

# State Reactivation Fee

May 2018

## Background

The ABF charges a **reactivation fee** for home club members who are reactivated during the year. This reactivation fee is the full annual capitation fee for reactivations from April through September, and half the annual capitation fee for reactivations from October through December (reactivations from January through March are free).

The ABF also charges a slightly discounted capitation fee for new member activations.

A Victorian club operator pointed out that there are a significant number of reactivations in Victoria every year; over 800 in fact. Interestingly, reactivations seem to occur at a much higher rate in Victoria than across the ABF. The VBA has not charged a reactivation for these members since we changed our census date (the date on which we count up each club's home club members) from September 30 to align with the ABF's primary census date of March 31.

However, reactivated members enjoy all the benefits of membership from the moment they are reactivated, and even receive masterpoints earned for some or all of their inactive period. This is actually unfair on members who remain active.

I think we can all agree that if you're enjoying the benefits of membership, you should reasonably be expected to pay for that membership. Certainly that is the ABF's point of view. In practice, many reactivations happen in April and May because some members have forgotten to pay their club membership fee, or have moved clubs and gotten lost in the cracks.

Accordingly, the VBA will be introducing a reactivation fee for home club members who are reactivated during the April through September period. Like the ABF fee, the Victorian fee will be the full annual (state) capitation fee. We are NOT introducing a reactivation fee for reactivations in the October through March period.

In addition, we think it's important to encourage and support clubs in signing up beginners and other new members, so we will NOT be introducing an initial activation fee (the ABF charges an initial activation fee at a slight discount to its reactivation fee).

## Process

In terms of process, the VBA will get the reactivation data for each club from the ABF Masterpoint Centre at the end of September but the fee will be added to the annual capitation invoice we issue the following April. This is substantially simpler administratively for both the VBA and the clubs because there is still only one invoice to handle for each club every year.

While this extra process step doesn't capture every reactivation during the year, we consider that it strikes a reasonable balance between fairness to active members and administrative ease.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Ben Thompson

VBA President