



Policy
Last updated

Membership
6 June 2022

INTRODUCTION

The role of a community broadcaster like Sunshine FM is to offer opportunities for the community to be involved in their own local radio station. The Sunshine FM Radio Association Inc. does encourage members of the Sunshine Coast community to become involved through membership of the Association which holds the broadcasting licence.

Membership is the foundation on which Sunshine FM is built. Members of the Association participate in the management of our community radio station by having a say in how the Association is structured, operated and managed.

Sunshine FM's membership policy complies with Code 1 'Our responsibilities in broadcasting to meet our community interest' described in the CBA Code of Practice.

THE ROLE OF ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

All members are encouraged to attend meetings of the Association, in person or via proxy. At Annual and Special General Meetings, members can hear, raise and vote on items of business, receive reports on the Association's activities and financial position, elect office bearers, and stand for election to the Board of Management and sub-committees of the Board, such as the program sub-committee.

Roles and functions of the Board of Management include:

- conducting the business of the Association, and representing the Board at stakeholder meetings and events;
- ensuring compliance by the Association and Sunshine FM with all relevant laws, broadcasting legislation, obligations and requirements of the Association's community broadcasting licence, and Codes of Practice;
- ensuring the highest possible standards of governance and accountability, including sound financial management of the Association;
- providing support for and guidance to station management to help Sunshine FM maintain the highest possible levels of community engagement, audience reach and community broadcasting standards;
- ensuring the station is properly resourced (including station premises, equipment and technology) to enable Sunshine FM to meet the expectations of its audience and community stakeholders;
- working with station management to ensure Sunshine FM provides a welcoming, creative, safe, fair and accountable environment for volunteers, members, staff, contractors and visitors; and
- mediating and adjudicating internal conflicts referred to the Board by station management, the Board secretary or by a vote of Association members.

Association members provide an important level of governance that helps ensure the Board and station management implement policies and strategies that enable Sunshine FM to fulfill its community service obligations and broadcast licence conditions, now and into the future. Obligations and conditions include:

- to operate as a not-for-profit organisation;
- to facilitate communication within the community by broadcasting local news, current affairs and community service content;
- to provide programming, such as the station's 'more music' format, that will continue to appeal to a mature-age audience of 45+ years;
- to provide opportunities for Association members, and community groups and individuals to be involved in the station; and
- to produce and present predominantly local content from broadcast facilities based on the Sunshine Coast.

Members can directly participate in the station by volunteering in various roles, including presenting, production, engineering, IT, administration, community service, and marketing and promotions. Applications for volunteer roles are managed in accordance with Sunshine FM's volunteering policy.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Anyone can apply for membership. While most of the Association's members live within the Sunshine FM coverage area, people living outside the Sunshine Coast are welcome to apply for membership because we have a global audience that connects with Sunshine FM via the station's online streaming service.

Eligibility for membership is described in the Association's rules (Constitution) which is available on the station website at www.sunshinefm.com.au and for viewing at the station's premises on Level 3, Tower 1, Kon-Tiki Business Centre, 55 Plaza Parade, Maroochydore, QLD, 4556. Membership application forms are available on the Sunshine FM website and at the station's Reception desk.

Properly completed application forms are reviewed and voted on at the next Board of Management meeting which considers each application according to rules 5, 6 and 7 of the rules (Constitution) of the Sunshine FM Radio Association Inc. The secretary of the Association will advise prospective members of the outcome in a timely manner.

INTERNAL CONFLICT

Internal conflicts, including grievances and disputes, are managed in accordance with the Sunshine FM internal conflict policy.

RESIGNATION AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Resignation and termination of membership are managed in accordance with the rules (Constitution) of the Association.

COMMUNICATION

Members are most welcome to visit the station, have a tour of our facilities and meet the team. As the station is sometimes unattended, we ask that you make an appointment by calling the office on 5450 1049 or sending an email to frontdesk@sunshinefm.com.au. Members are also welcome to contact the station manager, at any time.

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