

General Information on Membership Registration

Types of membership

Category A - Sports Therapy Memberships:

- I. **Registered Member:** the applicant must be registered as a valid member under one of the following professional bodies in the UK:
 - Society of Sports Therapists(SST), UK;
 - Sports Therapy Organization(STO), UK - Sports Therapy Category;
 - British Association of Sports Rehabilitators and Trainers(BASRaT).
- II. **Student Member:** any applicant studying sports therapy programmes in Hong Kong or overseas. The programme must be accredited by one of the professional bodies for sports therapy in the UK.
- III. **Non-practising Member:** anyone who fulfills the requirement of registered members but not practicing as a sports therapist such as teaching fellows, lecturers, etc.

Category B - Non Sports Therapy memberships:

- I. **Medical and Allied Health Professionals Member:** for any professionals holding a valid registration in Hong Kong such as physiotherapists, occupational therapists, medical doctors, Traditional Chinese Medicine practitioners, etc.
- II. **Professional member:** for any professionals in relation to sports medicine such as sports scientists, exercise physiologists, strength and conditioning professionals, athletic trainer/therapists¹, sports trainers^{1,2}, etc.

Note: 1) PI insurance is mandatory; 2) Major degree in sports medicine or equivalent is mandatory otherwise the application will be rejected.

Periods Available for Application of Category A Memberships

- I. Annual membership - 1st May to 30th June each year;
- II. Semi-annual membership - 1st Dec to 31 January each year.

Applications submitted in other periods will not proceed.

Fees

Category A - Sports therapy memberships:

**Annually - anniversary date is 1st July till 30 June each year
Application opens between 1st May and 30 June each year**



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enquiry@staohk.org

Society reg no.CP/LIC/SO/19/64869

(Updated 1st December 2023)

- I. Registered member: \$400/year + *Insurance \$750.75(with Government Levy)
- II. Student member: \$200/year + Insurance \$750.75(with Government Levy)

Semi-annually - anniversary date is 1st Jan till 30 June each year
Application opens between 1st December and 31st January each year

- I. Registered member: \$200/half-yearly + *Insurance \$375.38
(with Government Levy)
- II. Student member: \$100/half-yearly + Insurance \$375.38
(with Government Levy)

For Category A membership, application will not proceed unless the specified period stated, included non-practicing member applicants.

*As professional indemnity insurance will not apply to non-practicing member applicants, therefore the premium will be waived.

Category B - Non Sports therapy memberships:

- Memberships open throughout the year.
- Commencement date will be on 1st of each month.
- Annual only - \$600/year

How to Apply

The applicant must complete the application form with the copy of document proof by the following ways:

1. Email to enquiry@staohk.org
2. Mail to P.O Box 60214

Documents Required

- a. For registered and non-practicing members:

A copy of the registered member certificate must be attached to the application form that has been filled out. After the submitted proof has been checked and a fee has been paid, the application will be approved.

If an applicant doesn't have a valid membership with one of the professional bodies listed, they must show proof of an academic award that has been accredited by one of the professional bodies listed above. Extra documents may be requested during the application.

Before approving a member, the Association will consider if there are any other similar professional groups that are not on the list.

b. For student members:

A copy of their student identity card or equivalent documents that indicates their current programme of study.

c. For medical and allied health members:

Registration certificate that is related to the professional.

d. For professional members:

Applicants must attach a copy of academic diploma/degree that is justified with the professional. Any specialist certifications can be attached with this application form if you have.

Documents and Notes to Successful Applicants

a. Category A Memberships

Registered and non-practicing members:

Successful applicants will be notified by email within one month from the date of form submission and followed with the following documents:

- Registration Certificate
- Code of Practice Handbook
- Scope of Practice Handbook
- Professional Indemnity Insurance Policy Provision(excluded non-practicing members)

Members can use the title “**Registered Sports Therapist**” and “**STAoHK-Reg**” in stationeries, promotional materials, and media interviews, etc.as well as promoting the sports therapy profession in the name of Association. The registration certificate must be present in the area that is visible to the patients such as the clinic (except non-practicing members).

Types of the registered member will be displayed on the certificate.

