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Australian Union for Fitness Professionals (AUFPP)

Policy for Dealing with Requests from New Members

Requests for assistance from the Union by new members relating to issues that existed before they joined will generally be declined. However, in exceptional circumstances, such requests may be considered provided that:

- (i) The member has paid 12 months' back dues (or a pro rata payment for service of less than 12 months) or has been granted an exception under this policy.
- (ii) It has been clearly communicated to the new member that consideration of their request does not guarantee that assistance will be provided.
- (iii) The member understands that any action beyond consideration is at the discretion of the Union and will require the matter to be of broader significance to the fitness industry.
- (iv) The matter has been discussed with the Secretary.

Exceptions to Back Dues Payment

Exceptions to the payment of back dues may be granted if, in the opinion of the Secretary:

- a) It would benefit the broader membership; and
- b) The payment of back dues would cause significant financial hardship to the new member.

Procedure for New Member Requests

1. Initial Consultation:

Industrial staff or a delegate may conduct an initial consultation with the new member to assess the nature and seriousness of the issue.

2. Discussion with the Secretary:

After the consultation, the matter must be discussed with the Secretary to determine the next steps.

3. Strategic Considerations:

If the industrial staff or delegate believes there are strategic reasons for pursuing the matter, they must seek approval from the Secretary. This includes requesting an exception to the payment of back dues, if necessary.

Pursuit of Sectorally Significant Matters

If the requirements outlined in points (i) to (iv) have been met, and the Union has given due consideration to the matter, the Union may pursue the issue if:

- The matter is of broader significance to the fitness industry; and
- The pursuit of the matter is deemed by the Secretary to be in the interests of the membership.

In such cases, the Union will address the issue in the same manner as it would for matters arising after the member joined the Union.

Campaign-Specific Exceptions

This policy does not apply to campaigns initiated by the Union. Support provided to new members for campaign-specific matters will be limited to those particular campaign issues.

Policy Approved: 2nd January 2026