

# Membership and Prefix Guide for New and Existing Members

## 1. Renewing Your Membership

When You Renew	Do I Pay a Late Fee?	Do I Need a New Member Application Form?
Before 31 August	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> No
1 – 30 September	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
After 30 September	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No. Renewal subject to Dogs West approval.
After 30 June (next year)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (you must reapply as a new member)

**Tip:** Renew on time to avoid late fees and delays!

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## 2. When You Need to Fill Out a New Membership Form

Situation	Do I Need a New Form?
I'm a brand new applicant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
I've been lapsed for less than 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/> No, if Dogs West reinstates you
I've been lapsed for more than 12 months	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes
I'm returning after several years	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes

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## 3. Applying for a Breeder Prefix

You can apply for a prefix if:

- You're a **financial Ordinary Member**
- You've been a member of Dogs West (or another ANKC body) for at

least **6 months**

- ✓ You own a **Main Registered bitch**
  - ✓ You complete and pass the **Breeders Education Prefix Exam**
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## Which Exam Do I Need to Do?

### Situation

### Which Exam?

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| I'm applying for my first prefix                     | ✓ Full Exam (Parts A & B)          |
| I'm transferring a prefix from another state         | ✓ Part A only                      |
| I had a WA prefix that expired less than 5 years ago | ✓ Part A only                      |
| My prefix expired over 5 years ago                   | ✓ Full Exam + 12 months membership |
| I was a Junior member and now I'm an Ordinary member | ✓ Full Exam (Parts A & B)          |
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## Prefix Timing Rules

### Situation

### Can I Apply Right Away?

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| I've just joined Dogs West                   | ✗ No – you must wait 6 months                                  |
| I'm transferring a prefix from another state | ✓ Yes, if you've been a member for 6 months with any ANKC body |
| My old prefix expired less than 5 years ago  | ✓ Yes  |
| My old prefix expired over 5 years ago       | ✗ No – you must be a member again for 12 months first          |

## ⊖ Important Things to Know

- You **can't hold or use a prefix** if your membership, with Dogs West or any other State Controlling Body, is **suspended, disqualified, or expired**
- If you **resign with charges pending**, no dog transactions can happen until the matter is resolved and you rejoin

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### Update on Prefix Wait Times

As of 26 June 2024 the Governing Council has approved a reduction in the **prefix application wait period** from **12 months to 6 months** for **new members** of Dogs West.

**Please note:** This change currently **does not apply** to those returning after a lapsed membership of more than 12 months or an expired prefix of more than 5 years.

You are welcome to submit a request, to have your wait period reduced from 12 months to 6 months, for consideration. Dogs West will assess applications on a **case-by-case basis**.

To request a review of your prefix eligibility timeframe, please contact the office at **k9@dogswest.com**.

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### Need Help?

If you're not sure what applies to your situation, just contact the Dogs West office – we're happy to help!