Student Members:

Successful applicants will be notified by email within one month from the date of form submission and followed with the following documents:

- Registration Certificate
- Code of Practice Handbook
- Scope of Practice Handbook
- Professional Indemnity Insurance Policy Provision

Student Members can use the title “**Student Sports Therapist**” and “**STAoHK-Stu**” in stationeries, promotional materials, and media interviews, etc. as well as promoting the sports therapy profession in the name of Association;

b. Category B Memberships

Medical and Allied Health Professionals Members
Professional Members

Successful applicants will be notified by email within one month from the date of form submission and followed with the following documents:

- Membership certificate
- Code of Practice handbook*
- Scope of Practice handbook*
- Professional Indemnity Insurance Policy Provision(if applicable)

*Subject to the type of non-sports therapy membership that is required to observe or not. It will be informed to the applicant upon approval of the membership.

Members can use the title “**Member of Sports Therapists Association of Hong Kong**” in stationeries, promotional materials, and media interviews, etc. as well as promoting the sports therapy profession in the name of Association.

c. Payment:

Successful applicants must pay the membership fee and insurance premium(when applicable) within 14 days from the date of approval. Late payers will be charged an administrative fee of \$200.

d. Commencement dates:

Category A memberships -

- Annually - 1st July each year of the anniversary
- Semi-annually - 1st January each year of the anniversary

Category B memberships - it will commence at 1st day of each month if no insurance is needed. In case of applicants requested to insure by the Association the commencement date will be in line to category A.

Membership Renewal

a. For registered members:

Members are obligated to maintain their registered membership annually with the following requirements met(excluded non-practicing members):

- **Continue education hours - 16 hours in the past 12 months;**
- **Signed declaration form.**

- **Valid first aid certificate with AED and practical component.**

If dues are not paid at the time of renewal, the membership will lapse. **If a member revives the membership within one (1) year of the membership ending, an extra HK\$200 as an administration fee will be charged.**

If an applicant's membership has **lapsed for more than one (1) year, the association may ask for proof of work and academic experience that is relevant.**

b. For Student Members:

Members are obligated to maintain their registered membership annually with the following requirements met:

- Student status is valid;
- Signed declaration form.

If dues are not paid at the time of renewal, the membership will lapse. If a member revives the membership within one (1) year of the membership ending, an extra HK\$200 as an administration fee will be charged.

If an applicant's membership has lapsed for more than one (1) year, the association may ask for proof of academic status before approval.

c. For Non Sports Therapy members:

Members can renew with a lower rate as \$500/year. If the membership has expired over three(3) months from the date of renewal the applicant will pay the fee in an original price.

Rights and Obligations of Members

a. For category A - registered and non-practicing members:

Rights

- I. To elect and be elected and the right to vote;
- II. Professional title display and representation as a **“Registered Sports Therapist”** and **“STAoHK-Reg** in the clinic, on the name card and in media interviews, etc., as well as promoting the sports therapy profession under the name of Association; For Non-practicing members, title display should be: **“Registered Sports Therapist(NP)”**.
- III. Discounts or privileges with the collaborated partners.
- IV. Priority to engage the activities hosted by the Association.

Obligations

- I. Observe the Code of Practice, Scope of Practice, Position Statements and Guidelines set and published by the Association;
- II. Pay the annual fee for valid membership.

b. For category A - student members:

Rights

- I. Professional title display and representation as a “**Student Sports Therapist**” and “**STaOHK-Stu**” on the name card and in media interviews, etc., as well as promoting the sports therapy profession in the name of Association;
- II. Discounts or privileges with the collaborated partners.

Obligations

- I. Observe the Guidelines to Student Sports Therapist, Position Statements and Guidelines set and published by the Association;
- II. Pay the annual fee for valid membership.

c. For category B - non-sports therapy members:

Rights

- I. To elect and be elected and the right to vote;
- II. Representation as a “**Member of Sports Therapists Association of Hong Kong**” on the name card and in media interviews, etc., as well as promoting the sports therapy profession in the name of Association;
- III. Discounts or privileges with the collaborated partners.

Obligations

- I. Observe the Code of Practice, Scope of Practice, Position Statements and Guidelines set and published by the Association - *subject to type of professional and will be notified to individual upon successful application*;
- II. Pay the annual fee for valid membership.