

1. **Membership**

(a) **Definition of NRI.** An Indian citizen who stays abroad for employment/ carrying on business or vocation outside India or stays abroad under circumstances indicating an intention for an uncertain duration of stay abroad is a non-resident. It will also include non-resident foreign citizens of Indian origin holding OCI Card or PIO Card issued by Government of India and Indian citizens having green card or otherwise the right of residence in a foreign country. The definition includes for the purpose of membership an ex-NRI residing in Punjab for more than nine months in a year.

(b) **Definition of Ex-NRI**

(i) Ex-NRI is a person who was an NRI at any time of his life in past.

(ii) Ex-NRI shall be eligible to become member of NRI Sabha Punjab within 5 years of the day he steps in India and ceases his status of NRI.

(iii) Ex-NRI must reside in India for more than nine months in a year.

(iv) If any NRI returns to India after getting membership of NRI Sabha Punjab, he will automatically convert to Ex-NRI status for the purpose of being a member of NRI Sabha.

(c) Only NRIs and Ex-NRIs of Punjab shall be eligible to be member of the Sabha subject to eligibility conditions and terms of membership laid down in bye-laws.

2. **Terms and Process of Membership.**

(a) **Terms of Membership.** All eligible NRIs who apply for membership and are granted membership shall be enrolled as life time members.

(b) **Eligibility.** The NRIs of Punjab covered under the definition of NRI shall be eligible to become members of the Sabha. The definition includes for the purpose of membership an ex-NRI residing in Punjab for more than nine months in a year.

(c) **Process of Membership.** – NRIs shall apply for membership on a Prescribed Membership Form (**Specimen at Annexure I**) duly completed and signed alongwith following documents :-

(i) Two Passport Size self-attested Photographs.

(ii) One Photocopy of all pages used or containing any information of passport duly attested by the concerned NRI.

- (iii) Account Payee Cheque/DD payable at Jalandhar for the amount of membership fee in favour of NRI Sabha Punjab.
 - (iv) NRIs who apply for membership at District Units their Cheque/ DD shall be payable at the concerned district.
 - (v) The membership form along with all complete documents will be scrutinized by the concerned authorized officer in Sabha and will be presented to President for approval. In case the post of President is vacant the final approval will be accorded by the Chairman or any officer authorized by the Chairman.
 - (vi) The NRI Members shall be issued Photo Identity Cards under the signatures of the President or any other officer authorised by the President.
 - (vii) If any facility exists, eligible NRI can apply online for membership by sending prescribed membership form electronically as mentioned above. Such NRIs shall submit hard copies of documents by post/courier/by hand and his membership shall be subject to verification of documents.
 - (viii) The validity for photo identity cards will be 5 years. The photo identity cards will be renewed after every 5 years. The Sabha will charge Rs 500/- per card to issue renewed card to the member. In case any member applying for duplicate identity card he will also pay Rs 500/- towards charges for issue of duplicate card.
- (d) **Membership Fee.** – The membership fee will be such as determined with the approval of the Government. At present Life time membership fee will be Rs. 10000/-. In case both husband & wife becoming members, the membership fee for first member shall be Rs. 10000/- and for the later member fee shall be Rs 5000/-.

3. **Disqualification of membership.**

- (a) If any NRI at any point of time ceases or does not fulfill any eligibility conditions to become member of NRI Sabha.
- (b) Any NRI declared convicted for more than 3 years by any court of law.
- (c) Any member of Sabha found indulging in any anti national act against the Union of India for any such activities by such member deserves to be disqualified.
- (d) Any member or any NRI deported from any country at any point of time.
- (e) Any member or NRI facing permanent restriction on visiting any country.

4. **Termination of Membership & its Procedure.**

- (a) At any time if a member is found to be disqualified, his membership shall be terminated after giving a chance to explain his position within stipulated time. The President NRI Sabha shall be competent to pass orders in such case and appeal against such orders may be filed before the Chairman of NRI Sabha whose decision shall be final. Notwithstanding anything contained in these bye-laws, the government may review and pass appropriate orders or any decision taken by President or Chairman either Suo Moto or on request made. The Membership fee once deposited shall not be refunded in any circumstances.
- (b) The Sabha shall publish the list of members every year and shall be placed on a notice board of Central and District Unit website of the Sabha.

5. **Change in Membership Record.** For any change to be made in the particulars/address etc by the NRI member in his membership record/Identity Card, a written request with proof shall be necessary. He shall also surrender his Old membership Identity Card to the NRI Sabha.

6. **Submission of Records of Membership of District Units to Central Sabha.** The record of membership along with membership forms & proof of NRI shall be submitted by the District Unit to the Central Sabha on quarterly basis in a year commencing from January to March by 10th of next month.

(This refers to Bye-Laws of NRI Sabha Punjab Page-2 to Page-5)