
The Worshipful Company of Security Professionals

(Founded 1999)



Membership

Frequently Asked Questions

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Is the Company only for leaders in the Security industry?

While many our members are industry leaders, the evidence of success and achievement that we are expecting does not have to be as a Director or Head of Security in a corporation or as a Chairman or CEO of a successful security business. It may be demonstrated by seniority in many different ways within the security industry, and other bodies such as the Police or the Armed Forces. Technical expertise, or academic experience, or employment as a senior manager, or in professional roles such as finance, accountancy, law, health, personnel, marketing or public relations etc., where there is a strong Security connection are all good reasons for becoming a member.

How will I be expected to participate?

There are different ways for members to participate. But the following two aspects are a “benchmark”.

- **Committee Work** - The charitable aims of the Company are paramount, and are managed by the Worshipful Company of Security Professionals Charitable Trust Board of Trustees. The Company has four Standing Committees namely, the Finance and General Purposes Committee, the Marketing and Fundraising Committee, the Membership Committee and the Services Committee. The Chairman of each reporting to the Court of Assistants chaired itself by the Master. It is hoped that you will be willing to take part in the work of at least one of these committees. Participation can take different forms, depending on the committee concerned. Typically a Standing Committee meets four times a year to assess progress on its work programme and to initiate new activities. Smaller working groups within each committee will progress particular projects.
- **Attending Events** - You should try to attend at least one of the various enjoyable formal functions each year and additionally one informal event. Many members attend many more than this minimum.

What will I be expected to contribute financially?

This will vary depending on how old you are. Seeking to build a strong and sustainable membership base for the future, the fees and subscription structure listed below recognises different levels of affordability associated with age.

On being accepted as a Member of the Company, they will pay the joining fee and quarterage (annual subscription) appropriate to their age. Before they can progress to become a Freeman of the Company, they will be required to serve a minimum 12 months' preparatory period during which they will be expected to attend a New Members' Briefing and at least two of the Company's City of London qualifying events (see below).

Members who have successfully completed the 12 month preparatory period, may apply to the Court to become a Freeman and on being granted their Freedom will be required to pay the appropriate Freedom Fine shown below.

Freemen seeking advancement to Livery must, in addition to the conditions already set out in Ordinance 7.2 (available on the website), have attended at least four of

the Company's City of London events (see below). Their application must be approved by the Court and they will be required to pay the Livery Fine stated below.

Liverymen elected to the Court of Assistants will also pay a fine - largely to offset the cost of their badge of office.

The annual quarterage for those members currently serving overseas on 1 July each year is 50% of the current rate providing prior notification is received by the Treasurer.

There is also a 50% rate for retired members within the conditions set out in Ordinance 22.14.

Rates from 1 July 2017 - (Please note that the rates below are subject to change – please check with the Clerk for current rates. Numbers in brackets refer to those in the Notes.)

Fines

Joining fee aged 41 and over

(divided between joining and freedom fine) £315

Joining fee for Apprentices & Young Members (aged 21 to 40) Nil

Apprentices' binding fee £30 (Note 3)

Apprentices' freedom (by servitude) fine £70 (Note 3)

Freedom fine aged 41 and over £220

Freedom fine aged 31-40 (50%) £110

Freedom fine aged 21-30 (35%) £77

Livery Fine £500

Court Assistants' fine £250

Annual Quarterage

Member Category	Direct Debit Rate	No Direct Debit Rate
Members aged 41 and over	£235	£260
Members aged 31-40	£120	£137.50
Members aged 21-30	£62.50	£76.25
Retired Members (Note 4)	£120	£137.50
Overseas Members (Note 5)	£120	£137.50

Notes:

1. VAT must be added to the above rates except the Joining Fee.
2. The decision date for all levels of membership is 1 July.
3. Expected to be paid by the Apprentice Master.
4. See Ordinances 22.14.
5. See Ordinances 22.15.

