

Membership Types & Classes of Membership The Tai Chi Union for Great Britain C.I.C. (Union)

A. Union Membership Types

- 1) There are two types of membership: Ordinary Member and Instructor Member
- 2) Membership types are_to aid public understanding. Instructors who have been members for 10 consecutive and continuous years from their joining date (+) are considered as "Senior". There are no grades other than Senior.
- 3) **Ordinary** members and **Instructor** members <u>continue</u> to be able to apply to be assessed by the Technical Panel (TP).
 - a) Assessment is compulsory for **Instructors** but **Ordinary** Members can apply to be assessed.
 - b) Both will be assessed on their practice
 - c) Additionally, **Instructors** will be assessed on their teaching ability.
- 4) To be assessed by the TP a person must have been practising for at least 5 consecutive years.

Members can still teach even if they have less than 5 <u>consecutive</u> years' experience. They will simply be an **Ordinary** member rather than recognised as an **Instructor** by the Union.

B. Union Classes of Membership

The Articles of Association define 3 Classes of Membership

- Full members can vote <u>and</u> stand for the Board
- Voting members can only vote (and NOT stand for the Board)
- Associate members can neither vote nor stand for the Board

For members who live in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands or Isle of Man, the following framework shows how "Class" and "Membership Type" are determined based on TP decisions and number of continuous and consecutive years someone is a member as shown below.

Passed TP Assessment (*)	Membership Length	
	Less than 3 <u>continuous and</u> <u>consecutive</u> years from joining date (+)	3 or more continuous and consecutive years from joining date(+)
No	Class of Membership: Associate Membership Type: Ordinary	
Yes	Class of Membership: Voting Membership Type: Ordinary or Instructor	Class of Membership: Full Membership Type: Ordinary or Instructor

Members who live outside the United Kingdom, Channel Islands or Isle of Man can be Instructor Members but will be assigned to the Associate Class of membership regardless of length of membership or whether they pass an assessment by the Technical Panel.

- (*) It is only possible to apply for Technical Panel assessment once a person has been practising their chosen Internal Art for 5 or more <u>consecutive</u> years. All Instructor Members are deemed to have passed a Technical Panel assessment.
- (+) For members who leave and re-join, the consecutive and continuous years will start from the <u>most</u> recent joining date.