

SHIATSU SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

- a) There shall be the following categories of membership of the Society:
- i) Student Member
 - ii) Associate Member
 - iii) Graduate Member
 - iv) Member of the Register of Professional Practitioners of the Shiatsu Society (M.R.S.S.)
 - (v) Trainee teacher MRSS(t)
 - (vi) Member of the Teacher Register of the Shiatsu Society M.R.S.S. (T)
- b) ALL members shall:
- i) pay an annual membership fee which is set by the Society's A.G.M.
 - ii) abide by the Shiatsu Society Rules and regulations, including the Codes of Conduct and Ethics as detailed in Section 5 of these Rules and Regulations.
 - iii) have voting rights at the Society's General Meetings (A.G.M or E.G.M.), in Society elections, 1 vote per member, and have the right to stand for election to the Board of the Society, provided that all monies presently payable by her or him to the Society have been paid.
 - iv) sign a written consent to become a member, or sign the register of members, on becoming a member.
 - v) be included in the Society's membership records.
 - vi) have a suitable insurance policy as detailed in section 10 of these Rules and Regulations, and sign a declaration confirming this on their annual renewal of membership.
 - vii) declare on application for membership or on annual membership renewal any criminal convictions, or unspent criminal convictions or findings against them in a civil or professional hearing.
 - viii) The use of any designatory letters, or claim of membership shall be governed by the criteria laid out below, and be subject to current, paid up membership of the Society.
- c) Requirements specific for each category
- i) **Student Member**
This category of membership shall be open to individuals who:
 - (1) are undertaking a course of study in shiatsu which includes the Core Curriculum and the study requirements of the Shiatsu Society, as detailed in section 12 of these Rules and Regulations.
 - (2) show evidence that they are currently studying shiatsu.
 - ii) **Associate Member**
This category of membership shall be open to individuals who:
 - (1) do not have a professional practice.
 - (2) have undertaken Shiatsu studies but cannot fulfil the requirements of 3)c)i, 3)c)iii) or 3)c)iv) at the discretion of the Society. Some evidence of training undertaken will be required.
 - (3) shall be entitled at any time, to move to graduate membership, according to the Society's requirements for that category, or to M.R.S.S. category, if they have previously fulfilled the requirements for the category, during the previous 3 years.
 - iii) **Graduate Member**
This category of membership shall be open to individuals who:
 - (1) have completed their shiatsu studies which include the Core Curriculum and fulfilled the study and examination requirements of the Shiatsu Society, as detailed in sections 12, 13 and 14 of these Rules and Regulations, and have been assessed to be competent by a Teacher member of the Shiatsu Society, and fulfilled all other requirements for the category, as laid down by the Society.
 - (2) show evidence with their annual membership renewal of continued professional development, in accordance with Shiatsu Society requirements.

They shall be included in a list of Graduate Practitioners of the Shiatsu Society which is provided to the public by the Society;

iv) Member of the Register of Professional Practitioners of the Shiatsu Society (M.R.S.S.)

This category of membership shall be open to individuals who:

- (1) have completed their shiatsu studies which include the Core Curriculum and fulfilled the study and examination requirements of the Shiatsu Society, as detailed in sections 12, 13 and 14 of these Rules and Regulations, have fulfilled all other requirements for the category, as laid down by the Society and have been assessed to be competent by a Teacher member of the Shiatsu Society.
- (2) Have been a member of the Society for at least 2 years.

They shall:

- (3) be entitled to use the designatory letters M.R.S.S. after their name and to cite this in all correspondence, promotional materials, their own and the Society's and public communications;
- (4) They shall be included in the Register of Professional Practitioners of the Shiatsu Society which is provided to the public by the Society;

A M.R.S.S. who is unable to show evidence of continued professional development for the CPD monitoring period will be transferred to the list of Associate Members.

If at any point a former M.R.S.S. wishes to transfer back to the M.R.S.S. category they shall show evidence of continued professional development (including regular Shiatsu practice over the preceding period of six months). Provided that the period during which their professional practice and development has lapsed has not exceeded a total of four years, s/he shall be entitled to be re-admitted to the list of M.R.S.S.

If the period exceeds 4 years, the Society reserves the right to require the member to present themselves for a Practical Assessment before being allowed to rejoin the M.R.S.S. Register.

(v) Trainee teacher M.R.S.S.(t)

This category of membership shall be open to individuals who:

- (1) are Members of the Register of Professional Practitioners of the Shiatsu Society (M.R.S.S.).
- (2) have been accepted as a Trainee Teacher after meeting the criteria specified by the Society.
- (3) Are undergoing Shiatsu teacher training, under the supervision of 2 M.R.S.S.(T), or have been actively undergoing such training during the preceding 2 years. If this period is exceeded, they shall revert to M.R.S.S.

They shall:

- (4) be entitled to use the designatory letters M.R.S.S.(t) after their name and to cite this in all correspondence, promotional materials, their own and the Society's and public communications;

(vi) Member of the Teacher's Register of the Shiatsu Society M.R.S.S. (T)

This category of membership shall be open to individuals who:

- (1) are Members of the Register of Professional Practitioners of the Shiatsu Society (M.R.S.S.) have been accepted as a Trainee Teacher after meeting the criteria laid down by the Society.
- (2) Have met all the criteria specified by the Society for Teachers.

They shall:

- (3) be entitled to use the designatory letters M.R.S.S. (T) after their name and to cite this in all correspondence, promotional materials of their own and the Society's and public communications.
- (4) be entitled to teach the full Core curriculum, with their teaching hours being included in the total requirement for training hours for

students in fulfilling the criteria specified by the Society for a graduate member.

- (5) be included in the Register of Shiatsu Teachers which is provided to the public by the Society.
- (6) be entitled to be admitted to the Assessment Panel of the Society, after membership of this category for 3 years.

d) General membership information.

- i) The Shiatsu Society (U.K.) is an organisation registered and operating within the United Kingdom only. All members therefore must have a U.K. address for correspondence.
- ii) The Codes of Conduct and Ethics and Complaints Procedure therefore relates only to practice by members within the area of its jurisdiction. The Shiatsu Society expects that all Shiatsu practitioners will abide by a professional code of conduct.
- iii) Practitioners working outside of the United Kingdom are advised to seek membership of the appropriate national organisation within the country in which they are working and acquire suitable insurance for that work.
- iv) Overseas Readership affiliation is available, allowing contact to be maintained with the Society and receive the quarterly newsletter. It should be noted that readership is NOT a membership category.
- v) The Shiatsu Society (U.K.) reserves the right to refuse membership at the discretion of the Board (Articles of Association 4) and 14)b)).