

MEMBERSHIP FORM

We've simplified the membership process

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| Full Membership \$80/year | Concession Membership \$25/year | Life Membership \$800 (One time fee) |
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| <p style="text-align: center;">Ordinary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For those prepared to commit themselves as Buddhists by taking refuge in the Triple Gem (Buddha, Dhamma & Sangha). Allows for voting at Annual or Special General Meetings and shaping the future of the Buddhist Society of Victoria Will need to take refuge in the Buddha (the Teacher), the Dhamma (His teachings) and the Sangha and the five precepts in the presence of the Sangha (this can be arranged to be taken online for those who cannot physically attend the BSV or NBM) <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">To Join</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Take this form to a monk or nun 2. Take the refuges and precepts in their presence and have them sign the form 3. Go to bsv.net.au/membership and apply for the Ordinary Membership type (Full, Concession or Life) that's most affordable to you. 4. Upload a picture of this form and the monastic's name when requested to do so during the application process | <p style="text-align: center;">Associate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For those wishing to have the benefits of membership without making a commitment to the Triple Gem (Buddha, Dhamma & Sangha). Does NOT allow for voting at Annual or Special General Meetings. <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">To Join</p> <p>Go to bsv.net.au/membership and apply for the Associate Membership type (Full, Concession or Life) that's most affordable to you.</p> |
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| For <u>Ordinary</u> Membership Only | |
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| Name of Sangha Member | Signature of Sangha Member |
| Full Name of Applicant | Date of Application (DD/MM/YYYY) |
| <p>If you are unable to have the form signed by a BSV or NBM Sangha member, you can still complete the application process online, after which point the Membership Officer will contact you to arrange a video call with a member of the BSV/NBM Sangha where you can take the refuges and precepts</p> | |

WHY BECOME A BSV MEMBER?

- Discounts & priority allocation on BSV organised meditation retreats.
- Borrowing rights from the extensive BSV library.
- Receive regular weekly updates by email.
- Members are invited to the numerous events to hear distinguished Dhamma teachers and social/fund raising events.
- Be eligible to register your children for the Sunday Dhamma School.
- Tap into the wealth of knowledge with Buddhist connections locally and around the world.
- Be eligible to vote at the AGM and SGM (assuming your membership meets the criteria). Have a say in how things are done and shape the way Buddhism is explored in Victoria.
- In addition to these and many more benefits, you will support the free BSV teaching programs, the upkeep of the Malvern Centre and most importantly our sangha community at Newbury Buddhist Monastery and visiting teachers at the BSV.

NOTES ON MEMBERSHIP

- **Sponsorship:** New members are required to have a sponsor sign their application form. A sponsor can be any member of the society who is both financial and eligible to vote at the Society's Annual General Meeting. Anyone seeking to join the society can approach a member of the committee for assistance on this matter if they do not know anyone who can sponsor them.
- **Approval Process:** An applicant does not become a member of the Society until the committee formally approves the applicant's nomination.
- **Voting Rights:** Only financial Ordinary members of not less than two years standing may vote, stand for election to the committee of the society or nominate members who wish to stand for election.
- **Main Classes of Membership:**
 - **Ordinary Membership** is for those prepared to commit themselves as Buddhists by taking refuge in the Triple Gem (i.e. go for refuge to the Buddha, Dhamma and Sangha) and observing the 5 precepts. Applications need to be signed by either a monk or a nun as their Referee.
 - **Associate Membership** is for those wishing to have the benefits of membership without making a commitment to the Triple Gem. Both classes of membership have similar privileges except Associate Members cannot vote at Annual or Special General Meetings.
- **Sub Classes of Membership:** Concession Membership is provided for members who have economic hardship and cannot afford the normal membership fee.
- **Voting Rights:** All classes of membership have the same privileges but Associate Members may not vote at Annual or Special General Meetings. Honorary members can vote as long as they are not monastics (with the exception of the NBM Bhikkhu & Bhikkhuni Reps)

Membership Renewal: Except for those who have joined as new members since April 2014, individual membership renewal falls due on January 1 and must be paid by the AGM date of the year. The renewal date for members who joined after 30 March 2014, fall on their respective anniversary Membership Join Date.

PRIVACY STATEMENT

The BSV does not collect or record personal information, other than information you choose to provide. Online surveys may collect personal information as and when they occur (in the form of a secure transaction).

Nominated BSV committee members use personal information collected from email and online sources only to respond to individuals and discuss their particular enquiries. As a member you consent to having your email address added to our mailing list unless you advise otherwise.

Parent Legal Guardian Consent (in respect to an applicant under the age of 18 years) – I have read, understood, acknowledged and agree to the application and conditions of membership and I personally consent to the declaration and application for Membership of the applicant.

PAYMENT

As part of the process of submitting your membership application online, you will be requested for your membership payment to be made by Credit Card. **Credit Card payments** use the **Stripe** Secure Payment Gateway and none of your credit card details are stored within our membership platform. **We do not encourage Cash Payments**, but it has been made available for those members of the community who are unable to manage their membership via the portal. **Cheque and EFT are no longer accepted** as means for paying your membership.