

## ARTICLE II

### MEMBERSHIP

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

Each applicant for membership in the Association shall furnish satisfactory evidence of their qualifications to the Association. Members renewing their membership or seeking reclassification must provide current information for the Association's records. The Board of Directors shall be the sole judge of the applicant's qualification for membership or reclassification. The term "Voting Member" as used hereafter, shall mean only Class AA, Class A or Class B Members as defined in Article II, Section 2, Membership Classes.

#### 2. MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

a) **HONORARY MEMBER** To qualify for Honorary Membership, an applicant must be an outstanding person who has or may promote or assist the OGSA. An Honorary Member will be excused from the payment of annual dues and assessments. This classification is to be for life but may be revoked at any time at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Honorary Members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that of voting or holding office.

b) **CLASS AA - LIFE MEMBER** - To qualify for Class AA (Life) Membership, an applicant must have retired as a golf course superintendent or assistant golf course superintendent and have been any of a Class A, Class B, or Class C Member, or the historical equivalent thereof, for an aggregate of no less than 25 years, of which a minimum of 20 years has been as a Class A Member, or the historical equivalent thereof, and no longer be working in the industry in a management capacity. A Class AA (Life) Member shall have all the rights and privileges of the Association except that of holding office. Class AA (Life) Members will be excused from the payment of annual dues and assessments. A grandfathering clause for existing AA Members will be instituted.

c) **CLASS A - GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT MEMBER** - To qualify for Class A Membership, an applicant must be presently employed as a golf course superintendent and, at the time of the application for membership, have at least three (3) years experience in such capacity. Class A Members must also hold a valid Ontario Landscape Exterminator licence or equivalent. A copy of such licence must be submitted and held on file in the Association office. Class A Members shall have all the privileges of the Association.

d) **CLASS B - GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT MEMBER** - To qualify for Class B Membership, an applicant must be presently employed as a golf course superintendent and, at the time of the application for membership, have less than three (3) years experience in such capacity. Class B Members must hold a valid Ontario Landscape Exterminator licence or equivalent. A copy of such licence must be submitted and held on file in the Association office. Class B Members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that of holding office.

For purposes of these by-laws, a "golf course superintendent" is an individual who is entrusted with the management and operation of the tract of land defined as a golf course, including involvement in construction and maintenance of such golf course and related equipment.

e) **CLASS C ASSISTANT GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT MEMBER** - To qualify for Class C Membership, an applicant must be presently employed as an assistant to a golf course superintendent. Class C Members must hold a valid Ontario Landscape Exterminator licence or equivalent. A copy of such licence must be submitted and held on file in the Association office. Class C Members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that of voting and holding office.

f) **CLASS D** - To qualify for Class D Membership, an applicant must be (i) associated with or in charge of the maintenance of a golf facility, (ii) employed at a university, college or turf related facility and be active in the business, (iii) involved in education and/or research that is a direct benefit to the turf industry, or (iv) otherwise have an interest in the industry. Class D Members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that of voting and holding office.

g) **CLASS E ASSOCIATE MEMBER** - To qualify for Class E Membership, an applicant must be a golf course management company, supplier or firm which is sufficiently interested in the profession of turf growing and

management to work for the benefit of the Association. Such a company, firm or supplier may have more than one representatives belonging to the Association. Class E Members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that of voting and holding office.

h) CLASS F - GOLF COURSE TECHNICIAN MEMBER - To qualify for Class F Membership, an applicant must be presently employed as a golf course technician. The Board of Directors has the right to waive this requirement. Class F Members shall have all the privileges of the Association except that of voting and holding office.

i) CLASS S - STUDENT MEMBER - To qualify for Class S (Student) Membership, an applicant must be a full time horticulture student enrolled in a formal course of education. An application for Class S (Student) Membership must be attested by the educational institute that the student is attending or by two Class A Members. Class S (Student) Members shall have such privileges of the Association as the Board of Directors may specify except that of voting and holding office.

j) INACTIVE MEMBER – To qualify for Inactive Membership, an applicant must already be a Class AA, Class A or Class B Member who by reason of unemployment, illness or other adverse circumstances is unable to pay annual dues and assessments. Inactive Members shall have all the privileges of the Association associated with their original membership class, except that of holding office, if applicable. An Inactive Member shall be excused from the payment of annual dues and assessments on a pro-rated basis at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

### 3. APPLICATION PROCESS

Any person who desires to become a Member of the Association shall file an application in writing with the Association office, on an application form, which shall be furnished by the office on request. An application shall contain, among other things, a concise statement of the applicant's training, qualifications and experience. The application must be signed by the applicant. Each applicant must have the endorsement of one Class A Member in good standing on his application, plus have their application endorsed by their supervisor to verify their position at the applicable golf course. In the case that an endorsement from an OGSA Superintendent may not be reasonably obtained, the Board of Directors has the right to waive the required endorsements at their discretion. The completed application must be accompanied by remittance of one year's dues. In any case where an applicant is refused membership in the Association, the amount remitted with the application shall be returned to the applicant.

### 4. APPROVAL OR REJECTION OF APPLICANT

Application for membership shall be approved or rejected by the Board of Directors. Any director having reasonable grounds to believe an applicant should not be accepted may express this concern in writing to the Board of Directors.

In the event that an application for membership is rejected, a hearing for reconsideration, if requested by the applicant, shall be granted by the Board of Directors. Any hearing for reconsideration shall be held at the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors or at a special meeting called by the Board of Directors for such purposes. Any applicant requesting a hearing for reconsideration shall be notified in advance of the time and place set for such hearing. Statement in writing and testimony may be presented at such hearing.

### 5. RECLASSIFICATION

It is the responsibility of the member to notify the Association office of any change in circumstances that results in such Member failing to meet the qualifications of its membership class and, in such event, to identify an alternative membership class whose qualifications the member does satisfy, if any.

### 6. REQUEST TO FREEZE CLASSIFICATION

Members in good standing who have maintained any classification for twenty (20) years or more, or otherwise at the discretion of the Board of Directors, may apply in writing to have their classification frozen. The Board of Directors may implement this action even though the member no longer fulfills all the requirements of that class.