

# FAQs EBSN / Association

## **I know what the EBSN is, but what is the EBSN Association?**

Technically speaking, the Association is European Beat Studies Network, e.V, where V stands for *Verein*, the German word for association, which is used because it has been registered in Germany. By existing as a legally registered association, the EBSN has been able to enjoy charitable status and to carry out financial transactions using its own bank account.

## **So, what is changing?**

Up until now, the Association has been limited to the 8-member Board who run the EBSN on behalf of its members. What we now plan to do is to open the Association to all members, so that more people can play an active part in running the EBSN.

## **How do I become a member of the Association?**

Easy: by completing a very simple form (which includes a standard GDPR statement) on the EBSN website. That's it! You will be able to join at any time, although we encourage you to join soon so that you can begin to engage in how the EBSN is run.

## **Does it cost money to join the Association?**

No! The EBSN has always been free to its members, and the same goes for the Association.

## **What will I gain if I join the Association?**

Association members will be entitled to vote on agenda items at the AGM, vote to elect the Board and to stand for election to the Board.

## **What happens if I don't join the Association?**

Nothing! You will remain a Friend of the EBSN and continue to enjoy all the benefits you have had previously: you will remain on our mailing list for quarterly emails and continue to have full access to everything on our website. You gain by joining the Association, but you don't lose anything by deciding not to.

## **Do I have to be a member of the EBSN to present at the annual conferences?**

No! But you are certainly invited to join...

### **How does the Board work?**

From its inception in 2012, a Board has appointed members based on expertise and willingness to help run the EBSN in various roles: there's been a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, a Membership Officer, a Webmaster, and so on. The Board has also recruited other EBSN members willing to do important tasks, such as posting materials on the website and helping with communications.

### **How will the Board work in future?**

What's going to change is that from now on two members of the Board will be up for election each year. This is to enable the wider membership to confirm Board members and/or propose new Board members on an annual basis. All members of the Association will be entitled to vote in Board elections. The Election Rules and other documents for members are available on the EBSN website.

### **When is all this going to happen?**

We held an informational meeting of the EBSN via Google Meet on October 20 for members to discuss the planned changes. The enrolment form has now gone live on the EBSN website. We aim to hold the first AGM of the Association in early 2025.