Frequently Asked Questions: 2019 Membership Updates

SBSM Changes to a Membership Rolling Calendar Year

For additional information call the SBSM office at: 859 312 8880 from 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM eastern time

1. **When is membership renewal fee due for current members?**
   If you were a member of the SBSM in 2018, the deadline for your membership dues will be December 31st for the next year's membership. As long as current members renew membership before the Dec 31st deadline, their dues will always be due by Dec 31st of the current year.

2. **When will membership fees be due for new members?**
   Beginning Jan 1, 2019 new members will have membership fees due 365 days later (1 year) from the date their initial membership was received.

3. **What happens if I become a new member during the year?**
   Your membership will begin the date your payment is received and it will cover a full 12-month period from that date. Your annual renewal deadline will be the date of your initial enrollment, which is 365 days later.

4. **Can membership dues be paid in advance of the expiration deadline?**
   Membership dues can be paid up to 90 days before the membership expiration deadline without changing the annual renewal date.

5. **Do membership dues always cover a 12-month period?**
   Yes, membership dues always cover a full 12-month period (365 days.) For new members, the 12-month period begins when membership dues are received. For current members, the 12-month period begins on the renewal deadline as long as dues are paid within 60 days of the renewal deadline.

6. **When does the membership year start for an individual?**
   For 2018 members the membership year begins January 1, 2019. Dues paid up to 90 days prior to the beginning of the membership year apply to the 12-month period beginning January 1, 2019. For new members beginning in 2019, the membership year begins on the date that dues are paid and is applicable for a 12-month (365 days) period from that date.

7. **What happens if dues are late and paid after the membership expiration deadline?**
   If dues are not paid by the member's expiration deadline, the individual becomes inactive with the SBSM and continuous membership is terminated. If memberships are renewed within 60 days after expiration, the individual can keep their original member number but the inactive status remains on their record and a new active status period begins when payment is received. If dues are more than 60 days late, the individual is considered a
new member and receives a new membership number and the 12-month member year begins when payment is received.

8. **What are the implications of an inactive status?**
   While members are classified as inactive, they will not be included in SBSM member communications, SBSM website access will be limited to public areas, they are ineligible for member discounts and they will not be eligible to vote on any SBSM initiatives. Additionally, classification as inactive for any period of time will result in loss of fellow status if previously awarded. Since qualification for fellow status also requires 5 years of continuous SBSM membership, applicants could only count membership time starting with the membership renewal date after the last inactive status.

9. **Where can I find my membership renewal date?**
   Your membership renewal date can be found on the SBSM website under the member portal tab. Select the tab *My Membership* to verify the date for membership expiration.

10. **Will I receive a notice when it is time to renew my membership?**
    Email notifications will be sent 60, 30, and 7 days prior to membership renewal deadline. Renewal notifications will terminate as soon as payment for membership renewal is received. *If your email address changes and it is not updated with the SBSM, you will not receive these notices.*