

## **Outdoor Industries Association Ltd**

### **Membership Criteria**

#### **Background**

The OIA has a policy of growth and the recruitment of members. It requires clear criteria for membership to ensure it acts wholly within the Competition Act, encourages appropriate companies and organisations to join, and provides authority for the removal of members when necessary.

#### **Criteria for Full Membership**

- Members must be directly, or indirectly, involved wholly or partially in the design, manufacture, wholesaling, distribution, and retailing of brands and products related to the participation in, and enjoyment of outdoor activities, or
- Members must be directly, or indirectly, involved wholly or partially in the provision of outdoor activities, or
- Members must be directly, or indirectly, involved wholly or partially in the provision of goods and services in support of product and activity members, or
- Members must have a direct and active role in the promotion and support of outdoor activities and the products and services required.
- Full members must have registration and operate within the United Kingdom, though the parent company may be registered elsewhere. Thus a significant place of business, and central management and control, must ordinarily be exercised from within the United Kingdom. The key is that members shall bring either revenue or employment to the United Kingdom.

#### **Criteria for Associate Membership**

- Such individuals, firms, corporations or organisations, not being eligible for Full Membership as the Board in its absolute discretion may from time to time deem eligible for Associate Membership and as apply for and are admitted to Associate Membership; and
- Such Government Departments and organisations of national or general importance (or their respective representatives) as receive an invitation from the Board to join the company and accept the same.

#### **Operation**

- Members must provide 2 reputable references on joining. These should, preferably, come from OIA members.

### Trading Record

- Members must have traded continuously for a minimum of 12 months prior to becoming a full member. Members who have not been trading for more than 12 months may join as an associate member until they have completed 12 months trading but will only be liable for the lowest turnover bracket full membership subscription fees as opposed to the associate fees.

### Financial Reports

- Members who are required to must publish, or provide, annual accounts within 12 months of the end of their financial trading year.
- Members must not be bankrupt, subject to financial investigation which involves ceasing to trade, or have outstanding court orders relating to non payment of invoices. as covered in the Articles of Association article 8.3

### Compliance with Legislation

- Members must comply with all relevant legislation and take immediate action to rectify areas of non-conformance once identified by regulatory bodies.

### Code of Practice

- Members must accept and work to implement and support the published Code of Practice set out by the Association in relation to the sector or sectors in which the member operates.

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### Representative

- Members must appoint a named representative at all times as stated in the Articles of Association article 7.

### Code of Conduct

- Members and employees of the Association will act with integrity at all times and show respect for others and adhere to the Association's Code of Conduct.
- Members, or members' representatives, who act dishonestly, or in a bullying, threatening, or discriminatory fashion, as spelt out in the Code of Conduct, are liable to be suspended from membership, to allow investigation of alleged inappropriate conduct, which could result in the withdrawal of membership.