



Multiples Counties Manukau Membership Policy as at 21st June 2021

Purpose:

The Constitution sets out overarching rules governing the membership of Multiples Counties Manukau (hereafter MCM). To the extent that there is any inconsistency between the Constitution and this policy, the Constitution shall prevail. The purpose of this policy is to provide further details of the membership types, entitlements and fees.

Individual Membership Levels (Classes)

1. Individuals may choose to be full or associate Members
2. Full Member: Full Members must be directly involved in the care and/or raising of multiples or be an adult multiple. Full Members will be entitled to:
 - a. Make representations to MCM about any area of concern regarding multiple birth issues.
 - b. Voting rights at the AGM.
 - c. An electronic copy of the MCM Newsletter.
 - d. Access to the member's only area of the MCM website.
 - e. Access to the member's only area of the Multiples NZ website.
 - f. Free Multiples NZ written resources as outlined in this Membership Policy.
 - g. Access to MCM and Multiples NZ social media groups.
 - h. One free carton of Huggies nappies on the birth of twins, or two cartons in the case of triplets (subject to meeting requirements set out in the Multiples NZ and Kimberly-Clark agreement).
 - i. The ability to hire equipment owned by MCM for a fee as set by the Committee.
 - j. Any other benefits developed over time that are ascribed to Full Membership by the MCM Committee or Multiples NZ Executive.
3. Associate Member: Associate Members are individuals who have an interest in multiples, or multiple birth issues. Associate Members will be entitled to:
 - a. Make representations to MCM about any area of concern regarding issues relating to multiples.
 - b. An electronic copy of the MCM Newsletter.
 - c. Access to the member's only area of the MCM website.
 - d. Access to the member's only area of the Multiples NZ website.
 - e. Access to MCM and Multiples NZ social media groups.
 - f. Any other benefits developed over time that are ascribed to Associate Membership by the MCM Committee or Multiples NZ Executive.

4. Complimentary Member: Complimentary membership may be granted by the MCM Committee on compassionate grounds or for services to the Committee for two or more years.

In order to grant a complimentary membership on compassionate grounds the MCM Committee may require a referral from a Community Midwife or similar agency.

Complimentary members will be entitled to:

- a. Make representations to MCM about any area of concern regarding multiple birth issues.
 - b. Voting rights at the AGM.
 - c. An electronic copy of the MCM Newsletter.
 - d. Access to the member's only area of the MCM website.
 - e. Access to the member's only area of the Multiples NZ website.
 - f. Free Multiples NZ written resources as outlined in this Membership Policy.
 - g. Access to MCM and Multiples NZ social media groups.
 - h. One free carton of Huggies nappies on the birth of twins, or two cartons in the case of triplets (subject to meeting requirements set out in the Multiples NZ and Kimberly-Clark agreement).
 - i. The ability to hire equipment owned by MCM for a fee as set by the Committee.
 - j. Any other benefits developed over time that are ascribed to Full Membership by the MCM Committee or Multiples NZ Executive.
- 5.

Honorary Life Members

6. MCM may elect Honorary Life Members of MCM in recognition of outstanding services rendered to MCM or to the multiples community. Honorary Life Members shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a Full Member of MCM (as defined in this Membership Policy), without payment of a membership fee.
7. Criteria for Honorary Life Membership: Consideration shall be given to the following criteria when reviewing a MCM Honorary Life Membership Nomination:
- a. The level at which the contribution was made: The nominee must have contributed to the multiples community at any combination of International, National and Regional level.
 - b. The length of time over which the contribution was made: It is expected that the Nominee will have provided exceptional service to MCM (at any combination of International, National and Regional level) for at least ten years, however, nominees with less service time will be considered should the contribution be judged exceptional.
 - c. The quality of the contribution made, and in particular, its impact on the multiples community at any combination of International, National and Regional level.
 - d. The value of the contribution to the MCM community in the widest sense.
 - e. Will the nominee continue to be an advocate and supporter of MCM beyond their involvement period?

8. Procedure for Honorary Life Membership Nomination:

- a. Nominations are to be submitted on an official MCM Honorary Life Membership Nomination form available from MCM and its website.
- b. An important aspect of ensuring a nomination has every chance at success is to make sure each section is completed thoroughly. Please provide all the information requested in detail.
- c. Nominations can be submitted at any time up to two months prior to a MCM AGM (not later than 1 February).
- d. Nominations will be considered by the Committee of MCM. If they deem the nominee eligible for the Honorary Life Membership, the nomination will be presented at the following MCM AGM for ratification. The decision of the MCM Committee is final, and no correspondence can be entered into with regard to a nomination.
- e. An Honorary Life Membership certificate shall be presented to a successful nominee.
- f. Unsuccessful nominations may be resubmitted subsequently, but it is expected that they will include additional and/or more detailed material to support the nomination being made.

Membership Fees

9. The current annual membership fees are:

- a. Full Membership \$32.00, when multiples are under three years of age.
- b. Full Membership \$15.00, when multiples are three years of age or older.
- c. Associate Membership \$15.00.
- d. Committee Membership \$15.00, after one year of service to the MCM Committee. Free after two years' service for as long as they wish to remain a member.
- e. Past Presidents Membership Free.
- f. Honorary Life Membership Free (bestowed by MCM after significant and long service to the organisation).

10. Membership fees are due on the 1st April each year. Membership will be terminated if the fee is not paid within one month of this date.

11. Members joining with less than five months remaining of the membership year will have their membership carried over until the end of the following membership year.

Other matters affecting members

12. Prospective Individual Members may be asked to supply a birth certificate, letter of confirmation of their multiple pregnancy or birth from their obstetrician, midwife, doctor, social worker or other well-child provider, or evidence of genuine interest in multiple birth issues, before their membership is approved by MCM. MCM shall have sole discretion to accept or refuse applications for membership. Prospective Members must apply to MCM for membership via the online membership application form or another official application form. The MCM Committee may, by resolution, set an annual Individual Membership fee. The membership fee may differ between membership levels. The Individual Membership fee shall be set by the MCM Committee and recorded in the Membership Policy.

13. Other matters affecting members including application or membership, membership fees, resignation and termination of members, and obligations of members, are set out in the MCM Constitution.

