



# PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA

## STARS BUY BACK and BRIDGING BUY BACK RULES

The Stars Buy Back and Bridging Buy Back systems are the processes by which members may use acceptances gained prior to joining PSA (or gained during a gap in membership) when they apply for Star, Galaxy or Diamond ratings.

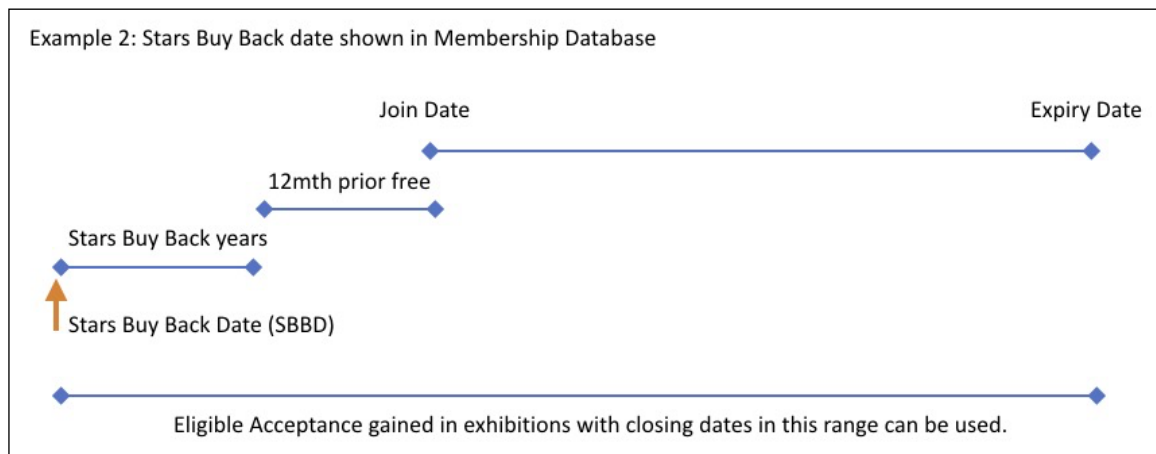
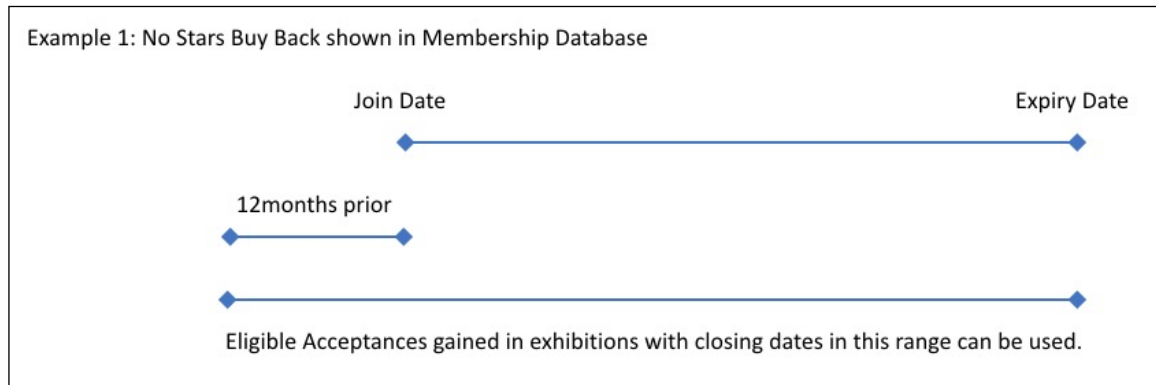
### **Implementation Dates:**

These rules were approved by the PSA Board of Directors on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 and from 31 January 2019 apply to all members regardless of the date on which they joined PSA.

