

GRASSY POND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Applicant Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

email: _____ Home Telephone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Social Security #: _____

Drivers License #: _____ DL State: _____ Class: _____

Current Employment: _____

Other Fire Departments where you have previously served and position / rank held:

Years of Fire Service: _____ Name of Previous Supervisor: _____

Phone number of previous fire department: _____

List any other Fire Department (and contact) where you are **currently** a member:

Have you ever been convicted of a crime (other than minor traffic violations)?

Yes No

Do you have previous training from the SC Fire Academy? Yes No

List any training for which you received credit other than from the SCFA:

Attach additional sheets as needed.

The Membership Status Form and membership dues must be attached and returned along with this form. See instructions on reverse for further details.

By submitting this application, I certify that I have read and understand the duties, requirements, and expectations outlined in the membership information package. Furthermore, I authorize the Department to request criminal background checks as required for emergency responders (see reverse). Also, all statements herein are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Signature: _____ Date: _____

Date application received by GPVFD: _____

Received By: _____

This is an application for membership in the Grassy Pond Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the term "Corporate Membership" is the same as "Membership" as defined in the Bylaws of the Corporation, anywhere the term "Membership" is used is reference to membership in the corporation). Within the corporation, there are several different categories of membership. Any level of membership (other than sustaining) requires residency or property ownership within the District. The Corporate Bylaws contain further explanation and definitions of "Membership" (corporate), as well as "Sustaining Membership", "Active Membership", and "Life Membership". In addition to the Bylaws, other rules further define what is expected of and the benefits afforded each member.

The Membership Status Form must be completed and returned along with this application and the membership fee (dues). The Status Form allows each member of the corporation to choose the role in which they wish to serve. All applicants meeting the corporate membership requirements set forth in the Bylaws should mark "Corporate Member" on the Status Form. If you are interested in becoming an emergency responder, you should also indicate the desired category in which you are interested in training (any or all). See the back of the Status Form for additional information.

Membership in the Corporation begins immediately upon the Department's receipt of the application and membership fee (the application should be returned to the Chief or Assistant Chief, and the membership fee to the Treasurer, who will provide a receipt). Acceptance into the Emergency Responder program requires a criminal background check, and other measures as detailed in the bylaws. Contact the Chief or Assistant Chief with any questions and to request a new member packet containing copies of the bylaws and other important information. Contact information and a map of the district are available at www.grassypondfire.com.

GRASSY POND VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC

MEMBERSHIP STATUS FORM

New Member Change/Update of Status (Current Member)

Please indicate below how you wish to serve as a volunteer for the Grassy Pond Fire Department:

Corporate Member

Sustaining Member

Emergency Responder – Please indicate below the specific emergency response function(s) in which you would like to participate (you may choose more than one):

First Responder (medical)

Driver/Operator

Firefighter

_____ Print Name

_____ Signature _____ Date

Any member may request a change to his/her status at any time by submitting this form to any Corporate Officer. Changes in status are subject to the requirements of the Bylaws and/or applicable state, local, and federal regulations. See the back of this form for a more detailed explanation.

Legally, the Grassy Pond Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is a non-profit corporation; requirements for membership in the corporation are defined in the Bylaws. When someone says they are a “member of the fire department”, they are in fact “Corporate Members”. Emergency responders are a special classification within Corporate Membership (to be an emergency responder, you must first be a member of the corporation). Below is a more detailed explanation of each classification.

Corporate Member – Legally, the Grassy Pond Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is a non-profit corporation; membership and responsibilities are defined in the corporate by-laws. In summary, all “Members” are in fact “Corporate Members”; any member in good standing is entitled to attend and participate in all monthly business meetings, special meetings (or called meetings), the annual meeting, and the Christmas party. In addition, Corporate Members may use the facilities in accordance with policies set forth by the Board of Directors.

Sustaining Member – As defined in the bylaws, any person not qualifying as a regular member may become a sustaining member enjoying all rights and privileges allowed by the rules and regulations of the corporation. Sustaining members, however, shall not be afforded any voting rights and may not hold any elected or appointed positions within the corporation.

Emergency Responder – As defined in the by-laws, an Emergency Responder must complete a criminal background check and be elected to the department after a 90 day evaluation period. Emergency Responders must be Corporate Members “in good standing.” All Emergency Responders must complete certain required NIMS training, including courses IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, and IS-800. These courses are available online at <http://training.fema.gov/IS> ask an Officer if you have specific questions about these classes. Several different emergency response roles are available, as described below:

Frist Responder – The first responder performs a role that is primarily medical. Training for this position is provided periodically through Upstate Carolina Medical Center, and takes several weeks (1 or 2 nights a week, and a few weekends) to complete. The course is essentially an advanced first-aid course, with CPR training as well. First Responder training requires re-certification every 3 years, and CPR re-certification every 2 years. In addition, First Responders must complete annual training on blood-borne pathogens and be vaccinated for Hepatitis-B (or sign a release).

Driver/Operator – In order to drive fire department apparatus you must be at least 21 years of age, possess a valid SC Class E license or CDL, and complete the SCFA Emergency Vehicle Driver Training course. In order to operate tankers and engines drivers must complete the SCFA course Pump Operations 1. In addition, all driver/operators must pass an internal driving evaluation (and annual re-certification) and be medically cleared (annual physical).

Firefighter – To become an interior firefighter involves several steps, and a lot of training. First, you need to complete the first responder course. Then several SCFA courses are required in order to reach the NFPA Firefighter 1 level. These classes total about 195 hours (not counting First Responder), and usually can be completed in about a year. In addition, firefighters must be medically cleared (annual physical) and be annually fit tested for SCBA.