



Palm Springs Leather Order of the Desert

P.O. Box 5506, Palm Springs, CA 92263

Full Membership Application

New Member Pledge Protocol

The PSLOD is an all-volunteer 501(c)3 membership organization with a charitable mission. In order to meet its mission; we welcome new prospective members to get to know our organization and its members and purpose and to consider joining PSLOD.

We currently have two types of memberships; a Full Member with voting rights, and an Associate Member without voting rights, but with membership privileges and with no participation or meeting attendance requirements.

To become a Full Member or an Associate Member, any prospective pledge should start with attending meetings and volunteering, as well as securing a Sponsor(s) for your application for membership, if they don't already have one. It is important that Pledges get to know members and that they decide if being a member of PSLOD is the right fit for them prior to submitting an application for membership.

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Sponsor: _____

Why do you want to join PSLOD:

How many Membership Meetings have you attended, if any? _____

Have you volunteered for PSLOD? Yes: _____. No: _____

If yes, how many times: _____

List when and where you volunteered:

I have read and agree to the Palm Springs Leather Order of the Desert Code of Conduct, its Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, to subscribe to the ideals of the Leather Creed - Trust, Honor and Respect - and strive to embody them my daily life.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

(All membership information is confidential and restricted to official PSLOD club use as approved by the Board of Directors and shall not be released without the Member's Permission)

Full Member Pledge Process:

Step One: Introduction to the PSLOD

- 1) The Pledge process takes a minimum of three months before becoming a Full Member.
- 2) Pledges start the process by completing an interest form available online, providing their contact information and other details.
- 3) Once received the PSLOD will contact the Pledge regarding activities to volunteer at meetings and activities the Pledge may attend.
- 4) In some cases, Pledges may have already completed this step, and have a Sponsor, and at the discretion of the Vice President, may move onto submission of a formal Application.

Step Two: Application Process

- 1) An invitation to join PSLOD must be extended by a Full Member. This member will become the Pledge's Sponsor during the pledge period and first year of membership.
- 2) Sponsors must have been a member of PSLOD for at least nine (9) months before they are able to sponsor a new member.
- 3) A Membership Application must be completed and signed by the applicant and list the Sponsor. The application may be downloaded, emailed to the Vice President, or presented at a monthly Member Meeting.
- 4) The Pledge must review and become familiar with both the Bylaws and Policy and Procedures, available online.
- 5) Pledge Master and Mentor:
 - a) The Vice President, or their designee, is the Pledge Master and has discretion on moving applicants forward as a Pledge to the Full Members for consideration and a vote by ballot.
 - b) The Full Members who Sponsor the applicant/Pledge is the mentor for the Pledge, should help introduce the Pledge to all members, make them aware of volunteer opportunities and other ways to integrate in PSLOD's activities and mission. This role will continue through the first year of membership.
 - c) Sponsors must interview and get to know the Pledge and will be asked to introduce the Pledge at Member Meetings where the Pledge will speak.

Pledge Period:

- 1) The Pledge Period shall be at least ninety (90) days from the acceptance of a completed Application for membership.
- 2) At the discretion of the Pledge Master, pledges may take up to 180 consecutive days to complete the pledge process without reapplying.
- 3) Requirements:
 - a) A Pledge is expected to attend at least two Membership Meetings as a guest prior to submission of an application.
 - b) A Pledge is expected to volunteer for PSLOD, and this information should be included in the Application process for consideration by Full Members.

Step Three: Voting Process:

- 1) A Pledge must have completed at least thirty (30) days as a Pledge after an Application for Membership has been accepted by the Pledge Master, during these 30 days, and continuing through this voting process, the Pledge should attend meetings, volunteered for PSLOD at events or other volunteer opportunities, become familiar with PSLOD, its mission, Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, members, partners, and activities.
- 2) At the discretion of the Pledge Master, the Pledge will move forward for consideration by Full Members. A pledge is expected to speak at two monthly Membership Meetings, introduced by the Sponsor or Pledge Master.
- 3) Following the second Monthly Membership Meeting at which the Pledge speaks, a confidential written Ballot Vote will be conducted. Two-thirds (2/3) of the Full Members in attendance must vote in favor of awarding membership to the Pledge for the Pledge to be awarded Full Membership.
- 4) Following the vote in which two-thirds of the Full Members present voted in favor of the Pledge's Full Membership, the Pledge Master will inform the Pledge, who will have thirty (30) days to pay dues. If the dues are received within this thirty (30) day period, the Pledge will become a Full Member at the next Monthly Meeting.