

WORLD BOARD MEMBERSHIP FEES DECISIONS



**WORLD ASSOCIATION
OF GIRL GUIDES
AND GIRL SCOUTS**

Dear friends,

During what has been a very difficult year for all of us, we have listened to your feedback and understand that many of you have concerns about your MOs financial situation. With this in mind, the World Board has consulted carefully on Membership Fees for the coming year and we are now able to share the World Board's decision with you. This email contains very important information about your WAGGGS Membership Fees for 2021 and the available options to pay any outstanding 2020 fees. It also contains information about the need for all historic debts (2019 and before) to be addressed in order to be eligible to vote by written resolution on the 2021 Strategic Plan and Budget, and the Membership paper this coming November. Please make sure you read each section.

1. World Board decision

2. Membership Fees repayment plan process

3. WAGGGS Membership Fees 2018-2020 Policy and support fund

4. Membership Fee discount application process

5. Unpaid fees and voting

We are one Movement

Throughout 2020, we have come together to show the resilience, positivity and power of our Movement. It has been wonderful seeing the ways in which Girl Guides and Girl Scouts have adapted to the restrictions and challenges of living through a global pandemic, and we have been proud to share some great moments with you. Unfortunately, there have also been many cancelled plans, and lots of activities have been put on hold for the year.

From our Phase II engagement report survey, we know that some of you are interested in supporting other MOs in the Movement through covering their Membership fees for the year. Sponsoring fees for another MO is a great opportunity for girls to support their sisters throughout the Movement, as well as WAGGGS. If you would like to make a donation to support a Member Organisation impacted by COVID-19 you can do so by sending a donation to WAGGGS ([click here for our bank details](#)). Contact your Regional Coordinator or Relationship Manager to inform them of your donation, and which MO or WAGGGS Region you would like to support. If you have any questions you can also contact us at membership@waggs.org.

COVID-19 has had a big financial impact on all of us, both Member Organisations and WAGGGS itself. We want to do everything we can to support our MOs at this time, and the World Board decision on Membership Fees has been designed as an equitable way to support as many Members as possible.

The deadline for submitting repayment plan applications is Wednesday 28 October, 23:59 UK time. The deadline for applying for a Membership Fund 2021 discount is Friday 20 November, 23:59 UK time. Please note: there will be no extension offered on these deadlines.

All of the links and documents in this document can be found on the WAGGGS website, [click here to take a look](#).

Warmest wishes,

Heidi Jokinen
Chair, WAGGGS World Board

Anna Segall
Chief Executive, WAGGGS

In order to find out more about the information contained in this email, and to ask any questions you might have about the different processes, we are delighted to offer some webinar sessions. Please add the below dates into your diary:

3rd October, 9.30am – 11.00am UTC (English and French)

10th October, 5pm – 6.30pm UTC (English and Arabic)

10th October, 7pm – 8.30pm UTC (English and Spanish)

1. World Board decision

- At its August meeting, the World Board approved:
- adoption of an interim Membership policy for 2021
- Reduction of Membership Fees for Members facing serious financial difficulties (upon application by affected Members)
- 2021 Membership Fee waiver for new Member Organisations
- reduced interim minimum Membership Fees for certain Members
- Member Organisations at risk of Automatic Suspension be granted a grace period up to the first day of the 37th World Conference in 2021

The Board approved an interim membership policy for the year 2021 with a formula that uses the same variables as in previous trienniums and updates the membership figure with the lowest most recent information held by WAGGGS. This maintains a standard 'rate per member' of GBP 0.40 and 2018-2020 national wealth bands, with calculations based on membership numbers from either the 2015 census or the latest officially recorded membership figure (in most cases 2018 or 2019), whichever is the lowest. [Please click here to view the Membership Fee calculations document.](#)

The Board approved the possibility of granting a reduction in Membership Fees for 2021 for those Members that are facing financial difficulties and will struggle to pay the full 2021 fee. This is based on a two-tier model with different approaches to Member Organisations under or over a Membership Fee threshold of £5,000 a year. Member Organisations with Membership Fees up to £5,000 (currently 116) in financial difficulties may receive a reduction of up to 50% upon request. This application process will be managed by WAGGGS Membership and Regional Support Team.

