

ISNF Bylaws ARTICLE VI: MEMBERSHIP

Section 6.01: Terms of Membership

- (a) The membership, services and activities of the Society other than the Executive Board and Council of Trustees meetings shall be open to all legal resident Muslims (as defined in Section 1.02), regardless of race, sex, color, national origin, or financial status.
- (b) Each applicant member shall abide and support the goals and objectives of the Society as stated in the Bylaws.
- (c) Membership shall be subject to the approval of the Board. New membership applicant must submit a completed membership form along with the annual membership dues to the Secretary of ISNF Board. The Board shall review membership application and notify its decision to the applicant within 60 days of its receipt.
- (d) Members (other than Life members) must pay the Annual membership dues every year to maintain their membership and their seats (if any) in the Board or the Council.
- (d) Contributions to designated relief funds, needy funds, zakat and specific Society functions and events will not be applied towards membership dues. However, contributions towards the ISNF's operating, construction and endowment funds may be applied towards the membership dues.
- (e) A member may terminate his/her membership by sending a written request to the Secretary of the Board. The Secretary shall send a written notification to the ex-member within two weeks of receiving the request.

Section 6.02: Categories of Membership

There shall be three categories of Membership:

1. Voting
2. Life
3. Honorary

Section 6.03: Voting Member shall be

- (a) A Muslim, who is at least seventeen (17) years of age at the time of application for membership and his/her legal residence is one of the eight counties (Allegany, Cattaraugus, Niagara, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Orleans and Wyoming) of Western New York.
- (b) Required to fill a Membership Form and pay annual membership dues.
- (c) Able to vote (except in annual election) after a waiting period of two months' after the approval of his or her membership by the Board.
- (d) Able to vote in the annual election provided he/she has paid his/her membership dues within the last twelve (12) months prior to July 1st.

Section 6.04: Life membership

Life membership shall be available to all "Voting members". It will be awarded to a member upon one-time donation of five thousand US dollars (\$5000) or more towards the ISNF operating funds or for being a voting member of the Society for twenty-five (25) years. Life membership request shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Board.

Section 6.05: Honorary Member shall be

- (a) Conferred on a person who is deemed to have rendered distinguished services to the Muslim community.
- (b) Exempt from paying dues, and not allowed to vote in ISNF elections or to hold any office in the Society.

Section 6.06: Termination of Membership

- (a) A member whose actions and activities are deemed as deliberate and serious violations of the purposes, goals, and interests of the Society, as provided in these Bylaws or the official resolutions of the Society, may be asked by the Board for an explanation for such behavior.
- (b) Such a member may be suspended from the membership within thirty (30) days if his (or her) explanation is not acceptable to the Board. If the allegations against the member are found to be unjustified or no action is tenable against the member or the member's explanation is acceptable to the Board, the member shall immediately be informed in writing of such finding and of the continuation of his/her normal standing in the Society.
- (c) A two-thirds majority vote of the total membership of the Board shall be required for the suspension of a member.
- (d) The suspended member shall be notified of suspension in writing and the matter shall be presented in the next General Body meeting for consideration. The General Body may then (1) cancel the suspension and restore the membership, or (2) it may confirm the suspension and terminate membership, or (3) it may elect a Hearing Committee of five voting members not involved in the initial decision making and authorize it to investigate the matter.
- (e) Hearing Committee shall meet, investigate and give its final decision to the Board in writing within thirty (30) days of its appointment.
- (f) A suspended member shall automatically be relieved from all responsibilities and commitments to the Society.
- (g) A suspended member shall immediately hand over all records of the Society, including finances, legal documents, and charge of all affairs to the ISNF's President or his/her designee.
- (h) If an ISNF member is convicted of felony by Court of Law, he/she will cease to be a voting member and will lose his/her membership (if any) in the Board, the Council or any ISNF committee. The Secretary of the Board shall send a written notification to the terminated member, the Board and the Council with two weeks of termination.