Qualifying Events

- ✚ Master's Installation Lunch
- ✚ Annual Dinner
- ✚ Common Hall
- ✚ Christmas Lunch
- ✚ Ladies Lunch
- ✚ Founders' Church Service
- ✚ Annual Security Lecture
- ✚ City of London Police Commissioner's Dinner
- ✚ Metropolitan Police Commissioner's Dinner
- ✚ Affiliates Lunch
- ✚ United Guilds Service
- ✚ Carol Service
- ✚ Spring Dance

- **Cost of Events** - The cost of attending one or two dinners or lunches and maybe some other events or functions varies, for example the Master's Installation Lunch costs around £100, and the Annual Dinner around £110. However, in the end, the annual cost will depend mostly upon the level of your personal involvement with our activities. These annual costs should be regarded as part of your personal lifetime commitment to the Company, which continues after your retirement from gainful employment.

What kinds of membership are there?

You join the Company normally as a Member. You can then become a Freeman of the Company. Once you are a Freeman you can then apply to become a Freeman of the City of London. This must be completed before you may advance to become a Liveryman. It is from our Liverymen that the Court of Assistants is formed and it is they who nominate the various officers of the Company, i.e. the Master, Wardens, Treasurer, Clerk etc. It is quite possible, therefore, if you are interested in being more deeply involved in the organisation, for you to become its Master.

What personal characteristics are you looking for?

As well as integrity, courtesy, enthusiasm in working for the objectives of the Company and respect for the traditions of the City within which the Company operates, you should positively enjoy social interaction and taking part in formal and informal events.

What are the main benefits of being a member?

First and foremost, you will be giving something back to your profession and industry and supporting its charitable works. You may become a Freeman of the City of London as well as our Livery Company. You will be able to attend the events we arrange within our own Company such as luncheons and dinners and in time it may entitle you to attend some city events too. We also have occasional informal social meetings for those in London and you will be able to participate in Company and City Livery sporting and social activities. Our website, newsletters, flyers distributed by email and annual review will keep you up to date with events and

news about the company. As with any organised association of likeminded people, the more you put into the Livery, the more you will get out of it.

I know that there will be times when I must focus my whole attention on work or personal commitments. Will this cause any difficulties?

It is recognised that people's circumstances change over what is a lifetime commitment, and that the ways in which people can contribute at any one time will vary accordingly. The Company looks sympathetically at such circumstances as they might arise.

Can I discuss business at Company functions?

The Company is not primarily a vehicle for pursuing business. However, there is natural scope for building relationships with other members and networking with likeminded individuals, all of whom have a commitment to the industry.

Can my spouse/partner become involved?

The Company welcomes the participation of spouses and partners at all social functions and activities. It is also possible to bring other guests to certain events.

Are there a lot of ceremonial activities?

Like all livery companies there are certain ceremonials practiced. However, none of these should make people feel uncomfortable, since they are about City traditions. The New Members briefing will explain the protocols and procedures that are the fabric of City Livery life

Are there any religious issues I need to know about?

We have members of many religious denominations and creeds. Livery companies, however, are historically linked to Christian communities and therefore it is normal tradition for a prayer to be said at formal events, dinners, lunches etc. There are also two religious services that we hold each year at our Livery Church. One is to celebrate our founding, the other a Christmas Carol service.

I'm completing my membership application form and I don't know anyone who can act as Sponsor or Secunder for me – can I still apply?

Yes, you can. In March 2017, it was decided that all applications must be sponsored and seconded by a Freeman or Liveryman of the Company. If you do not know Freeman or Liverymen who can act as your sponsor and seconder, please make this known to The Clerk who will send you a list of a Freeman and Liverymen. If, having received this you still cannot identify anyone you know to sponsor and second you, leave these sections of the application form blank and contact the Clerk who may exceptionally request a formal interview by a Membership Committee Panel. Alternatively, you may wish to withdraw your application.