



**YORK ST JOHN
STUDENTS' UNION**

BYELAW 1: MEMBERSHIP

REVIEWED AND REVISED AUGUST 2018

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1.1. The categories of membership are as follows:

- 1.1.1 Full Membership
- 1.1.2 Associate Member
- 1.1.3 Honorary Life Member

1.2. Rights and Obligations of Membership

- 1.2.1 Each category of membership carries the rights and benefits described for those categories. All members must observe the policies of the Union, in particular the Equal Opportunities Policy.
- 1.2.2 Membership of the Union and/or any rights or benefits of membership of any member may be suspended or withdrawn in accordance with point 11 of the Memorandum and Articles of Association and the Disciplinary Policy.

1.3. Full Membership

- 1.3.1 All enrolled students registered as pursuing a course of study at York St John University shall be entitled to full membership of the Students' Union, unless they choose to opt out under the Education Act 1994.
- 1.3.2 Full Members are entitled to:
 - Participate in the governance of the Students' Union
 - Access all activities run by the Students' Union
 - Use all services and/or facilities available through the Students' Union
 - Stand as candidates and vote in elections as defined by the schedules
 - Call for a referendum on policy, schedules or sabbatical officer conduct, in accordance with the schedules governing referenda and sabbatical discipline
 - Access all relevant financial and strategic evidence governing Students' Union affairs.
- 1.3.3 Full Membership shall be valid for the period of time a student is enrolled at the University.
- 1.3.4 In accordance with Article 10.1.2 of the Union's Articles of Association, the Sabbatical Officers from time to time are also Full Members.

1.4. Associate Membership

- 1.4.1 Associate Membership is extended to any member of another Students' Union, Guild, Association or similar group from other HEI's (Higher Education Institution), so long as when visiting the Union they are accompanied by a Full Member who takes responsibility for their behaviour unless previous arrangements have been made with a Sabbatical Officer.

- 1.4.2 Associate Membership may also be granted by Executive Council in line with Article 12.

1.5. Honorary Life Membership

- 1.5.1 Honorary Life Membership may only be conferred by Executive Council. Any Full member may nominate someone for honorary life membership. Sabbatical Officers reaching the end of their term of office shall be automatically nominated.
- 1.5.2 The maximum number of Honorary Life Memberships available each academic year shall be limited to four plus the number of Sabbatical Officers at the end of their term of office. This means that Executive Council must consider the merits of each application based on the nominees' contribution to the Students' Union.
- 1.5.3 A majority vote at the final Executive Council meeting of the academic year will be required to approve any nomination for Honorary Life Membership, including the automatic nominations for the Sabbatical Officers.
- 1.5.4 Honorary Life Members shall not be deemed Members of the Union for the purposes of the Articles or the Companies Acts; but shall be permitted to use the facilities and services of Students' Union and attend events.

1.6. Opting out of Membership

- 1.6.1 Any student can exercise their right to opt out of Students' Union membership, under the 1994 Education Act, without affecting their rights of access to the Union and its facilities.
- 1.6.2 Any student wishing to opt out should do so via their E-Vision Account or by contacting student records within the University Registry Department.
- 1.6.3 There shall be no distinction between opted out students and members of the Union in accessing Union commercial services.
- 1.6.5 Opted out students have no right to:
- Vote in any elections or referenda.
 - Stand for elected positions.
 - Attend any Union meetings.
 - Join clubs and societies.