Member Organisations with Membership Fees over £5,000 (currently 34) may apply for different levels of reduction based on their specific financial situation, including their reserves position coming into 2020, the decrease in revenue due to the impact of COVID-19, the reduction in membership registrations, the number of month's reserves, and wealth bands.

This process will be managed by WAGGGS Regional Committee Chairs and Regional Coordinators / Relationship Managers in the first instance but decisions will be taken or overviewed by the Chair of the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee of the World Board.

Member Organisations who are in a position to pay the full amount of their Membership Fees in 2021 do not need to do anything.

The Board also approved that new Member Organisations admitted in 2020 will not be required to pay Membership Fees in 2021; and that any Associate Member Organisations achieving Full Membership status in 2020 will not be required to pay the 2021 Membership Fee at Full Members' level.

The Board approved a standard interim minimum membership fee of £65 (half of the current £130 minimum) be applied in 2021 for Member Organisations in wealth band 'A'; and that a standard interim minimum membership fee of £32.50 (half of the current £65 minimum) be applied to Associate Members in 2021.

In respect of voting rights, following the approach taken for the previous World Conference, the Board has confirmed that in order to be eligible to vote by written resolution on the WAGGGS 2021 Strategic Plan and Budget and on the Membership proposals (WoCo Document 10), Member Organisations will be required to have paid any outstanding

membership fees corresponding to 2019 and/or previous years, by 28 October 2020.

To ensure as many Member Organisations as possible will be able to vote, the Audit, Finance and Risk Committee has established a new repayment plan process which should help ease the financial constraints of MOs. Details of this process can be found below.

Thank you for your support at this time,

If you would like to apply for a discount to your Membership fee, please complete the relevant form, below.

2. Membership Fees repayment plan process

If your MO has outstanding fees from 2019 or earlier, please note that you will not be eligible to vote by written resolution on WAGGGS Strategic Plan and Budget for 2021 or the Membership proposals. In order to be eligible, Members can set up a repayment plan for outstanding fees can. If you need to do this, please read through the repayment plan process thoroughly, and then complete and return the repayment plan application form by 28 October 2020, 23:59 UTC.

Setting a repayment plan can also be an option if your MO is currently experiencing financial difficulties, which are making it difficult or impossible to pay your 2020 Membership Fee in one payment.

[CLICK FOR REPAYMENT PLAN PROCESS](#)

[CLICK FOR REPAYMENT PLAN APPLICATION FORM](#)

3. WAGGGS Membership Fees 2018-2020 Policy and support fund

The Membership fee policy sets out how the Membership fees are determined at each World Conference, and explains how the fees are collected. The policy also sets out how and when membership fee debts may be cancelled and how Member Organisations can apply to the Membership Fee Support Fund (MFSF).

If you wish to apply for the MFSF, please take into consideration the wider Movement, and the sustainability of WAGGGS before deciding how much to request. Also, please note that you can only apply for the current year (2020), not for 2021 or to cover historic debt.

[CLICK FOR MEMBERSHIP FEE POLICY](#)

[CLICK FOR MEMBERSHIP FEE SUPPORT FUND APPLICATION](#)

4. Membership Fee discount application process

There are separate processes for MOs who pay a membership fee of over £5,000, and those who pay £5,000 or less. Please click on the relevant button below to complete the correct form for your MO. Full information of how to apply can be found in each application form. Please note the deadline for submission of an application for a Membership Fee discount is the 20 November 2020, 23:59 UTC.

[CLICK FOR MOS PAYING FEES OF LESS THAN £5K](#)

[CLICK FOR MOS PAYING FEES OF MORE THAN £5K](#)

If you have unpaid Membership fees from 2019 or earlier, you will not be able to vote later this year. Please arrange payment of any outstanding fees or alternatively complete and return a repayment plan application form by 28 October 2020, 23:59 UTC time, see above section 2 for details.