### **STARS BUY BACK – for Members who have continuous membership**

1. Subject to the other rules relating to Star, Galaxy and Diamond applications, a member who has continuous membership may, without purchasing Stars Buy Back, use an *unlimited number* of eligible acceptances gained in exhibitions with a closing date up to *one year* prior to the date on which the member joined PSA.
2. To use eligible acceptances gained more than one year prior to joining PSA, the member must purchase ***Stars Buy Back Years***.
3. The acceptances from the Buy Back period may be used in Star, Galaxy and Diamond applications in any Division provided they meet the normal requirements for eligibility.
4. The number of Stars Buy Back Years that a member may purchase is calculated from one year prior to the date on which the member joins PSA and extends back to the closing date of the exhibition from which the earliest acceptance is being claimed.
5. Buy Back must be for a continuous period and must be purchased in whole years.
6. An application for Stars Buy Back Years may be made at any time.
7. Once a Buy Back has been purchased this establishes a Stars Buy Back Date (SBBDate) that is recorded in the PSA membership database.
8. There is no limit to the number of Stars Buy Back Years that a member may purchase.
9. A member may extend their Buy Back period at any time by purchasing additional Buy Back Years.
10. The cost of each Buy Back Year is determined by the Board of Directors and in 2019 that cost is \$25 per year.
11. Stars Buy Back Years do not give the member any other membership benefits for the years of the Buy Back period. When a proposal for Honors is made, the join date shall be used.

Application of these rules by Star Ratings Directors is illustrated in the following examples:



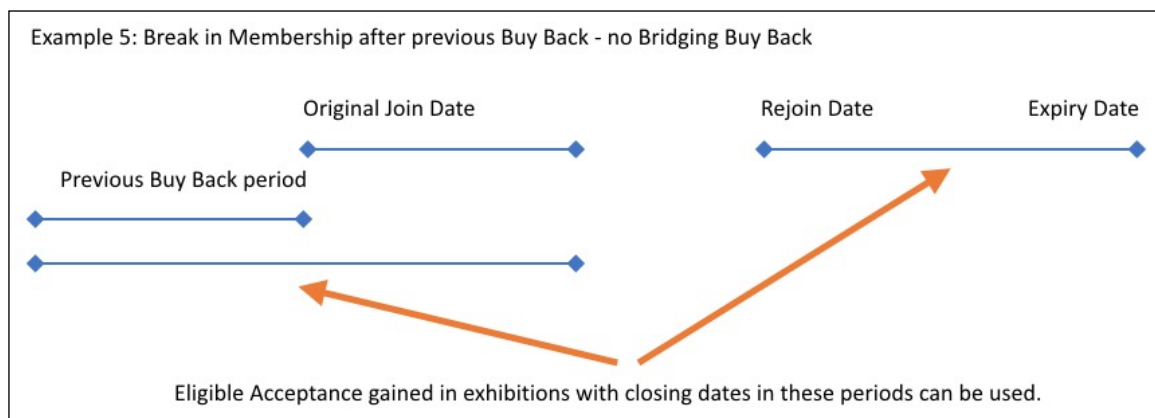
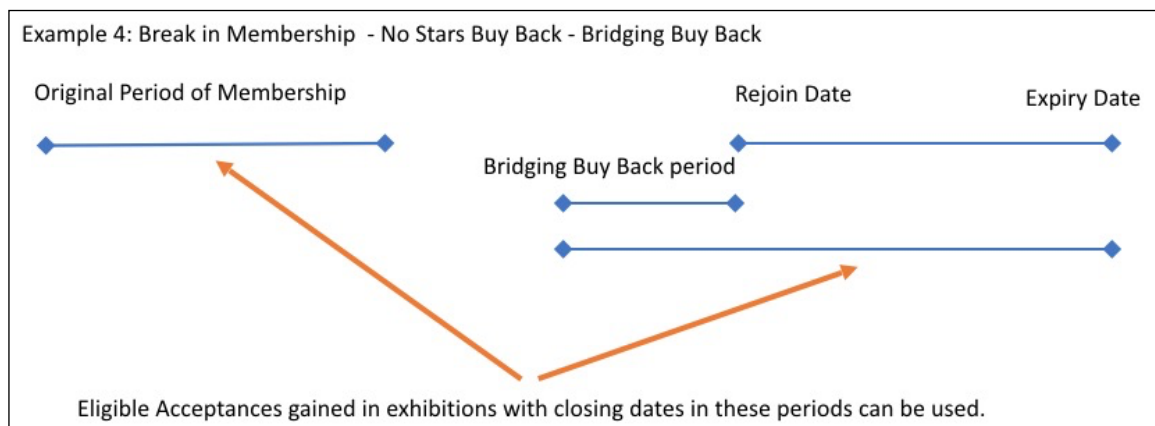
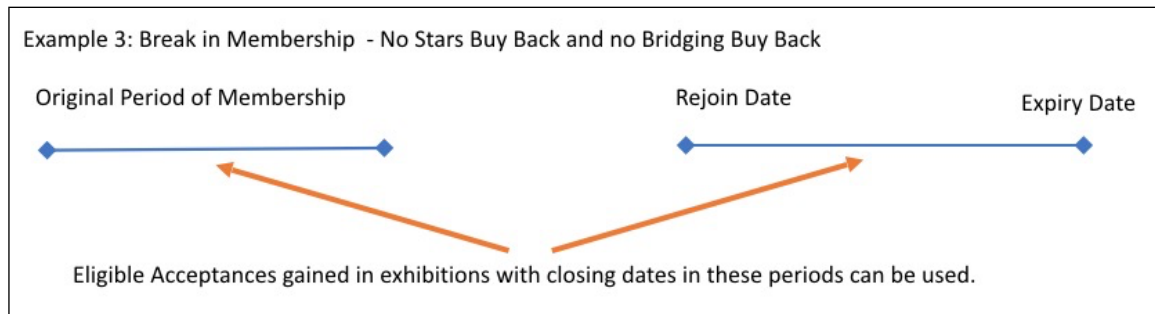
### **BRIDGING BUY BACK – for Members who have a break in membership**

