



## Guidelines on 2021 Membership Fees

Many club chairmen have requested guidelines on 2021 membership fees so this document outlines some alternative approaches. Clubs have been closed since March and many will not reopen this year so they need to make a decision on the way forward.

As mentioned in previous reports the area will be collecting affiliation fees as normal at the beginning of 2021. The amount due for each member will be £8.50, made up of £6.50 NAFAS affiliation fee and £2.00 Area Affiliation fee (ie 50% reduction from normal year).

Many feel it is unfair to ask members to pay again when there have been no meetings this year so here are a few options:

- Decide on a reduced membership fee, maybe half your normal fee.
- If your club has had no expenses this year you could just ask for enough to cover the affiliation fees (£8.50).
- Some clubs may have enough funds to pay members affiliation fees and waiver membership fees for the coming year.
- Ask members for a voluntary contribution.

The decision will vary from club to club as each club's financial position is different.

**REMEMBER – Affiliation fees are based on membership just before your AGM.**

Other things for committees to bear in mind and share with members:

- The area has reduced its portion of the affiliation fees for next year from £4 to £2.
- You need to pay affiliation fees to remain part of the BB&O Area and NAFAS. If you do not pay, the area will not be able to support your club and you would not be able to book demonstrators etc. and those you have booked may refuse to come.
- Many members will have paid other subscriptions in 2020 for which they have had significantly reduced or no benefit. For example: RHS, National Trust, WI, other local clubs and societies, and many will have paid road tax and insurance for cars which have hardly been on the road.
- Affiliation fees are the main revenue stream for NAFAS. If NAFAS does not survive then flower clubs will not survive.

We are all doing what we can to keep NAFAS and flower clubs going.

*Jane Haas,*

BB&O Area Chairman

28 August 2020