



the DURHAM UNION SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP TERMS & CONDITIONS

Last updated: September 2026

1. Eligibility

1.1 Membership is open to current students, alumni, and other individuals as determined by the Durham Union Society's (DUS) membership policy from time to time.

1.2 DUS reserves the right to refuse or revoke membership at its discretion, including where a Member breaches these Terms, the DUS Code of Conduct, or acts in a manner deemed harmful to the Society, its staff, members, or reputation.

2. Membership Types and Fees

2.1 The DUS offers various membership types (e.g. Annual, Life Membership), each with its own fee and duration, as published on the DUS website.

2.2 Membership fees are payable in full at the time of purchase unless otherwise stated.

2.3 The DUS reserves the right to amend membership fees and benefits at any time. Any changes will not affect memberships already purchased for the period already paid for.

3. What Membership Includes

3.1 Membership entitles the Member to access DUS events and Durham Debating training sessions, subject to any specific events with capacity limits or additional charges (e.g. ticketed social events).

3.2 Access to some events or benefits may require separate booking, may be subject to availability, and may not be guaranteed by membership alone.

3.3 The DUS reserves the right to alter, postpone, cancel, or substitute speakers, events, or benefits, including for reasons outside its control.

4. No Refunds Policy

4.1 All membership sales are final. The DUS does not offer refunds on membership fees, whether in whole or in part, once a purchase has been completed, except as expressly set out in Clause 4.2 as required by law.

4.2 Statutory cancellation rights: If you purchased a membership online, under the Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013, you have a statutory right to cancel within 14 calendar days of purchase, without giving a reason, for a full refund. This right does not apply once you have accessed or used any membership benefit, defined as the point at which your membership card is collected.

4.3 Outside of Clause 4.2, no refunds, credits, or exchanges will be given: whether due to change of mind, non-attendance at events, withdrawal or suspension from the University, disciplinary action, or any other reason.

4.4 If an event where a Member has paid an additional fee (e.g. a ticketed dinner) is cancelled by the DUS and not rescheduled, the DUS will, at its discretion, offer a refund; this does not affect the non-refundable nature of the underlying membership fee itself.

5. Membership Duration and Renewal

5.1 Membership is valid for the period stated at the time of purchase and does not automatically renew unless explicitly stated.

5.2 Membership is non-transferable and may not be sold, gifted, or assigned to another individual.

6. Access Memberships

6.1 Access Memberships offer a reduced membership price to those who meet the conditions stated in 6.2 or 6.3.

6.2 Students with successful applications to a University, College, or JCR related hardship (or similar) fund within the past 12 months.

6.3. Students in the highest Durham bursary band, meaning those who receive the full Durham Undergraduate Bursary award at the lowest household income threshold. Bands and amounts may change from time to time, and eligibility will be determined by the University's current criteria.

6.4 To purchase any Access Membership, please contact our Office Manager at info@dus.org.uk, with supporting evidence of eligibility attached. This evidence will be treated with complete privacy and will not be shared or discussed with any students.

7. Code of Conduct

7.1 Members are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the DUS Code of Conduct, as outlined in the DUS Constitution, and any applicable University policies at all times, including at DUS events and on DUS premises.

7.2 The DUS reserves the right to suspend or terminate a Member's membership, without refund, in the event of a serious or repeated breach of the Code of Conduct.

8. Data Protection

8.1 The DUS will process Members' personal data in accordance with its Privacy Policy and applicable data protection law. Membership data may be used for administration, communications, and event management purposes.

For any questions regarding these Terms & Conditions or general membership queries, please contact: info@dus.org.uk.