



South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society  
Incorporated in Victoria A0020660B

## Terms and Conditions of Membership

SPUMS is the peak medical society representing doctors in the field of *Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine* in the South Pacific region.

### SPUMS Aims

SPUMS is a voluntary not for profit medical society with the following purposes and aims:

1. To promote and facilitate the study of all aspects of underwater and hyperbaric medicine.
2. To provide information on underwater and hyperbaric medicine.
3. To promote communication between members of the Association and to publish a journal for the Association.
4. To convene members of the Association annually at a scientific conference and to hold meetings and other functions or activities to inform, and to develop fellowship and friendship amongst members of the Association.

### SPUMS Membership policy

**Members must abide by SPUMS Purposes and Rules and accept SPUMS privacy policy:**

By joining SPUMS, members and associates agree to abide by the Purposes and Rules of SPUMS and these terms and conditions. A full copy of the purposes and rules is available on the SPUMS website: [www.spums.org.au](http://www.spums.org.au).

Members acknowledge that they have read, and accept the SPUMS privacy policy which is available on the SPUMS website [www.spums.org.au](http://www.spums.org.au).

### Categories of membership

The following categories of membership are available:

1. Full Members: \$280.00 (AUD)

Full membership is available to any medical practitioner who is legally qualified in the country of their nationality or the country of their permanent domicile whose membership has been accepted in accordance with the procedure set out in SPUMS Purposes and Rules.

2. Educational Institution Membership Subscription: \$560.00 (AUD)

Any educational institution may apply for membership subscription to the Association and it may appoint a delegate to attend meetings of the Association.



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3. Associate Members: \$140.00 (AUD)

Associate Membership is available to any person who is not a legally qualified medical practitioner, who has applied for membership and been accepted as an associate member of the Association in accordance with the procedure set out in SPUMS Purposes and Rules.

4. Retired Members: \$140.00 (AUD)

Any Full Member who has been a member of SPUMS for at least 10 continuous years and who has retired from all paid medical employment can request transfer to the retired membership category.

5. Student Member: \$140.00 (AUD)

Student Membership is available to any person who is not a legally qualified medical practitioner and who is undergoing training to become a medical practitioner will be eligible to join as a Student Member. The Student Member does not hold voting rights at the Annual General Meeting and is not eligible for any reduction in registration fees for the Annual Scientific Meeting. Once the student has qualified as a medical practitioner they will automatically transfer to the full membership category.

### **Membership/subscription fees**

Current membership/subscription fees are available on the SPUMS website and are revised annually. Membership categories 3–5 have discounted subscription rates which are determined each year by the SPUMS Executive Committee. Membership fees are reviewed and revised annually at the SPUMS Annual General Meeting and set for the next calendar year.

### **SPUMS Financial year and membership year**

SPUMS financial year runs from January 1st to December 31st. Membership/subscriptions are *prospective*, to be paid *in advance* of each financial year.

### **New memberships/subscriptions**

New members shall pay the applicable membership fee at the time of joining, irrespective of the time of the year. New members will receive access to all four embargoed editions of *Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine Journal* (DHMJ) as soon as the membership subscription is processed. Membership subscription will permit access to the SPUMS website and resources, discounted registration at the SPUMS Annual Scientific Meeting and other material and all non-embargoed editions of DHM.



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## **Membership renewals**

Reminders for membership renewal will be sent to all members, prior to or around 01 January of the next membership year. There is an expectation that members will renew in January, at the start of the next membership year. If not renewed, further reminders will be sent monthly. If membership renewal has not occurred by 31 March of the membership year, then access to DHMJ *and* SPUMS membership will cease after the DHMJ March edition in the year for which the membership subscription is overdue. Members who have not renewed by 31 March are required to resubmit a full application to join SPUMS, should they wish to rejoin.

## **SPUMS refund policy**

SPUMS membership is paid annually in advance. The membership year matches the calendar year, i.e., 01 January to 31 December. Whilst SPUMS does not routinely refund membership fees; in the event a member decides to rescind their membership e.g., due to change in personal circumstance, SPUMS is prepared to refund 50% of the annual membership fee so long as the membership is cancelled no later than 30 June of the membership year. From 01 July onwards, no refund can be provided due to costs already incurred, particularly in production of the journal. Enquiries regarding refunds should be directed to the Treasurer. Email is preferred: [treasurer@spums.org.au](mailto:treasurer@spums.org.au).

## **SPUMS Diving Doctors List**

Medically qualified SPUMS members can apply to join the Diving Doctors List.

SPUMS members will be accepted to the Diving Doctors List when they provide evidence that they have completed an approved training course in underwater medicine. In order to perform occupational medicals, a course of at least 70 hours instruction is required, or 10 working days.

Members joining the Diving Doctors List must agree that selected contact details will be published on the SPUMS website in a public area that permits members of the public to search for, and identify their practice phone number, practice address, including via a Google mapping service.

SPUMS members listed on the Diving Doctors List must agree that their continuing medical education is up-to-date.

Members will be responsible for the accuracy of their contact details. Members can update their own details by logging onto the secure members area of the SPUMS website: [www.spums.org.au](http://www.spums.org.au).



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SPUMS Members listed on the Diving Doctors List will be asked to confirm their practice contact details at the time they renew their membership.

### **Attendance at SPUMS hosted events including the Annual Scientific Meeting**

SPUMS convenes an annual scientific meeting, and from time to time also hosts other educational events, seminars and meetings. These events are frequently held at overseas locations.

Members, delegates and speakers who attend SPUMS hosted events and any associated activities do so entirely at their own risk. SPUMS is not responsible for delegates who attend these events.

Members, delegates and speakers who attend SPUMS hosted events agree to obtain full health checks, appropriate travel and vaccination advice, purchase appropriate travel and medical insurance, and carry any necessary medications for their travel. They also agree to keep up to date with any Australian Government travel warnings about SPUMS hosted venues, to be fully informed when making decisions about travel: <http://smartraveller.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>

### **SPUMS Website**

SPUMS website contains content which is the intellectual property of SPUMS. The website, logo and visuals and other content has been created by SPUMS, is the property of SPUMS and is protected by Australian copyright laws.

Users of the website are informed that their accounts on the website (or their access to your website, if they don't have an account) can be terminated in case of abuses.

### **Links to other web sites**

SPUMS is not responsible for any third party websites that have links from the SPUMS website. Users are responsible for reading these third parties' own Terms and Conditions or Privacy Policies.

### **Changes to these Terms and Conditions**

We reserve the right, at our sole discretion, to modify or replace these Terms and Conditions at any time. If a revision is material we will try to provide at least 30 days' notice prior to any new terms taking effect. What constitutes a material change will be determined at our sole discretion.



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**Contact us**

If you have any questions about these Terms and Conditions, please contact us:  
[secretary@spums.org.au](mailto:secretary@spums.org.au)