

Sports Dietitians Australia Membership Terms and Conditions

Sports Dietitians Australia (“SDA”) is a self-regulatory professional membership organisation which operates under a Constitution and sets standards of best practice and accreditation of its members.

1. Code of Conduct

- All members are bound by SDA’s Constitution, and all by-laws, notices and directives of the SDA Board.
 - Dietitian members are also bound by Dietitian Australia’s *Code of Conduct for dietitians and nutritionists*; and/or the Dietitians Board of New Zealand *Code of Ethics & Conduct for Dietitians* and/or the code of professional conduct of the relevant regulating dietetics body (ie international members).
 - Non-dietitian members are also bound by the code of professional conduct of their respective profession.
- Members recognise the authority of the SDA Board in all matters relating to the interpretation and enforcement of this code and understand that failure to comply with ethics and/or codes can result in cessation of membership and all associated privileges.
- Members agree that if contentious circumstances arise at any time and for any reason, membership status may be reviewed. Further, members agree to be bound by any ruling or determination that may be made and acknowledge that SDA has the right to terminate membership and that a decision to do so is final and conclusive.

2. Membership Fees

- Individual annual membership fees are due on joining SDA and thereafter on 1 July each subsequent year. If a member does not pay their membership fees, they will cease to be a SDA member and will be removed from the SDA active member database.
- Failure to pay will result in membership being lapsed on the day renewal is due and all membership benefits will cease. If an individual's membership does lapse, that individual must not use any SDA professional designation after their name nor claim or imply (intended or otherwise) to be a member of SDA. It is the responsibility of the former member to ensure that all business cards, websites, social media accounts and any other format (online or otherwise) are updated to reflect that the membership and/or credential is no longer held.
- A member who has lapsed or resigned their SDA membership must pay the re-join fee of \$15 to be reinstated as a SDA member. The reinstated member must satisfy the eligibility criteria of the membership level they are seeking to be reinstated at and will be required to provide evidence of same.
- SDA does not provide refunds on membership fees.
- SDA memberships are individual and non-transferable.
- All unexpected costs incurred by SDA in the processing of membership fees may be charged back to the member. Such costs include, but are not limited to, bounced cheque fees and related bank charges.
- SDA members are required to indicate their acceptance of these terms and conditions of membership. New applications and renewals will not be processed until confirmation is received.

3. Notices

- Members agree that SDA may send any notices with regard to membership, membership fees, renewal or SDA services by email at the email address members provide SDA at the time of joining or renewing their membership.

4. All Members

- Members undertake to operate in a professional, moral and ethical fashion, and will not bring SDA into disrepute in any way.
- All members will adhere to their respective professional scope of practice and respect the scope of practice of other professions at all times.
- Members will strive at all times to provide services that meet the highest standards of professionalism.
- Members acknowledge that SDA and the SDA Board will not be held responsible in relation to the member's practice dealings.
- Members will abide by SDA's Complaints Handling Procedure in the (unlikely) event a complaint is made against a member.
- In circumstances of misconduct, SDA has the right to suspend a member's membership and/or participation in the CDP program. Misconduct includes, but is not limited to, practising after suspension from the CDP program, and willful or deliberate behaviour which, in the SDA Board's view, is inconsistent with the values and reputation of SDA.
- At the Board's discretion, a member may be given the opportunity to show cause as to why they should not be excluded from the SDA membership and/or CDP program.

5. Accredited & Advanced Members

- Accredited members are currently practicing as an accredited sports dietitian and therefore have met SDA's criteria to be recognised as such, namely they have a minimum of two years clinical practical experience (unless granted an exemption under the SDA CDP Guidelines & Policy), successfully completed SDA's Sports Nutrition Course (or other such sports nutrition education as formally recognised by the SDA Board), logged 250 SDA Career Development Pathway points within a 3-year period, hold qualifications in dietetics and are registered as an Accredited Practising Dietitian with Dietitians Australia or are a Dietitian registered with the Dietitians Board of New Zealand.
- Accredited members are committed to continual professional development and will record relevant activities within SDA's Career Development Pathway (CDP) to attain, and then subsequently retain, the required the minimum 250 professional development points every three years. Advanced sports dietitians are required to maintain a minimum of 1500 professional development and experience points every three years.
- Members acknowledge that the onus to meet all professional development requirements, as determined by SDA to retain accreditation status, lies solely with the member, and that SDA and the SDA Board will not and cannot be held responsible in relation to the member's professional development.
- Members will abide by SDA's policies in regards to accreditation. Should a member be found to misrepresent their accreditation level, SDA has the right to suspend their membership and their participation in the CDP program, instruct the member to remove any SDA Member logo from all marketing material and remove the member's listing on the 'Find a Sports Dietitian' page of SDA's website.

