

## ROCHESTER ZEN CENTER

### Requirements, Procedures, Privileges, Obligations, and Policies Relating to Membership, Trial Membership, and Loss of Membership

As adopted October 26, 2013, by the Center's Abbot and Board of Trustees pursuant to Articles VI(A), VI(C), VI(E), and VI(F) of the Center's By-laws

#### Trial Membership

I. The following are the requirements and procedures whereby a person may become a trial member of the Center, as established by the Abbot and approved by the Board pursuant to Article VI(F) of the Center's By-laws: (A) Attendance at an Introductory Workshop or Introduction to Practice conducted under the auspices of the Center or one of its affiliates (the Abbot or the Head of the Zendo may waive this requirement in appropriate cases), and (B) submission of a completed trial membership form.

II. The following are the privileges and obligations of trial membership pertaining to spiritual matters, as specified by the Abbot pursuant to Article VI(F) of the Center's By-laws: Trial members may attend and participate in all regular spiritual functions of the Center except dokusan, including formal sittings, private instruction, teisho, study-discussion groups, and ceremonies. In addition, the Abbot may, in his or her discretion, permit a trial member to attend dokusan.

III. The following are the privileges and obligations of trial membership pertaining to financial and other secular matters, specified by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Article VI(F) of the Center's By-laws: Trial members may attend and participate in all regular secular functions of the Center, such as picnics and other social activities. Unless the Board of Trustees shall determine otherwise with respect to a particular meeting, trial members may attend, but not vote at, annual and special corporate meetings of the Center's members. Trial members are encouraged to make financial contributions to the Center consistent with their financial resources and degree of involvement in Center activities.

#### Membership

I. The following are the requirements and procedures whereby a person may become a member of the Center, as established by the Abbot and approved by the Board pursuant to Article VI(A) of the Center's By-laws: either (A) attendance at an Introductory Workshop or Introduction to Practice conducted under the auspices of the Center or one of its affiliates, submission of a completed membership application, and a membership interview satisfying the Abbot or the Abbot's designee that the applicant should be admitted to membership in the Center; or (B) admission to full membership in an affiliate of the Center .

II. The following are the privileges and obligations of membership pertaining to spiritual matters, as specified by the Abbot pursuant to Article VI(A) of the Center's By-laws: Members may attend and participate in all regular spiritual functions of the Center, including formal sittings, private instruction, teisho, study-discussion groups, ceremonies, and dokusan.

III. The following are the privileges and obligations of membership pertaining to financial and other secular matters, as specified by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Article VI(A) of the Center's By-laws:

- A. Members may attend and participate in all regular secular functions of the Center, such as picnics and other social activities.
- B. Except as provided in paragraph (C), below, each member shall pledge and submit quarterly membership contributions to the Center in an amount that the member reasonably determines he or she is reasonably able to contribute.
- C. A member who is (1) an employee or trainee of the Center, (2) a former Abbot of the Center, or (3) a Dharma heir of an Abbot or former Abbot of the Center is exempt from the payment of membership pledges or dues.

IV. The following constitute the Center's policies with regard to the termination of a person's membership in the Center for non-payment of fees or dues after reasonable notice and opportunity to pay the sum owed, as adopted by the Board of Trustees pursuant to Article VI(E) of the Center's By-laws:

- A. The Abbot, acting in consultation with the Business Manager and the Head of the Zendo, may terminate a person's membership in the Center if the person fails to make any quarterly membership contribution to the Center after the Business Manager has sent two notices, at least one month apart, to the person at the last address that the person has given the Center. However, a person's membership shall not be terminated pursuant to this paragraph until at least one month after the mailing of the second notice.
- B. The Abbot, acting in consultation with the Business Manager and the Head of the Zendo, may terminate a person's membership in the Center if the person fails to pay the full amount of fees owed the Center after the Center has sent notice to the person at the last address that the person has given the Center. However, the Abbot shall not terminate a person's membership pursuant to this paragraph until at least one month after the mailing of such notice.