An update to membership criteria

The current definition of Members in the Club’s rules is as follows, with my suggested changes:

1. Membership
   * 1. Membership of the Club shall be open to:
        1. any current or graduated students of a full time course, based in New Haven, lasting no less than two years, of Yale University
        2. any current members of Yale University's staff,
     2. If a person satisfies 4(a) and without regard to disability, political or religious affiliation, race, sex, or sexual orientation, who is also:
     + interested in helping the Club to achieve its aim;
     + willing to abide by the rules of the Club as set out herein and as amended from time to time (the "Rules"); and
     + willing to pay the subscription agreed by the Club's management committee (the "Management Committee") from time to time

(each such individual being a "Member").

Other notes regarding Members:

Categories of membership

The Membership is divided into two categories based on graduation dates of the Members.

* **Junior Members** are people who have graduated from their first degree (regardless of college, Yale or otherwise) in the last five years.
* **Senior Members** are those who graduated more than five years ago. So a graduate of another college who graduated with a Masters degree from Yale would count the years since graduating from their original college, and not since graduating from Yale.

It is important to recognise that a member is either a Junior Member or a Senior Member (and together “Members”), and that any other use of the term “member” is not officially recognised.

Some of the club’s events are open to the public, but most are restricted to Members. As can be seen above the definition of a Member includes that they have paid their dues. Members who are behind with dues are still able to access the website, but will not be able to book events. Members who are struggling to pay their dues can contact the Management Committee to get a waiver for their dues. It should be noted that full time students, retired and unemployed members do not pay membership dues, but are still classified as Members.

Issues with the Website system

The club’s website system is somewhat inflexible and will refer to certain people’s data classifications as “members” but that is default wording that cannot be overridden. The club allows non-Members to access its website so as to promote better information flow with external institutions (like Yale) and other clubs. If a person has access to the club’s website, then that person should not assumed or infer he/she/they is/are a Member.

External Association with the Club.

The club does not recognise any reference to the club other than: the specific board positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary; the terms Junior Member and Senior Member. No other term for membership is accepted and its use will be actively dissuaded.

Attendance at the AGM, and monthly board meetings is open to all Members. Some meetings may be open, by invitation from the board, to external participation. External participation can include members of the YAA, and officials from other clubs. Anyone attending once one of these meetings who does not satisfy this criteria must remove themselves.