

ATONS of MINNEAPOLIS
PO Box 580517
Minneapolis, MN 55458-0517
Rev 12-18-2003



Full Membership

Description

Regular or full membership is reserved for those men who have the necessary time and commitment to help the club achieve its goals and objectives. As a regular member you are expected to attend monthly general meetings and serve on two or more sub-committees. In addition to these meetings there are bar events, fund-raisers, annual officers installation banquet and biennial club run at which you are expected to attend. Regular members are also expected to make at least one run trip to a club outside Minnesota each year. We encourage you to meet and talk with individual members before making application for pledgeship. Once or twice a year we have a smoker which is an afternoon or evening set aside to get to know prospective members better and answer any questions that they might have. You should inquire with the president or vice-president when a smoker will occur.

As a regular member you will enjoy the camaraderie and brotherhood of a closely knit group of men. The club offers you the opportunity to play a significant role in the leadership of the Minnesota leather community. Our fund-raisers help various community causes and you will feel good knowing that you made a difference. Since the club is one of the nation's oldest, living clubs, you will find that the club uniform and patch is nationally recognized. When you travel to distant cities you will be greeted warmly by other club brothers and provided opportunities that you wouldn't have without your club status. And lastly, membership provides you with a unique opportunity to socialize and network with club brothers.

Pledgeship

The by-laws of the Atons requires that before an individual can become an Aton pledge, they must attend one business meeting and three social activities of the organization. Also, the individual must obtain two active, full members as sponsors to join the club. The prospective pledge must complete a membership application and have these two sponsors sign it.

These sponsors act as mentors who should help keep you informed and answer any questions you might have. The sponsor will see that the pledge understands club bylaws, duties, history and customs. They are responsible for the conduct of the pledge as it reflects on the club. Sponsors will provide an evaluation of the pledge to all members prior to the vote for full membership. The sponsor will introduce the pledge to other club members and work with him at events to help introduce him to the community. They also act as your representative to the club if you have any problems during your pledgeship.

The Pledge period is a minimum of three months and maximum of six months during which the pledge is expected to attend all club events (unless excused for a good and valid reason in advance). A pledge must obtain signatures from all members indicating that the member knows the pledge well enough to be able to vote on his membership. This enables pledges and members to become better acquainted and decide if full membership is desired. Full membership is awarded by 2/3 majority vote of the members of the Atons at the end of the pledge period.

Requirements

Full membership requires an entrance fee of \$45.00. This fee includes the cost of the pledgeship and one large and small patch when they become full members. The fee must accompany their application. In the event the prospective member is not accepted, the fee will be returned.

After the pledge becomes a full member, the monthly dues are currently \$10.00 a month. The member is encouraged to keep his dues in good standing and encouraged to attend the monthly general meeting.

The new member is expected to pay for 1/2 cost of the Aton uniform. Currently the price is about \$160.00 for the full uniform. The club will pay for the other 1/2 of the uniform cost for new members. There is a grace period of six months in which the new member is to purchase his uniform but, the club strongly encourages that it be paid sooner. The uniform is required at many club functions and is often worn when attending other clubs' runs.

Questions regarding application for pledgeship should be directed to the Vice-President.

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Full Membership Application

Please Print Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Birthdate: _____

Fax/E-Mail: _____ Club Affiliation(s): _____

What is your reason for applying?

How did you find out about the club?

What do you perceive the club to be?

What do you expect from the club?

What do you think the club expects from you?

I have read the responsibilities of the Associate Member. (Please Check)

I am twenty-one years of age or older and agree to abide by rules and by-laws of the Atons.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor #1: : _____ Sponsor #2: _____

Note: Full Membership requires an entrance fee of \$45.00. Fee must accompany application. This fee includes the cost of pledgship and pays for one large and small patch when the pledge becomes a full member. Fee must accompany application. In the event the prospective member is not accepted fees will be returned.

Do Not Write In This Box – For Club Use Only

Date Received: _____

Recommendations of the Membership Committee

Accepted as a Pledge Not Accepted

Date Pledge Period Starts Membership Starts: _____

Accepted as a Member Not Accepted