



PODIATRY

Australian Podiatry Association SA Inc

MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Updated 17th May 2010

Review date: May 2011

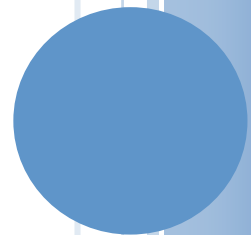
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OVERVIEW

The Australian Podiatry Association Inc. is the professional association representing registered podiatrists and the podiatry profession in South Australia. On behalf of the members, the Association acts as the profession's main point of contact liaising with Government Agencies, Private Health Funds, Community Groups, Health Groups and the general public.

The South Australian Association (APodA SA) is a member of The Australasian Podiatry Council (APodC), the national body representing Podiatry in Australia and New Zealand. The APodA SA is also an active member of the Allied Health Professions Association in South Australia (AHPSA) which is the key body representing the allied health sector in South Australia.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Members of the Association are entitled to benefits nationally and locally such as:

- Professional representation to address political, social & legislative issues that impact on every podiatrists' scope of practice, (e.g. Lobbying for prescribing rights for Podiatrists).
- National representation with government bodies (Medicare) and private enterprise (Health Funds)
- New members receive the APodC Podiatry Manual
- Publications: national bi-monthly publication *The Bulletin*, the local quarterly publication, *Footnotes*
- Foot Health Week resources and media awareness campaigns (*annually*)
- Public relations campaigns
- Authorised use of the Podiatry logo (trademark)
- Discounted marketing resources such as brochures, posters, forms, promotional material
- Education resources, monthly CPD events, guidelines, policies, educational DVD's
- Online access to the International Journal of Foot and Ankle Research
- Heavily discounted national and state conference registration fees
- Weekly email updates which includes national & local news items, employment, Continuing Professional Development (CPD), conferences
- Employment information and services such as positions available, locum lists, practices for sale
- Access to the *Members Only* section of the Association's website
- Discounted professional indemnity insurance premiums with Guild Insurance
- New graduate support through the Association's Mentoring Program
- Participation in the Association's Accredited Podiatrist Program (*updated 2010*)
- Annual research grant and funding opportunities for eligible members
- Networking opportunities with peers, other health organisations (*SMA*) and suppliers
- Free advertising through the weekly email service and hard copy publications
- Advocacy/support – assisting members dealing with difficult situations involving Health Funds, DVA, Medicare, dissatisfied clients etc.
- Inter-member liaison (e.g. linking members in like-minded fields, referral support).

* Restricted APodC Benefits

- No authorisation to use the Podiatry Logo
- No national publications (the Podiatry Bulletin)
- No Foothealth Week resources

MEMBERSHIP TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Membership is available to registered podiatrists in Australia, students enrolled in a University or GEMS Podiatry course and Third Party Members paid through an employer, organisation, company or trustee.

Members of the APodA SA are bound by the APodA SA Constitution, the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (2009), National Standards, Guidelines and Codes of the Podiatry Board of Australia www.podiatryboard.gov.au

A copy of the APodA SA Constitution is available from the website www.podiatrysa.net.au

Membership fees are non-refundable.

JOINING PERIODS

Full membership joining periods are between 1st July and 30th June of the following year. Full membership is renewed annually. The renewal invoice is posted or emailed to members in May of each year, payable by 30th June.

Full year Membership applies to applications received from June through to December. Half Year Membership applies to applications received during December or January. Members that join towards the end of the mid year joining period, for example April or May, may do either of the following:

1. Pay the full membership fee for the following year with the benefits only commencing on 1st July.
2. Pay the full membership fee for the following year plus \$80 per month for each month prior to the 1st July for the benefits to commence immediately.

Membership applications received during the month are tabled at monthly council meetings for acceptance. Members are advised of their acceptance in writing and are issued with a membership certificate and information pack. Services commence immediately on acceptance provided appropriate payment is made.

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

Members that renew annually will receive an annual membership certificate listing the valid membership period and the period of which they have been a continuous member. Members that have rejoined after a period of absence will commence their service from the rejoining date. Membership certificates are posted to financial members August of each year. New members will receive their membership certificate by post along with a confirmation letter once their application has been accepted by Council.

