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## **Annexure B**

### **18 October 2014**

## **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

A number of membership categories will be available within GoLD. The aim of these membership tiers is to broaden the membership base to students and suppliers while at the same time recognising the professional landscape designers.

The different membership categories are listed below and described in more detail in the following pages.

1. Platinum – designers operating as full time professionals in the garden design industry
2. Gold – qualified designers who are not operating as designers on a full time basis
3. Silver – students who are still busy with their garden design studies or who have recently completed their studies but still in the process of gaining experience. This category will also be used for garden design lecturers.
4. Honorary member – membership given in recognition to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the industry
5. Associate member – suppliers and other companies associated with the industry

The committee reserves the right to review the membership categories from time to time and where necessary, to change the categories of some members to ensure consistent application of the criteria. e.g. A Gold member may be required to move to Platinum membership if the committee identifies that this to be the most appropriate membership category for the member.

# PLATINUM MEMBERSHIP - (PROFESSIONALS)

## Benefits

- Be a member of a recognized association that represents professional and qualified landscapers within the Green Industry.
- Full portfolio can be advertised on the GoLD website
- May exercise two votes in the AGM and other general meetings of GoLD.
- Access to recommended suppliers list
- Receive discounts negotiated by GoLD from selected suppliers
- Networking opportunities
- Access to GoLD database for such things as legal contracts etc.
- Eligible to serve on the GoLD Committee.

## Eligibility

- Individuals with a relevant Garden Design or Landscaping degree from College, University of Technologies or University and at least three years of experience
- Individuals with no accredited qualification but at least five years in the garden design and landscaping industry.
- Silver and Gold members that have been a member for at least two years and whom have been in business for a minimum of one year.
- Although achieving the above requirements is preferred, each application shall be considered by the GoLD Committee on merit.

## Application requirements and procedure

- One garden design needs to be submitted and assessed by a GoLD Assessor. To set up an assessment appointment, send an email to the GoLD Administrator at [gold@landscapeguild.co.za](mailto:gold@landscapeguild.co.za).
- A picture portfolio of other gardens designed and installed by the applicant is to be submitted together with a description of the gardens. This is typically what you would present to a new client to showcase your work.
- Required documentation:
  - Completed membership application form
  - Proof of relevant Garden Design or Landscaping qualification(s) received from a College, University of Technologies or University.
  - Copy of the concept or detailed design plan

- Company Business Card
- Once assessed and approved you will receive an invoice for once-off joining fee and annual membership fee. Membership fees are renewable once a year.
- After receipt of payment a welcome pack will be emailed to you together with your certification letter.
- A membership certificate will be presented to you at the following AGM

### **Assessment costs**

- The Assessor's fee is R450-00. Once the Assessor has been to see the garden, a report will be completed and a copy sent to you with the appropriate actions that need to take place. The Assessor may at his/her discretion send the report to the committee for ratification. Members will be informed in writing as to whether their application has been approved.

The committee shall reserve the right to randomly assess member's category to check if members are in the correct category. Members can be moved up or down in categories at the discretion of the committee.

Platinum tier membership can be lifetime, provided members are not misrepresenting themselves.

# **GOLD MEMBERSHIP (PART-TIME DESIGNERS)**

## **Benefits**

- Be a member of a recognized association that represents professional and qualified landscapers within the Green Industry.
- May advertise on the GoLD website
- May exercise a vote in the AGM and other general meetings of GoLD.
- Access to recommended suppliers list
- Receive discounts negotiated by GoLD from selected suppliers
- Networking opportunities
- Access to GoLD database for such things as legal contracts etc.
- Eligible to serve on the GoLD Committee.

## **Eligibility**

- Qualified landscape designers who have still to be successfully assessed as landscapers.
- Retired landscape designers.
- Part-time landscape designers.
- Each application shall be considered by the GoLD Committee on merit.
- Individuals with no accredited qualification but at least five years in the garden design and landscaping industry.

