

ALSGBI Membership and Annual Scientific Meeting Policy

1. Purpose

This policy sets out the terms of membership of the Association of Laparoscopic Surgeons of Great Britain & Ireland (ALSGBI) and clarifies the requirements for attending the ALSGBI Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM).

2. Membership Categories

ALSGBI offers several categories of membership:

- TRAINEE SURGEON MEMBER WITHOUT EAES MEMBERSHIP OR JOURNAL
- TRAINEE SURGEON MEMBER WITH EAES MEMBERSHIP & JOURNAL
- CONSULTANT SURGEON MEMBER WITHOUT EAES MEMBERSHIP OR JOURNAL
- CONSULTANT SURGEON MEMBER WITH EAES MEMBERSHIP & JOURNAL
- OVERSEAS CONSULTANT SURGEON MEMBER WITHOUT EAES MEMBERSHIP OR JOURNAL
- OVERSEAS CONSULTANT SURGEON MEMBER WITH EAES MEMBERSHIP & JOURNAL
- OVERSEAS NON-CONSULTANT & OVERSEAS NON-G7/EU CONSULTANT MEMBERS (WITHOUT EAES MEMBERSHIP)
- STAFF GRADE, ASSOCIATE SPECIALISTS & SPECIALTY DOCTORS WITHOUT EAES MEMBERSHIP
- STAFF GRADE, ASSOCIATE SPECIALISTS & SPECIALTY DOCTORS WITH EAES MEMBERSHIP & JOURNAL
- SENIOR MEMBER WITHOUT EAES MEMBERSHIP OR JOURNAL
- SENIOR MEMBER WITH EAES MEMBERSHIP & JOURNAL
- THEATRE STAFF (ALTS)
- MEDICAL STUDENT/FOUNDATION YEAR DOCTOR
- PROCUREMENT AFFILIATE
- HONORARY MEMBERSHIP (is conferred at the discretion of the ALSGBI Executive in recognition of outstanding contribution to the field of laparoscopic, robotic and minimally invasive surgery).

3. Membership Benefits

Membership provides access to a range of professional benefits, including:

- Reduced registration fees for the ASM and other ALSGBI educational events
- Access to members-only content and resources
- Networking opportunities within the ALSGBI community
- Eligibility for awards, fellowships, and committee participation (subject to category)

4. Attendance at the Annual Scientific Meeting

- **Registration Requirement:** All ALSGBI members including Honorary Members, are required to register in advance for the ASM.
- **Payment Requirement:** Attendance at the ASM is not included in the cost of membership. All categories of members, including Honorary Members, must pay the appropriate registration fee in order to attend.
- **Non-Members:** Non-members are welcome to attend the ASM upon registration and payment of the applicable non-member fee.

5. Rationale

The ALSGBI Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) is the Association's flagship event, designed to deliver the highest standards of surgical education, innovation, and research dissemination. It represents a significant undertaking, requiring substantial investment in venue hire, technical support, educational resources and programme development.

Registration fees are an essential contribution to meeting these costs and ensuring that the ASM remains financially sustainable, independent and accessible to all members.

Requiring all members — including Honorary members — to register and pay the applicable fee upholds the principle of fairness across the Association. It recognises that the benefits of attending the ASM, such as access to expert speakers, cutting-edge surgical updates, and unrivalled networking opportunities are shared equally by all attendees.

By maintaining this policy, the ALSGBI safeguards the quality and integrity of its Annual Scientific Meeting to ensure its continued growth and reinforces its commitment to providing world-class educational opportunities for the surgical community.

6. Exceptions

- **Invited speakers** who are not ALSGBI members will be granted complimentary registration and conference dinner, hotel accommodation for a maximum of two nights and travel expenses (please see expenses form for full details).
- Invited speakers are expected to **confirm their participation within 4 weeks** of receiving the invitation.
- If no response is received within this timeframe, the invitation will be **withdrawn and offered to another speaker**.
- Repeated failure to respond to invitations or to communicate in a timely manner may result in the individual **no longer being invited to participate** in future ALSGBI meetings or events.

- Invited faculty, panellists, moderators and chairs should be ALSGBI members and therefore expected to register and pay. Any invited faculty, panellists, moderators and chairs who are not ALSGBI members will be considered on an individual basis.
- Any other exemptions must be approved in writing by the ALSGBI Executive.

7. Implementation

This policy applies to all ALSGBI events from 2025 onwards. It will be reviewed periodically by the ALSGBI Council to ensure fairness, sustainability, and alignment with the Association's objectives.