6. Provisional Members

- Provisional members undertake that they meet the criteria of Associate members (refer Clause 7. below) in addition to having completed the SDA Sports Nutrition Course (or other such sports nutrition education as formally recognised by the SDA Board).
- Provisional members are actively on the pathway to becoming an accredited SDA member and as such, undertake to adhere to the CDP requirements and responsibilities as outlined in Clause 5. above).

7. Associate Members

- Associate members are eligible to be an Accredited Practising Dietitian with Dietitians Australia; or eligible to be a Dietitian registered with the Dietitians Board of New Zealand; or eligible to be registered with their local international dietetic/nutrition body; and
- a graduate of any university or college whose graduation resulted, inter alia, from such person undertaking a course of study in biological science and who has completed a course of study in human nutrition and dietetics.
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8. Student Members

- Student members agree that they are an enrolled full-time or part-time student at a University in Australia or New Zealand and can be studying any course relevant to dietetics and nutrition or sports science. However, only those graduating from recognised dietetic degrees can progress to Provisional membership and beyond with Sports Dietitians Australia.

9. Affiliate Members

- Affiliate members may meet any of the following criteria:
 - Professionals In Nutrition for Exercise & Sport (PINES) member; or
 - Exercise & Sports Science Australia (ESSA) member; or
 - Sports Medicine Australia (SMA) member; or
 - Australian Strength & Conditioning Association (ASCA) member; or
 - Australian College of Sport & Exercise Physicians (ACSEP) member; or
 - Australian Physiotherapy Association (APA) member; or
 - AusActive member; or
 - Health and Physical Education teachers; or
 - A healthcare practitioner of an international body, assessed on a case by case basis.
- Affiliate members must not use or present their membership with Sports Dietitians Australia in any way that either deliberately or inadvertently presents themselves as an expert in sports nutrition. The appropriate designation for Affiliate members is: Sports Dietitians Australia Affiliate Member: non-dietitian advocate of evidence-based sports nutrition.

10. Access to member only sections of SDA website

- SDA members can access the members' only sections of SDA website. Members can also access their personal information and update professional development activities via the Career Development Pathway section. SDA advises all members to keep their username and password information confidential.

11. Member Benefits

- SDA provides its members with a range of services and benefits as part of its membership. The provision of such services and benefits is at all times at the absolute discretion of SDA and is subject to change, variation or cancellation at any time. Details of SDA's membership services and benefits offered by SDA are provided on our website

(www.sportsdietitians.com.au) and are subject to change. SDA makes no representation or promise that the services offered at the time of joining or renewal of membership will continue to be provided to members.

12. Privacy Statement

- SDA is committed to the protection and privacy of members' information.
- SDA requires the information requested in its membership form in order to provide you with the membership services of SDA. Any personal information provided will only be used in accordance with the objects and purposes of SDA, SDA general business and to provide you with membership services and benefits. If the requested personal information is not provided you may not be able to receive the full benefits of membership of SDA.
- SDA will not disclose any personally identifiable information obtained from you to other parties for purposes other than those stated above without your written consent, except in circumstances where disclosure is required to prevent a threat to health or life or is authorised by law or reasonably necessary to enforce the law.
- SDA records member's personal information on a database protected by appropriate security protocols. Individuals will be able to access their personal information through SDA's website, to ensure details remain current.

13. Changes to terms and conditions

- Members agree that SDA may change these terms and conditions at any time. SDA agrees to publish any change to its terms and conditions on its website, and such changes will take immediate effect.

Related Documents:

Privacy Policy
SDA Constitution
DAA Code of Professional Conduct
Complaints Handling Procedure

Board Approved:

Meeting 21/3/11
Pending 26/5/14 – updated version
Meeting 22/06/20 – *approved with minor edits (inclusion of all membership categories)*
Meeting 17/06/224 – *approved to include Affiliate category.*
Meeting 29/07/2024 - approved to include PE teachers in Affiliate category

Policy Reviewed/Revised

13/11/12 – reviewed. No further revision required (OM)
5/5/14 – updated to reflect Complaints Handling Procedure & student membership criteria (EO)
21/05/2020 – updated to reflect change to single renewal date, clarification on application of DAA Professional Code of Conduct to member levels other than Accredited (EO)
17 June 2024 – addition of Affiliate membership category; inclusion of part-time students; edit from 'registered' to 'eligible to be registered' (Associate members)
29 July 2024 – addition of Health and Physical Education teachers to the Affiliate category.