



Unity Centre of South London
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New Togo Union Membership System

Approved by members the December 13th 2013 general meeting, this new membership system has two strands:

1. Active membership
2. Social membership

1. Active member

2. Social member

Who is an active member?

- Anyone who has submitted a membership application form with an application fee of £15.00 and two passport-sized photographs and received a welcome pack from the General Secretary and been issued with a membership card.
- A member who pays dues and attends meetings regularly.
- He or she owes no more than 1 full year's dues by the end of the year they owed.
- He or she informs the Chair, Secretary and/or Treasurer of any circumstances affecting their ability to pay.
- He or she regularly sends notifications to the Secretary of his/fer absence to upcoming meetings.

Who is a social?

- Anyone who associates him or herself with and happily attends events organised or sponsored by Togo Union.
- Anyone who prefers the freedom of taking part in Togo Union events without the range of obligations that come with a full membership.
- A former active member whose dues payments are **more than 1 year in arrears** without any attempt to clear them; and failed to inform either the Chair, Secretary or Treasurer of any personal adverse circumstances affecting their ability to pay.
- In the above situations, the former active member would receive notification from the Chair or Secretary of the impending relegation of their membership to social status, giving them 30 days to clear their arrears. The relegation would take effect thereafter, if not action is registered from the member.

Rights an active member

An active member will eligible to:

- Receive all benefits that accrue to full members under the terms of the original Constitution of the Union.
- Receive invitations to participate in meetings.
- Receive regular meeting minutes, notices and updates from the General Secretary.
- Be invited to all events organised or sponsored by Togo Union.
- Participate in discussions at General Meetings and to vote on any question presented to members.
- Be invited by the Chair to take part in some special Executive Committee meetings.
- Vote in Executive committee elections, after one year's active membership.
- Stand as candidate in Executive committee elections, after two years' active membership.
- Get priority access to all Togo Union's or Togo Union-sponsored events.
- Be called to serve as a member of sub-committees.
- Represent Togo Union in events in the community at large.

Rights of a social member

A social member will be entitled to:

- Participate in all Togo Union events that are open to both members and the wider community.
- Purchase tickets to all Togo Union events.
- Purchase Togo Union's uniform cloth material and wear outfits made out of these to Togo Union's fundraising events.
- Upgrade to full membership at any time, [in the case those new to Togo Union] subject to clearance by the officers for the Union.
- Upgrade to full membership, [in the case of a former active member] upon payment of all arrears owing up to the day of settlement, whereby the member will automatically re-activate the fullness of their benefits and rights and be bound by the full spectrum of the responsibilities that come with these.
- Reapply to full membership without paying any of the arrears owing, in which case the member will have to contribute for one year before being eligible to vote and two years before qualifying to receive any benefits, standing as candidate or serve as a committee or sub-committee member.

Responsibilities of an active member

An active member will be expected to:

- Acquit themselves of all dues and contributions to the Union.
- Aim for 100% payment of dues every year, but failing this, avoid being more than 1 full year's dues in arrears.
- Inform the Chair, Secretary and/or Treasurer of circumstances affecting their ability to pay, so that they are given more time to clear their arrears.
- Aim to attend all meetings organised by the Union.
- Give advanced notification **to** the General Secretary when they are aware of their inability to attend upcoming meetings.
- Uphold Togo Union's Constitution and rules.
- Be a good role-model within the community by promoting the values and ethos of Togo Union.
- Avoid bringing the Union's name into disrepute.

Responsibilities of a social member

A social member will be expected to:

- Be sympathetic to Togo Union's Constitution and rules.
- Respect Togo Union's values and ethos.
- Not claim to represent or behave in a way that implies that they either represent or are full or active members of Togo Union.
- Return at once to the Chair or General Secretary any correspondence aimed for Togo Union, which may be mistakenly directed to them.
- Disclose their true membership status at once, when being mistakenly referred to as full member and/or being given the treatments thereof in the community at large.
- Avoid bringing the Union's name into disrepute.