## **Application requirements and procedure**

- Required documentation:
  - Completed membership application form
  - Proof of relevant Garden Design or Landscaping qualification(s) received from a College, University of Technologies or University.
  - Copy of one of your own concept or detailed design plan
  - Company Business Card
  - A picture portfolio of a garden designed and installed by the applicant is required with descriptions of the garden. In some cases the committee may wish to have someone view this garden in person.
- If the application is approved, you will receive an invoice for once-off joining fee and annual membership fee. Membership fees are renewable once a year on anniversary of joining date
- After receipt of payment a welcome pack will be email to you together with your certification letter.
- A membership certificate will be presented to you at the following AGM.

The committee shall reserve the right to randomly assess member's category to check if members are in the correct category. Members can be moved up or down in categories at the discretion of the committee.

Gold tier membership can be lifetime, provided members are not misrepresenting themselves.

# SILVER MEMBERSHIP (STUDENTS)

## Benefits

- Be a member of a recognized association that represents professional and qualified landscapers within the Green Industry.
- Silver tier members may attend GoLD meetings but shall have no voting rights.
- Silver tier members are eligible to receive mentorship from Platinum members of GoLD.
- Networking opportunities.
- Eligible to serve on the GoLD Committee.
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## Eligibility

- Individuals studying towards a relevant Garden Design or Landscaping qualification from College, University of Technologies or University.
- Although achieving the above requirements is preferred, each application shall be considered by the GoLD Committee on merit.

## Application requirements and procedure

- Required documentation:
  - Completed membership application form
  - Proof of enrolment for a relevant Garden Design or Landscaping qualification(s) at a College, University of Technologies or University.
- If necessary GoLD reserves the right to view gardens done by a student.
- Once your membership is approved you will receive an invoice for a once-off joining fee and annual membership fee. Membership fees are renewable once a year on the anniversary of your joining date
- After receipt of payment a welcome pack will be email to you together with your certification letter. A membership certificate will be presented to you at the following AGM

## Conditions

- Silver tier membership may not exceed a period of longer than 4 years.
- Only students who have paid their membership fee in full will be eligible for mentorship from GoLD members.
- The length of mentorship provided to a student will be decided on a case by case basis at the discretion of the Committee.

- The committee shall reserve the right to randomly assess member's category to check if members are in the correct category. Members can be moved up or down in categories at the discretion of the committee.
- Silver tier membership can be lifetime, provided members are not misrepresenting themselves.

# HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

## Eligibility

- Honorary Membership is awarded to distinguished individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of landscape design (or related areas) in South Africa and/or to the advancement of the Guild of Landscape Design (GoLD) either through outstanding personal activity or through exceptional leadership in their field.
- An Honorary Membership may be awarded to any individual and the privilege is not limited to current members of GoLD.

## Terms

- Honorary Membership is given as a free lifetime membership.
- Honorary Membership does not include a listing on the GoLD website. If the Honorary Member wishes to be listed on the website, he/she is responsible for paying the relevant fees associated with the website listing.

## Guidelines for nomination for honorary membership

- Proposals for Honorary Membership may be received from any GoLD Member who must submit a completed nomination form to the administrator at [gold@landscapeguild.co.za](mailto:gold@landscapeguild.co.za).
- The GoLD Committee is responsible for selecting candidates for this prestigious category of membership and while such selection may take place at any time during the year, such selection will only be announced at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- The selection of Honorary Members shall be conducted via a secret ballot of the GoLD Committee Members and shall require a two-thirds majority.



# ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

## Benefits

- Ability to advertise on the GoLD website.
- Ability to market to the GoLD members.
- Invites to socials outings etc., added to mailing list for newsletters.
- Advert on website.
- Added to recommended supplier list.
- Opportunity to introduce product to members
- Associate members shall have no voting rights in GoLD.

## Eligibility

- Suppliers of products related to the green industry.
- Any person, company or association that is committed to improving the landscaping Industry.
- Although achieving the above requirements is preferred, each application shall be considered by the GoLD Committee on merit.

## Application requirements and procedure

- Required documentation:
  - Completed application form.
- Each application in this category will be considered and approved by the Committee.
- This category of membership must be renewed annually on the anniversary of the Membership. The Committee will regularly review members in this category and reserves the right to view the products of a supplier.
- Should the application be approved or it be agreed to renew the annual membership, an invoice will be issued for the annual fee. Membership for the following annual cycle will only be valid after the invoice has been paid.
- Member can be removed from the webpage at the discretion of the committee.