's Management Committee. Minors may only become members by special agreement of the Club, in which case a suitable Child Protection Policy would first need to be put in place. The Club has given this special agreement for the admission of Junior Members, being minors aged 16 and 17, on a case by case basis subject to the requirements of the Junior Membership Policy in Appendix 2 of this Handbook.

Prospective members are welcomed by the Club Membership Secretary who will usually give them the opportunity to attend a few meetings before they decide whether to join. In order to join the Club, a new Member must pay the appropriate subscription to the Treasurer and complete and sign a Membership Form which requests basic personal details to be used for Club purposes. The maintenance of Members' personal data is subject to the Club's Data Protection Policy in Appendix 2 of this Handbook. The Membership Secretary will also offer new Members the opportunity to be paired with an existing Member with similar interests or the same camera in order to help their integration into the Club.

Membership of the Club allows Members to attend all Club meetings and events (on occasion there may be an additional charge eg for events on non-Club nights) and to have access to the Club's facilities (where they are generally made available). Membership carries with it the obligation to abide by the rules and policies in the Club Handbook and its Appendices.

Membership will lapse automatically should a membership subscription become more than three months in arrears, and in exceptional circumstances membership may be terminated for whatever reason by decision of the Club's Management Committee.

**Membership Subscriptions** - are levied to cover the cost of providing the various facilities offered by the Club to its Members. The main costs are for the meeting room, speakers and judges. Keynote speakers are expensive and Members may be asked to pay an additional fee to attend such meetings – this will usually be less than the charge for non-members. Committee Members endeavour to keep all costs to a minimum.

Membership subscriptions are payable in full in September at the commencement of each season. Payment should be made to the Treasurer by cash or cheque, and a receipt will be issued.

The current fees are shown in the Club Programme and on the Club website. There are different levels of subscription fees for the following groups:

- Standard Membership - Sole and Partners
- Senior Citizens - Sole and Partners
- Junior Members

A reduced level of fees is payable for new Members joining after the season has started.