

How to join SSAGO

Introduction

This factsheet aims to explain how to join SSAGO, whether it's through an existing club, as an independent member or through starting up a new club.

Who can join?

Anyone who is at an Institute of Higher Education (university or college) can join SSAGO. You do not need to have ever been a member of The Scout Association or Girlguiding UK to join and do not need to join them to be a member of SSAGO.

Locating and joining an existing club

To see all the current clubs visit ssago.org/clubs here you can see the club directory. If you are going to or at a university listed on this directory it is hoped that you would find the club at freshers' fayre. If this is not the case then there are a few ways to find the club, firstly visit their club page via the club directory here you'll be able to find their up to date contact methods such as Facebook groups and emails. Also, try looking and asking within your Students' Union. The SSAGO national executive will also do their best to put you in touch with your nearest club (there may be one in your town but not specifically at your university/college). The Members' Officer can provide the most up to date contact information and help to locate clubs (members@ssago.org.uk).

Once you are in touch with your local club if you wish to join you will be required to pay a membership fee, (part or all of this will come to SSAGO to provide insurance).

Once paid, your club committee is responsible for putting you onto their list of members and paying the appropriate fee to SSAGO. As a member you should have an account on the membership system. The SSAGO Members' Officer can also confirm if you are listed as a member. Clubs should fill out the SSAGO membership form via the membership system found here (ssago.org/committee/members). After submission the membership officer will review the submission, if approved you'll receive an invoice from the treasurer with details of payment. If in the event of a rejection you will be sent details on how to correct your membership submission.

Those wishing to continue to be a member of SSAGO each year have to pay membership annually to the organisation, usually through club membership.

Joining as an Independent Member

Those wishing to join SSAGO as an Independent (Indie) Member, where no club exists in their town or they do not wish to join that club, should visit the Indie club page on the membership system (ssago.org/clubs/view/indie). Here you can get the most up to date contact information for the Indie Rep. You could also contact the SSAGO Members' Officer (members@ssago.org.uk) to find out more information. Indie member's should pay their membership directly to SSAGO.

Joining as an Associate Member

Those wishing to join SSAGO as an Associate Member need to appear on a club membership form submitted via the membership system. Anyone wishing to join as an associate member must have a valid reason to join (such as staffing a national event) which should be noted on the membership form. Associate members are responsible for paying the appropriate membership fee to the club they are associating themselves with. Those classified as Independent Associate members must still have a valid reason.

In the case that an Associate Member is not connected to a club they are termed an Independent Associate Member. A valid reason for membership is still required as above and the appropriate fee is to be sought by the National SSAGO Treasurer.

Associate membership is granted at the discretion of the National Executive. If a good reason is not provided as to why someone would like associate membership, or a club lists an excessive number of associate members membership may be denied.

Starting a new club

Full details about starting a new club can be found in the 'Starting a New Club' factsheet. The best place to start is to email the SSAGO Members' Officer (members@ssago.org) who should be able to provide the necessary SSAGO information. Once up and running at your university/college it is a requirement that SSAGO receives a membership form from the club detailing all members. This form can be found by a member of that clubs committee visiting your committee membership page (ssago.org/committee/members). For the first year of club membership, fees are not required to be paid to SSAGO.