

# Membership Rules

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## Version 1.0

### Section 1. Membership Levels

There are three membership levels available:

1. Standard Membership – The Standard Membership is open to a non-business individual or a business. The Standard Member receives all the benefits of the Volunteer Member and - additional benefits aimed at promoting their business or their cause.
  
2. Premium Membership – The Premium Member is open to a non-business individual or a business. The Premium Member receives all the benefits of the Standard Member and - additional benefits aimed at promoting their business or their cause. The Premium Member receives greater promotion and advertising exposure on the Chamber Web Site. This membership is designed for those businesses that benefit most from web site promotion.
  
3. Volunteer Membership – A Volunteer Member is defined as a non-business individual who wishes to be a voting member of the Chamber and an active volunteer donating at least 10 hours of time each year to assist the Chamber in Chamber operations, promotions, events, etc. The Board will appoint a Volunteer Coordinator to assist in the work assignments for Volunteer Members and to monitor the overall hours contributed. If it is determined that a Volunteer Member did not meet their commitment for the year their Volunteer Membership may be suspended by decision of the Board for the following year.

### Section 2. Membership Pricing & Benefits

	Price	Voting rights	Ad Panel Displayed on Home Page	Standard size ad panel	Premium size ad panel	Link to Business URL	Inclusion in Relevant Business Directory Sector	Annual Recognition in Saguache Crescent	Chamber Member Decal	Chamber Member Certificate	10% Discount Chamber Web Site	Use of Chamber Bulk Mailing Account	Invitation to Networking Socials	Grand Opening / Ribbon Cutting
Standard Member	\$25/yr.	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Premium Member	\$50/yr.	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Volunteer Member	10 hours annual service	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	

#### Section 2.1 Elaboration of the Ad Panel Membership Benefit

Recognizing that a member, as defined in the Chamber By-Laws is a “business owner or business community supporter”; and recognizing that one member may have more than one business, any member in good standing may purchase an additional ad panel for their second or third business for an additional \$25 per Standard panel or \$50 per Premium size panel.

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## **Section 2.2 Voting Rights Benefit – One Member/One Vote**

The Saguache Chamber of Commerce honors a “one member”, “one vote” voting model. A member is a person representing themselves, their business or businesses, or as a designated voting representative of a business or organization. Where a voting representative is appointed, the business or the organization is recognized as the “Member”. See SECTION 2. Powers of the Members, in the Saguache Chamber of Commerce By-Laws for additional clarifications.

## **Section 3. Rules & Guidelines Concerning Payment of Dues**

Membership in the Saguache Chamber of Commerce is on an annual basis from January 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup> each year. As such all memberships expire on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Membership dues for Standard and Premier Members are due on January 1<sup>st</sup> each year. Volunteer Members are asked to renew their commitment each year via a membership pledge form.

### **Section 3.1 Suspension of Benefits Due to Non Payment of Dues by Past Members**

If the dues are not received by April 1<sup>st</sup> the delinquent member’s link to their existing ad panel on the Chamber web site to their own business web site will be removed. The ad panel will remain un-linked until the current dues are paid or until April 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year. If the dues are paid after April 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year, the link to their ad panel on the Chamber website will be reactivated as soon as possible. If the dues are still not paid after one year the ad panel and all recognition privileges for the delinquent member will be removed from the Chamber web site.

### **Section 3.2 Application/Timing of Benefits for New Members**

All members in good standing, two weeks prior to the Fall Festival will be appear on the Chamber Banner that is currently displayed annually at the Saguache Abstract Office.

Anyone paying dues AFTER the Fall Festival will have the option to apply dues to the current year or the next year. If the new member selects the current year option, they will be added to the Chamber Web Site as soon as possible and the new member would be advised that annual dues will be due again on January 1<sup>st</sup>. If new member selects the next year option, they do not appear on the Chamber website as a member until that time.

## **Section 4. Special Membership Policy**

There may be times when interested parties, who are currently non-members, will want to negotiate a membership arrangement that differs from the current membership model. Or there may be times when the Chamber Board wants to negotiate a different arrangement with a non-member party that the Board feels is in the best interest of the Chamber. Examples of these sorts of arrangements might be:

1. Honorary
2. Gifted or Pro Bono Memberships
3. Membership’s In-Trade

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4. Reciprocal Memberships
5. Membership Exchange Agreements

Any membership arrangement other than the current membership model approved by the Board and contained in the most current version of this written documents, will require that the requesting party (be it a Board member, Chamber member, or third party) provide a written request to the Chamber Board for review. It will be entirely up to a majority of the Board to determine if a request is considered and if a request is approved. Any approved Special Membership must have a written explanation of the benefits and term of the agreement. Some or none of the current benefits afforded to members in the current accepted membership model may or may not apply.

## **Section 5. Adoption**

These Membership Levels, Benefits, Rules, Guidelines, and Policy are adopted by a majority of Board of Directors and Officers of the Saguache Chamber of Commerce on the date cited below.

VERSION 1.0

Date of Adoption: **February 9, 2015**