

POLICIES & PROCEDURES, MEMBERSHIP

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Policy: BOTY Membership for Nonmembers

Under special circumstances, as outlined in the TBO By-laws, the TBO Governing Board at its discretion may approve non-member Jewish youth to be allowed to become members of BOTY.

DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL: 10/14/93
DATE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL: N/A

Policy: Clergy membership

Professional Jewish clergy (Ordained Rabbis or Invested Cantors) may be given full membership status at the discretion of the Governing Board. The Board may waive any or all financial assessments on a case-by-case basis.

DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL: 1/14/99
DATE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL: N/A

Covenant of Membership

Preamble

A synagogue exists to provide its members with diverse programs and activities that touch all areas of Jewish life: worship, education, community, family, social justice. When we join a synagogue, we may take it for granted that those services and resources (for example, the Rabbi or Religious School) will be there for us when we need them. However, a synagogue cannot exist without a supportive community. Just as the synagogue is responsible for providing programs, its members are responsible for participating in them. Joining a congregation is like entering into a covenant: both parties have obligations. Ultimately, the success of our community, and your experience as a part of it, is dependent on the commitment of our members. The active participation of the membership in the activities, administration, and development of the synagogue, will ensure that Temple Beth Or thrives in the future.

As you become part of our Temple Beth Or family, the synagogue is grateful for your financial support. We hope you will want to contribute toward the survival of Judaism and the Jewish people in other ways as well. We ask you to become partners with us in creating a community that will be rich with Jewish spirit. We want our synagogue to be a place where we give thanks to God, explore the richness of our heritage, and remind ourselves that we are members of a people whose mission it is to work toward perfecting the world. We want to make our synagogue an extended family, to be there for one another, to provide comfort in times of trouble and joy in times of celebration. We want our synagogue to be a place where we create memories for our children so powerful that they will seek to pass them on to their children and their children's children.

It is in the above spirit that we present to you this Covenant of Membership. We ask you to use it as a guide in determining your own level of involvement in Temple Beth Or activities. The more that you are able to participate, the greater your possibilities for personal enrichment and the more you will cherish and share the success of our Temple community.

Obligations Responsibilities of TBO Temple Beth Or

- TBO Temple Beth Or commits to the following priorities in its Mission Statement:
- K'hilah (community)/Mishpacha (family) - nurturing our interactive multigenerational extended family;
- Torah - lifelong learning, searching for meaning, and seeking comfort and healing;
- Avodah - worship and celebration through the observance of meaningful, creative, and traditional rituals;
- Tikkun Olam - transforming ourselves and our world through tzedakah (fairness), social justice, and g'milut hasadim (acts of loving kindness).

To fulfill our commitment, TBO Temple Beth Or pledges to provide for its congregants:

- Religious services and observances in accordance with the Jewish faith .faith.;
- Religious education for the children of members;.
- Programs to advance adult Jewish learning and social interaction;.
- Youth group programs and leadership to provide our young people with positive Jewish growth experiences;.
- Opportunities to express social justice concerns and act upon them;.
- Support for members during difficult life-cycle events and illnesses, and during times of joyous celebration;.

- Social activities to provide an opportunity to strengthen friendships and the sense of community;.
- A financially sound organization;.

Obligations Responsibilities of TBO Temple Beth Or Members

TBO’s success is dependent on its membership. By joining TBO Temple Beth Or, members commit agree to:

- Participate actively in Temple life. Examples include attending services and educational programs, participating in a social action activity, volunteering for the Temple on a project or helping with a Temple event, joining a committee.;
- Meet all Temple Beth OrBO financial obligations in a timely fashion and help support Temple fund raising efforts;.
- Educate ourselves on the distinctive beliefs, rituals, traditions, and values of Judaism and instill them in our children. Support and encourage the educational staff in their efforts to teach Jewish culture and values;. Educate ourselves on the distinctive beliefs, rituals, traditions, and values of Judaism and instill them in our children;.
- Celebrate the accomplishments and joyous occasions of other Temple members;.
- Provide support to other Temple members during times of loss and crisis;.
- Fulfill the responsibilities of hosting Oneg Shabbat and serving as Second Greeter;.
- Share our positive Temple experiences with unaffiliated Jews, the wider Jewish community, and the non-Jewish community.

Member _____
Date

Member _____
Date

President _____
Date

Membership Chairperson _____
Date

Rabbi _____
Date

Policy: Nonmembers on Committees

Nonmembers may attend committee meetings, but may not be considered committee members or allowed to vote.

DATE OF BOARD DISCUSSION: 4/20/99
DATE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL: N/A

Policy: Partial Memberships

Temple Beth Or will not have partial memberships. Either a family is or is not a member family. There will be no “discounts” for membership in other congregations.
“Snowbirds” are a different issue and will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

DATE OF GOVERNING BOARD APPROVAL: 6/5/07

Policy: Quitting Membership

Whenever members decide to leave the congregation the membership committee chair should be notified.

DATE OF BOARD DISCUSSION: 6/17/93

DATE OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL: N/A

Policy: Young Adult Membership

Young adult members of Temple Beth Or families (in good standing), as they turn 25, are offered full adult membership for 12 months, for free. At the end of the 12 month period they would be expected to make a dues commitment per existing dues policies.

Argument For: Allows for a fair and friendly way to request that young adults become individual Temple Beth Or members when they turn 25. We do not expect this to have a significant impact on dues because young adults typically do not have significant income and this age group tends not to affiliate with temples anyway.

Argument Against: None.

DATE OF GOVERNING BOARD APPROVAL February 7, 2010

DATE OF MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL: N/A