



NIFA membership policy as of 12/02/21

Full membership

Full membership of NIFA CLG can **only** be awarded to individuals that are the registered owners of Irish registered inshore fishing vessels that conform to the European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF) definition, of Small Scale Coastal Fisheries (SSCF)

That definition is: *Vessels of an overall length of less than 12 meters and not using towed gear as listed in Table 3 of Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No 26/2004*

Where the SSCF vessel is owned by bodies corporate, the member must be a director of that body corporate. Only one individual director of that body corporate can be awarded membership per SSCF vessel owned.

Where the SSCF vessel is owned in a partnership arrangement, only one of the owning partners can be awarded membership per SSCF Vessel owned

In the event that a member owns (or is involved in the ownership of) multiple SSCF vessels and wishes to avail of privileges for multiple vessels, then multiple appropriate membership fees will have to be paid, in accordance of the numbers of vessels the member wishes to seek privileges for. Irrespective of the numbers of vessels a member has paid fees for that member will only have one set of voting rights within the NIFA CLG

Full membership can only be granted to new members following the receipt of an application on the official NIFA CLG membership application form. For applications to be successful they will have to approved by 2/3 majority of the NIFA board of directors.

Fees for full membership are based on the Length Overall (LOA) of the associated SSCF vessel and are as follows.

For Vessels LOA 11.99m to 10m the fee is €200

For Vessels LOA 9.99m to 8m the fee is €150

For Vessels LOA less than 7.99m the fee is €100

Membership is renewable on an annual basis. Fees are due on the 1st of February each year.

Honorary Membership

The board of management can at its discretion following a 2/3 majority decision award individuals that do not meet the criteria for full membership honorary membership. Honorary membership can be awarded to an individual who is involved in the day to day operation of a

vessel that is in the ownership or part ownership of an existing full member and who the board feels have something positive to add to the organisation. New Honorary memberships need to be proposed by a director to the Board. Honorary members are eligible for the same privileges and have the same rights as Full members. Honorary membership of the organisation shall not exceed 15% of the total membership The annual membership fee is €50. Membership is renewable on an annual basis. Fees are due on the 1st of February each year.

Where Honorary membership is required to serve on the board the fee shall be €0 but fees for full membership must be paid in full.

Inactive members

Where appropriate fees (for both Honorary and full membership) are not paid, the board, may at its discretion, deem memberships to be "inactive". Members will be written to and given notification, a fortnight in advance in advance of any such decision being implemented. Inactive members will remain members but will have membership numbers withdrawn and will not be eligible for any of the services/benefits of NIFA. The only correspondence they will receive going forward, is notification to general meetings. Inactive members can re activate their membership at any stage by paying the relevant annual fee in full. Members are free to leave the organisation at any time but must give written notification to the board that they intend to do so. Membership will be terminated on the date notification is received. Membership fees will not be refunded when a member leaves the organisation.

The Board of Management.

The Board may create new directorships and fill these directorships via co-option (see below)

The Board will, when it deems appropriate create new directorships and these will be filled by a via an election process involving the general membership.

Co-option.

The board can at its discretion, following the proposal by a director and 2/3 majority approval by the board, co-opt individuals onto the board of management.

Proxies

Directors can following 2/3 majority approval by the board, appoint members (both full and honorary) to act as proxies to represent them at board meetings. Proxies must be approved in advance of any particular meeting they attend.

Observers

Directors can invite pending 2/3 majority approval of the board, members (both full and honorary) to attend board meeting in an observer capacity. Observers will not play any decision making role at Board meetings