



Diversity: Embrace it - Share it - Celebrate it  
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VO 1862

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# Membership Guidelines

## **LGBTI+ Gozo**

LGBTI+ Gozo is the only queer organisation on the island of Gozo. Established in 2015, the organisation is a key player in promoting equality between individuals, whilst providing a safe space for queer Gozitans through a number of social events, awareness campaigns and educational programs.

It offers a set of services to queer youths, queer elders and parents of queer individuals, together with a community outreach program to educators, civil society and the general public on the meaning of diversity and inclusion

## **Who are we?**

### Our Mission:

To promote and raise awareness regarding the LGBTI+ community and issues affecting it whilst organising events aimed to include all LGBTI+ peers and supporters.

### Our Vision:

To provide support and information for the LGBTI+ community in Gozo, be a platform of inclusivity and be a stepping stone to all who need aid, whilst educating the public on various facets of the society, on the acceptance of diversity within our society and on LGBTI+ related legislation together.



### Our Values:

*Determination:* The organisation believes that through determination, any challenge or obstacle can be overcome.

*Diversity:* The organisation's core value is that of diversity, LGBTI+ Gozo believes that diversity does not hinder society but rather makes it stronger.

*Empathy:* LGBTI+ Gozo believes in understanding the feelings of others by putting oneself in another's shoe.

*Openness:* LGBTI+ Gozo believes in being open to any new experiences or situations as well as in having an open mind, ready to learn and challenge one's own bias and belief.

### **Who can become a member.**

LGBTI+ Gozo statute stipulates in article 6, sub article 6.1 that;

*“All persons over the age of sixteen (16) are eligible to become members of the Organisation with full voting rights.”*

Sub article 6.1.1 mentions that;

*“If a member has not reached eighteen (18) years of age, permission from their legal guardian shall be required. Should the case be that they are not willing to disclose information about their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, this shall be taken into consideration by the Executive Committee.”*

Sub article 6.6 states;

*The Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse a request for membership, without providing any explanation whatsoever. The applicant shall have the right to appeal this decision in writing within three (3) calendar days to the Secretary of the Executive Committee.*



With sub article 6.6.1 continues to add;

*“If this is the case, he shall receive a written explanation from the Secretary of the Executive Committee, detailing the reason for his refusal within twelve (12) calendar days from receipt of his letter. This decision is final and cannot be contested.*

### **How to become a member.**

Any individual local or internationally, of age 18 and over - with consideration to those at age younger than 18 but older than 16, are to become members by filling in the updated membership form on [lgbtigozo.com](http://lgbtigozo.com). This will be specifically marked and accessible on the organisation's social media.

Any individual can ask for this membership form by sending an email on [lgbtigozo@gmail.com](mailto:lgbtigozo@gmail.com) or any other email made available and communicated from time to time.

As a membership form is received - communication will be sent via the email given to LGBTI+ Gozo by the organisations Membership and Outreach officer informing them whether the application was successful or not.

### **The membership.**

LGBTI+ Gozo membership is open all year long, and is valid from the day of receiving the membership fee, after the approval of the Membership and Outreach officer, to the day of an Annual General meeting that will have an election. To safeguard data, all members' data will be deleted with the change of executive committee. As article 9, sub article 9.1 stipulates;

*Elections for Executive Committee members shall be held every two (2) years, during the Annual General Meeting using a secret vote, with a simple plurality voting system.*

This means that any member is to re-apply every 2 years, or at the end of an even numbered year. The membership of LGBTI+ Gozo is valid up until the end of the executive term. LGBTI+ Gozo membership fee is 20.00 euro every 2 years, or 10.00 euro if they apply for one year.



Fiscal receipt will be given as proof of payment, with the payment method communicated via email by the Membership and Outreach office when confirming the approval of the membership application.

If within 14 working days we do not receive the payment, an Executive member will be communicating with the member in question, and give an extra 7 working days, after which if payment is not received, the membership is deemed null.

### **The role of an LGBTI+ Gozo member.**

LGBTI+ Gozo members are to attend the General Meeting held every year in which they will be asked to participate, discuss and vote on matters at hand such as the election of the executive committee and strategic plan for the following years.

LGBTI+ Gozo members are expected to participate in conferences, social programs, workshops and events at least 3 times each calendar year. This will ensure that LGBTI+ Gozo & our members strive to grow more in our outreach. Members are to adhere, compile and follow the Code of Conduct regulated by LGBTI+ Gozo Advisory board.

### **Benefits of becoming an LGBTI+ Gozo member.**

- Free LGBTI+ Gozo merchandise when becoming a member.
- LGBTI+ Gozo members, after 6 months, can contest and become part of the leadership team (Executive Committee)
- Opportunity to elect the leadership of LGBTI+ Gozo, converse and decided LGBTI+ Gozo strategic plan
- Opportunities to benefit from international exchanges, trans-national project groups, training courses, events and conferences.
- Possibility to participate in LGBTI+ Gozo squads and training courses.
- Reduced event registration fee for LGBTI+ Gozo conferences, seminars, workshops and other events.
- Access to services and resources for free or at a reduced price as indicated per project,