Rules of Procedure For Supporting Members

Preamble
There are many ways to support and contribute to the KDE project. For those individuals and organizations who wish to do this by providing financial support in an ongoing manner, the KDE e.V. offers a Supporting Membership.

§1 Definition of Supporting Members
Every entity, natural person, company and authority can become a Supporting Member of KDE e.V. according to the articles of association. Supporting Members pay membership fees to KDE e.V. in the amounts defined below.

Supporting Members may decide to obtain the title of a Patron of KDE to the conditions defined below to maintain and show an even closer relationship with KDE e.V.

§2 Becoming a Supporting Member
Entities and individuals can become a Supporting Member by applying electronically to the Board of KDE e.V. using the form provided by the KDE e.V. The Board will decide whether or not to accept the application, but acceptance will not be unreasonably withheld. The Board will notify the KDE e.V. membership of all new Supporting Members.

Supporting Members have to appoint a person who acts as representative for the member and contact to the KDE e.V.

The membership starts with the acceptance by the Board.

§3 Rights and Obligations of Supporting Members
Supporting Members are subscribed to the kde-ev-supporters@kde.org e-mail list.

Supporting Members can display the "Supporter of KDE" logo on their website and any other material for as long as they are a Supporting Member and will be listed on KDE e.V.'s web presence, if they so wish.

Supporting Members are invited to participate in General Assemblies, though they will not have the right to vote.

Patrons of KDE can display the "Patron of KDE" logo on their website and any other material for as long as they are a Patron of KDE and will be listed on KDE e.V.'s web presence, if they so wish.

Patrons of KDE may present themselves to the KDE community by a short article on dot.kde.org, including their involvement and interest in KDE.

Patrons of KDE are invited to maintain an active communication with the project. Their representative can be subscribed to the mailing list kde-ev-patrons@kde.org and participate in discussions about the future of KDE.

§4 Membership Fees for Supporting Members
Each Supporting Member is expected to pay membership fees in a timely fashion, either
using KDE e.V.’s PayPal account, by wire transfer to KDE e.V.’s bank account, or using any other method the current Treasurer deems acceptable. Membership is annual and follows the calendar year from January 1st to December 31st, though an entity or individual may apply for membership at any point in the year.

Membership Fees are as follows:

**Individuals:**
- EUR 100 per year

**Corporate Supporting Members:**
- EUR 1000 per year

**Patrons of KDE:**
- Natural persons or entities with less than 50 employees:
  - EUR 5000 per year.
- Entities with 50 or more employees:
  - EUR 10000 per year.

Membership fees are due in advance. For new members the first payment is due within four weeks upon the Board notifying the applicant that they have been accepted. On request, Membership fees can be paid in four quarterly installments. Supporting Members joining during the year pay the fees for the remaining quarters.

Supporting Members that are late with their Membership Fee payments for more than three months will be removed from the public listing of supporting members on the KDE web presence and are not allowed to use the “Supporter of KDE” or “Patron of KDE” logos until complete payment of all fees.

At their discretion, the Board may accept membership fees in different amounts from the ones listed above if it is deemed by the Board that there are good reasons for doing so.

**§5 Termination of Membership**

Termination of Supporting Memberships takes place according to the articles of association of KDE e.V. Already paid membership fees will not be reimbursed.

Supporting Members that are late with their Membership Fee payments for more than a month shall receive two reminders sent by the Treasurer. After that KDE e. V. can exclude Supporting Members in accordance to the articles of KDE e.V.