

Membership Fee Regulations

Deutsch-Japanische Weinwirtschaftsinitiative e. V. (DJWI) · Version dated 5 October 2026

These Membership Fee Regulations are based on § 6 of the Articles of Association and govern fee obligations, classification, fee-free periods, due dates and exemptions.

§ 1 Scope

These Regulations apply to all professional members of DJWI. Private members and honorary members are exempt from fees subject to these Regulations.

§ 2 Exemption from fees

1. Private members are exempt from fees for the entire duration of their private membership.
2. Honorary members are exempt from fees unless they also hold another category of membership subject to fees.
3. The founding members who signed the Articles of Association dated 15 February 2026 are exempt from membership fees for the entire duration of their membership.

§ 3 Initial fee-free period for professional members

1. Newly admitted professional members are exempt from fees for the first twelve months from the membership start date specified in their admission confirmation.
2. The fee-free period ends at the end of the day preceding the first anniversary of the membership start date.
3. Fees become payable under these Regulations from the first anniversary. The fee for the remainder of the calendar year is calculated pro rata pursuant to § 6(3).

§ 4 Fee scales for professional members

1. Classification is generally based on the economic activity under which the professional membership is held. Only one fee scale applies.
2. For wineries, producers and other businesses or self-employed persons not covered by paragraph 3, the annual turnover of the most recently completed financial year is decisive.
3. For importers, traders and market-entry agencies or consultancies whose DJWI membership relates to their business in Japan, classification is based solely on the number of wineries represented or traded in their Japan business.

4. For mixed business models, the Board determines the applicable scale based on the predominant activity relevant to DJWI membership.

Scale A – Annual turnover

Category	Annual turnover	Annual fee
A	up to €250,000	€180
B	over €250,000 up to €500,000	€240
C	over €500,000 up to €1,000,000	€320
D	over €1,000,000	€450

Scale B – Importers, traders and market-entry agencies

Category	Wineries represented / traded in Japan	Annual fee
A	up to 5	€180
B	6 to 10	€240
C	11 to 20	€320
D	more than 20	€450

§ 5 Classification and duties to provide information

1. Professional members must provide the information required for classification when applying. Disclosure of exact turnover is not required; indicating the applicable turnover bracket is sufficient.
2. The classification is documented with the admission decision. Newly established businesses without a completed financial year are classified based on a realistic self-assessment of expected annual turnover.
3. Material changes resulting in a different fee category must be reported to the Board by 30 November at the latest for the following calendar year.
4. The Board may review classifications at reasonable intervals and request appropriate evidence where there are justified doubts.

§ 6 Due dates and pro rata calculation

1. The annual fee is charged in advance for the calendar year and is payable within four weeks of invoicing.
2. After the twelve-month initial fee-free period, the obligation to pay fees first arises on the first anniversary of membership.
3. For the first partial year subject to fees, one twelfth of the annual fee is charged for each full calendar month after the first anniversary. If the obligation starts on the first day of a calendar month, that month is included.
4. Thereafter, the full annual fee is charged for each calendar year.

§ 7 Deferral, reduction and waiver

In exceptional hardship cases, the Board may defer, reduce or waive fees for a limited period upon a written application stating reasons. The decision must be documented and does not establish a right to equivalent treatment in future cases unless the circumstances are comparable.

§ 8 Late payment

1. If payment is overdue, the Association may issue a reminder after the due date. Statutory consequences of late payment remain unaffected.
2. If fees remain overdue for more than six months despite a reminder, the Board may suspend membership rights in accordance with the Articles of Association.

§ 9 Amendments to the Fee Regulations

1. The Board adopts amendments to these Regulations on the basis of the Articles of Association.
2. Fee increases or changes to classification criteria generally apply only to future fee periods.
Affected members should be notified in text form in good time before the new fee period begins.