VOTING AND ELECTION ELIGIBILITY

With regards to voting and election eligibility, members of the APodA SA, including members nominated by Third Party Employers are entitled to do the following:

1. Stand for election as a councillor of the APodA SA council
2. Nominate and vote for election of councillors
3. Vote on matters pertaining to notified business at the AGM

Student members are entitled to stand for election to council as a student councillor, however, as per the Association's constitution they are not eligible to vote.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Annual membership renewal invoice is posted or emailed to members in May of each year, payable by 30th June. The full fee and half year fees payable to the Association include the capitation levy payable to the Australasian Podiatry Council. Membership fees are determined by Council in the months prior to the renewal period, with careful consideration of the budgetary requirements for the upcoming year.

Payment of fees – payments can be made by cheque, cash, electronic funds transfer or credit card. All credit card payments attract a surcharge of 2.25% reflecting the actual bank charge for the merchant transaction. The renewal invoice is the Tax Invoice, no other receipt or statement will be issued. Installment arrangements are not available at this time.

Late fees – A late fee of \$50 will be charged for renewals not paid before 30th June. Membership entitlements will cease until payment of fees is made. A member who has not paid by 14th July will be deemed un-financial. The member will be notified and is required to return their membership certificate to the Association office as per the Association's Constitution.

Refunds – All membership fees are non-refundable

Interstate Transfers – Members must notify the Association office if they intend to transfer membership to another state. A transfer fee will be negotiated between State Associations taking into consideration the remaining period of membership.

Cancellation – Members must advise the Association office in writing if they wish to cancel their membership. The current membership certificate issued to the member for that period must be returned to the Association office. Membership fees are not refundable.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

The following categories apply for the 2010/2011 membership period. Please note credit card payments incur a 2.25% (inc. GST) surcharge, online payments include a \$3.25 (inc. GST) fee.

- **Full Ordinary** **Full year fee \$818.67 (inc. GST)**
Half year fee \$490.89 (inc. GST) *(only available Dec 2010/Jan 2011)*

Criteria: Podiatrist must be registered with the Podiatry Board of Australia
Entitlements: Full benefits

- **Third Party** **Full year fee \$818.67 (inc. GST)**
Half year fee \$490.89 (inc. GST) *(only available Dec 2010/Jan 2011)*

Criteria: Podiatrist must be registered with the Podiatry Board of Australia
Entitlements: Full benefits - including the national APodC benefits and voting rights

Restriction: The third party employer nominates the member. The membership remains with the third party employer if the nominated member resigns from their position with the employer. The newly appointed or another representative from the third party employer may resume the membership, no extension period is granted for the period of vacancy. The nominated member is entitled to vote, the third party employer has no voting entitlements.

- **New Graduate** **Fee \$618.67 (inc. GST)** *(no half year option available)*

Criteria: New graduates from the undergraduate podiatry program receive \$200 discount in the first year of joining, provided they join the Association within the first 12 months of graduation. The first 6 months of the new calendar year when the graduate commences practicing is provided FREE.

Entitlements: Full benefits

- **Non-Practicing SA Only** **Full year fee \$200.00 (inc. GST)**
Half year fee \$120.00 (inc. GST) *(only available Dec 2010/Jan2011)*

Criteria: Podiatrists not working during the 2010/2011 financial year, retired podiatrists, health professionals other than podiatrists, podiatry assistants.
Entitlements: Restricted APodC benefits, full SA benefits - must provide a signed statutory declaration

- **Non-Practicing Inc. APodC** **Full year fee \$504.17 (inc. GST)**
Half year fee \$302.50 (inc. GST) *(only available Dec 2010/Jan2011)*

Criteria: Podiatrists not working during the 2010/2011 financial year, retired podiatrists, health professionals other than podiatrists, podiatry assistants.
Entitlements: Full benefits - must provide a signed statutory declaration

- **Student** **Fee \$ 50.00 (inc. GST)** *(no half year option available)*

Criteria: Students must be engaged in full time study during the 2010/2011 year, this may include undergraduate and/or postgraduate study. A confirmation letter from the enrolled university confirming the student is enrolled with a full calendar required.

Postgraduate student members will, in addition to the membership fee be required to present a Continuing Professional Development (CPD) lecture during the year at no charge to the Association.

Entitlements: Restricted APodC benefits, full SA benefits. No voting rights for either undergraduate or postgraduate student members

- **Cross Border** **Fee \$100 (inc. GST)** *(no half year option available)*

Criteria: Podiatrists that are full members of an Association in another state of Australia. Must be registered with the Podiatry Board of Australia
Entitlements: Full SA benefits only, no voting rights.

Transfers: Full members wishing to transfer to another state can contact the Association to negotiate a transfer fee for the remaining period of membership.