

Oceanic Judge Association Announcement

Background

Over the last 12 months a number of people have been working on the creation of the Oceanic Judge Association (OJA). To create the organisation as a legal entity requires funding to pay for the registration and, to make sure that it is done properly, legal advice.

Committee

Once the initial groundwork was completed the inaugural committee was created and now that we have completed the main work each of us has joined the OJA as financial members and conducted our first committee elections. The Committee is as follows:

President: Tom Wood (Woody)

Vice-President: Mark Brown

Secretary: Gareth Pye

Treasurer: Simon Freiberg (Fry)

Ordinary Committee Member: Rhianna Milton

Ordinary Committee Member: Richard Tole

Ordinary Committee Member: Nathan Brewer

Initial Funding

The committee considered a number of options and it was decided that to raise the money required to fund the legal advice and registration of the organisation we would invite people to sign up as members of the OJA.

While the organisation as an entity will not be finalised until we have registered the OJA as a Company Limited by Guarantee, the committee will be operating as if we are legally bound by the constitution and everyone signing up will automatically become members of the finalised organisation.

Membership will be \$25 per member, per year, renewable each year.

Members will gain access to the OJA Judge Apps General Forum and existing Judge Academy levels will be transferred across to OJA levels.

Once we are registered we will create an account in the name of OJA, until that exists our Treasurer will be receiving all payments into a separate account that they control. As soon as

an OJA account exists the money will be transferred over, and while the funds will be in our Treasurer's account they are held on behalf of the future OJA organisation.

The OJA Constitution and Code of Conduct documents are linked here:

OJA Constitution: <https://oceanicjudgeassociation.org/static/Constitution.pdf>

Code of Conduct: <https://oceanicjudgeassociation.org/static/CodeofConduct.pdf>

Please read these documents as you will be agreeing to abide by them.

Certification and Levels

The level definition document can be found here

<https://oceanicjudgeassociation.org/static/LevelDefinitions.pdf> outlining the OJA levels. Once the organisation has been registered the process for getting certified for the different levels will be published. As outlined earlier, existing Judge Academy levels will be transferred across to OJA Levels, more information on this will be advised at a later date.

OJA Membership Sign Up

Sign Up here <https://forms.gle/zeBLJiLQunG2fSmv9>, you will receive details on how to pay your membership dues via email and once you have paid your membership will be processed on Judge Apps. If you do not currently have a Judge Apps account please create one at <https://apps.magicjudges.org>.

Membership processing is currently a manual process and will be processed at least once a week if not more often. Once a payment gateway and Judge Apps membership system is established this will become an automated process. If you have any concerns please reach out to the Treasurer (Fry) or any of the committee.

All memberships paid will give a year's membership from when OJA incorporates. Paying early will not increase how much it costs to be a member.

Questions and Concerns

If you have any concerns or questions regarding anything in this announcement please reach out to any of the committee who will be happy to respond (contact details below).

OJA Contact Details

OJA General Contact: info@oceanicjudgeassociation.org

OJA Committee Contact Details

President: Tom Wood (Woody) - tom.wood.judge@gmail.com

Vice-President: Mark Brown - mark.brown@markbrown.au

Secretary: Gareth Pye - judge@cerberos.id.au

Treasurer: Simon Freiberg (Fry) - fryx0r@gmail.com

Ordinary Committee Member: Rhianna Milton - rmilton@outlook.com

Ordinary Committee Member: Richard Tole - richard.tole.1990@gmail.com

Ordinary Committee Member: Nathan Brewer - nathanwbrewer@gmail.com