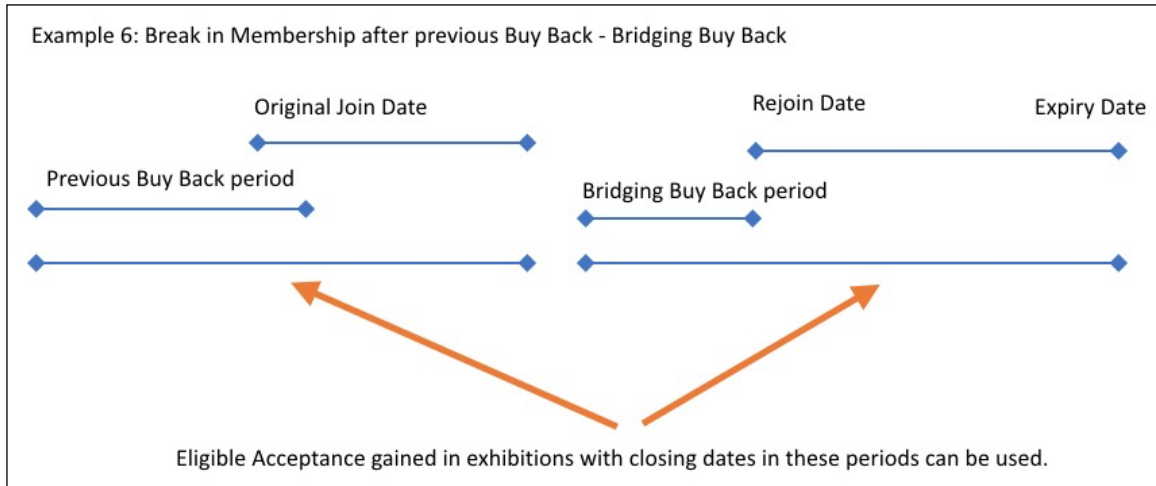
12. A member who rejoins PSA after a break in membership may use eligible acceptances from all or part of that period of non-membership by purchasing **Bridging Buy Back Years**.
13. The acceptances from the Bridging Buy Back period may be used in Star, Galaxy and Diamond applications in any Division provided they meet the normal requirements for eligibility.
14. The required number of Bridging Years is calculated from the date the member rejoins back to the closing date of the exhibition in which the earliest acceptance is to be claimed. This may be less than the full period of non-membership.
15. The bridging period must be continuous (back from the rejoining date) and only whole Bridging Years may be purchased.
16. An application for Bridging Years may be made at any time.
17. Only one application for Bridging Years may be made regardless of the number of breaks in membership.

18. The cost of each Bridging Back Year is determined by the Board of Directors and in 2019 that cost is \$25 per year.

19. Bridging Buy Back Years do not give the member any other membership benefits for the years of the Bridging period. When a proposal for Honors is made, the join date shall be used.

Application of these rules by Star Ratings Directors is illustrated in the following examples:





A member who has a break in membership may purchase both Stars Buy Back Years and Bridging Buy Back Years.

Questions about Buy Back should be referred to the Senior Star Ratings Director at [ssrd@psa-photo.org](mailto:ssrd@psa-photo.org)

Roy Killen, GMPSA, EFIAP  
 Membership Vice President  
 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2019.