The WSAVA Membership Policy and Process
Approved July 2022

This document shall dictate terms and conditions of each class of membership of the WSAVA. This document shall be reviewed and updated every four years, or earlier if the association so requires. Input from members shall be sought. All membership applications shall be reviewed by the Leadership & Nominations Committee (LNC). Their recommendations shall be presented to the Executive Board (EB) prior to inclusion in the general assembly agenda.

1. GENERAL MEMBERS

   a. Who may be a General Member?

      – Established veterinary associations of which at least 50% of membership practices companion animal medicine
      – Legally established in their country for at least three years
      – Minimum membership of 50 members, or 10% of veterinarians dedicated to Companion Animal Medicine in the country it represents
      – Have clear objectives and goals
      – Have an effective way of communicating to their members
      – Are active and can show annual activities in a report
      – For general membership applications a representative of the aspiring association must be present at the assembly where the acceptance or refusal of the association is to be voted upon.

   b. If more than one association from a country with an existing WSAVA Full member association applies for membership, see: criteria for accepting applications from the same country as an existing member.

   c. General Member obligations:

      – Upon acceptance of the assembly the new member association’s representative will sign a document of rights and obligations
      – Payment of an annual membership fee depending on number of members. The membership fee calculation will be done with a method approved by the board and our FAC, there will be a minimum and a maximum fee.
Payment of membership in kind may be accepted in special circumstances and in discussion with the board.

Forwarding or otherwise spreading the news and resources of WSAVA to their members

Participating in the annual Assembly Meeting either physically (preferred), or virtually.

Giving annual reports of association activities, answering to e-mails, participating in and help spreading of surveys for WSAVA committees

The assembly representative must sign a Conflict of Interest (CoI) form yearly, and update on any relevant changes as they occur.

d. General Member rights:

- To offer the name of suitable members of your association as nominees for Executive Board and Committees
- Participation in elections of the Executive Board
- Number of votes allocated to the association will depend on the number of members the association represents
- Participation through members forum, surveys and assembly meetings
- One free registration to World Congress for assembly member to represent the association at the assembly meeting
- Right to input into agenda of the assembly meeting up to X days before the meeting.
- Right to put in a nomination to be part of working committees of projects that are of interest to your association
- Discounts on our congress and courses as well as discounts given by our educational partners, for all members of the association
- Right to bid for a World Congress
- Right to use the logo indicating WSAVA membership

e. Criteria for accepting applications from the same country as an existing member

Associations from countries that already have a member association are encouraged to join with the other association in their country if possible. If this is not possible for any reason, they may apply if they have at least 50 members and comply with criteria within the membership category to which they are applying for.

The following information will be asked of them for consideration of their application by the LNC and assembly. A meeting must be held between both associations and WSAVA in which differences were explained and/or any details of working together shared. If the existing member association objects to the new association's application:

- Indicate their reasons why
They must state the untoward effects this new membership could have to the local membership or the WSAVA community at large

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria for considering new member association in a country with existing WSAVA membership</th>
<th>Y</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tr>
<td>The new association from the same country represents a different region or a different language group</td>
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<td>The number of veterinarians within the country justify more than one national association?</td>
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<td>Members do not overlap or have less than 25% overlap</td>
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<td>There is no channel in place for the new association to be a part of the existing association e.g., legal restrictions, by-law restrictions, capacity of existing association</td>
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<td>There have been requests for affiliation to existing association but were rejected</td>
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<td>Activities are for professional development of companion animal practitioners (are not commercial, academic nor research focused and are non-governmental)</td>
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<td>Existing Member association supports this new application</td>
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<td>Existing member association ceases to represent companion animal practitioner/interest</td>
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2. AFFILIATE MEMBERS

a. Who may be an Affiliate Member?

- Veterinary specialist organizations, Veterinary student organizations, or veterinary team member organizations.
- Preferably international
- Veterinary Student and Veterinary Team member organizations presently restricted to three of each.
- Legally established in at least one country for at least three years
- Minimum membership of 50 members.
- Have clear objectives and goals
- Have an effective way of communicating to their members
- Are active and can show annual activities in a report
- For affiliate membership applications a representative of the aspiring association will preferably be present at the assembly where the acceptance or refusal of the association is to be voted upon.

b. Affiliate Member obligations

- Payment of an annual membership fee independent of the number of members
- Upon acceptance of the assembly the new member association’s representative will sign a document of rights and obligations
- Payment of membership in kind may be accepted in special circumstances and in discussion with the board.
- Forwarding or otherwise spreading the news and resources of WSAVA to their members
- Participating in the annual Assembly Meeting either physically (preferred), or virtually.
- Giving annual reports of association activities, answering to e-mails, participating in and help spreading of surveys for WSAVA committees
- The assembly representative must sign a CoI form yearly, and update on any relevant changes as they occur.

c. Affiliate Member rights

- One vote in the assembly
- Participation through members forum, surveys and assembly meetings
- One free registration to World Congress for assembly member to represent the association at the assembly meeting
- Right to input into agenda of the assembly meeting up to X days before the meeting.
- To offer the name of suitable members of your association as nominees for Committees
- Participation in elections of the Executive Board (nominees must be members of general member associations)
- Discounts on our congress and courses as well as discounts given by our educational partners, for all members of the association
- Right to use the logo indicating WSAVA membership

3. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

a. Who can be an Associate Member?

- Young or developing community that has already registered as an official group with proven membership and baseline activities but needs support financially and/or technically
- Registered veterinary associations of which at least 50% of membership practices companion animal medicine from a country or region that is not yet represented by a General WSAVA Member.
- Legally established in their country for at least three years
- Minimum membership of 50 members, or 10% of veterinarians dedicated to Companion Animal Medicine in the country it represents.
- Have clear objectives and goals
- Have an effective way of communicating to their members
- Are active and can show annual activities in a report

b. Associate Member obligations

- Pay a one-time application fee of 100 USD
- Participate in the WSAVA One Care roadmap to association development. Generate reports from defined goals in the roadmap exercise to the One Care facilitator team.
- To accept mentorship from a WSAVA volunteer or a volunteer member association in areas identified as needed.
- Provide feedback in an assessment form with reports on progress every 6 months
- At the end of 3 years must be able to:
  - demonstrate benefits to members
  - be financially ready to commit to Full membership fees
- Forwarding or otherwise spreading the news and resources of WSAVA to their members
- Upon acceptance of the assembly the new member association’s representative will sign a document of rights and obligations
- Participating in the annual Assembly Meeting either physically (preferred), or virtually.
- Giving annual reports of association activities, answering to e-mails, participating in and help spreading of surveys for WSAVA committees
The assembly representative must sign a CoI form yearly, and update on any relevant changes as they occur.

c. Associate Member rights

- One vote in the assembly
- Participation through members forum, surveys and assembly meetings
- One free registration to World Congress for assembly member to represent the association at the assembly meeting
- Right to input into agenda of the assembly meeting up to X days before the meeting.
- To offer the name of suitable members of your association as nominees for Committees
- Participation in elections of the Executive Board (nominees must be members of general member associations)
- Discounts on our congress and courses as well as discounts given by our educational partners, for all members of the association
- Right to use the logo indicating WSAVA membership