

Sporting Proposed Changes To Constitution 2017

Rule 5 MEMBERSHIP

Section 5.1 General Members

- (a) Any person who has attained the age of 18 years may be elected as a General Member.
- (b) Every applicant for General Membership shall be proposed by one and seconded by another Member eligible to propose and second applicants.
- (c) A Member shall have been a member for at least 3 months before proposing or seconding another person for General Membership.
- (d) Wherever practical, the applicant shall be known personally to the proposer and seconder.
- (e) Every application for General Membership shall be:
 - i. in writing in a form approved by the Board from time to time;
 - ii. signed by the applicant and their proposer and seconder; and
 - iii. delivered to the General Manager together with the required refundable nomination fee (if any).
- (f) Once the completed form is delivered to the Society, the applicant becomes a Temporary Member (refer Section 5.8).
- (g) Upon receipt of the completed form and the appropriate fee, if any, the General Manager shall post the completed application form in a conspicuous place in the Society's premises where it shall be displayed for at least two weeks.
- (h) If requested to do so by the Board, the General Manager shall write to any applicant for General Membership requesting the applicant to attend at the Society's Premises to be interviewed by the Board.
- (i) The Board shall consider the application for General Membership at a Board Meeting held no sooner than fourteen days after the application was posted in accordance with Rule 5.1 (g).
- (j) A simple majority of votes shall be required to approve an application for General Membership.
- (k) When an applicant has been elected as a new General Member, the General Manager shall forthwith notify the applicant in writing and such notification shall include a request for payment of the relevant annual subscription and upon payment the applicant shall become a General Member.
- (l) Subject to Rule 9.2, if within one month after receipt of the notice referred to in Rule 5.1 (k) the applicant's payment has not been received by the Society, the election to General Membership shall be voided and the applicant shall not be entitled to a refund of the nomination fee (if any).
- (m) If the Board does not approve the application, the General Manager shall advise the applicant in writing that the application was rejected and cause a refund of the fee, if any, paid by the applicant to be paid to the applicant within seven days of the Board's rejection.
- (n) The Board shall not be required to give reasons for rejection of an application for General Membership.
- (o) Details of the privileges afforded to General Members shall be detailed in the By-laws.

Section 5.2 Bowling Members

- (a) Any person who has attained the age of 18 years may be elected as a Bowling Member.
- (b) Any General Member will become a Bowling Member upon application and payment of relevant Bowling Associations' fees as ratified by the Board from time to time. The provisions of Rules 5.2 (c) to 5.2 (n) do not apply to an application by a General Member to become a Bowling Member.
- (c) Every applicant for Bowling Membership shall be proposed by one and seconded by another Member eligible to propose and second applicants.
- (d) Wherever practical, the applicant shall be known personally to the proposer and seconder.
- (e) Every application for Bowling Membership shall be:
 - i. in writing in a form approved by the Board from time to time;
 - ii. signed by the applicant and their proposer and seconder; and
 - iii. delivered to the General Manager together with the required refundable nomination fee (if any).
- (f) Once the completed form is delivered to the Society, the applicant becomes a Temporary Member.
- (g) Upon receipt of the completed form and the appropriate fee, if any, the General Manager shall post the completed application form in a conspicuous place in the Society's premises where it shall be displayed for at least two weeks.
- (h) If requested to do so by the Board, the General Manager shall write to any applicant for Bowling Membership requesting the applicant to attend at the Society's Premises to be interviewed by the Board.
- (i) The Board shall consider the application for Bowling Membership at a Board Meeting held no sooner than fourteen days after the application was posted in accordance with Rule 5.1 (g).
- (j) A simple majority of votes shall be required to approve an application for Bowling Membership.
- (k) When an applicant has been elected as a new Bowling Member, the General Manager shall forthwith notify the applicant in writing and such notification shall include a request for payment of the relevant annual subscription and upon payment the applicant shall become a Bowling Member.
- (l) Subject to Rule 9.2, if within one month after receipt of the notice referred to in Rule 5.2 (k) the applicant's payment has not been received by the Society, the election to Bowling Membership shall be voided and the applicant shall not be entitled to a refund of the nomination fee (if any).
- (m) If the Board does not approve the application, the General Manager shall advise the applicant in writing that the application was rejected and cause a refund of the fee, if any, paid by the applicant to be paid to the applicant within seven days of the Board's rejection.
- (n) The Board shall not be required to give reasons for rejection of an application for Bowling Membership.
- (o) Details of privileges afforded to Bowling Members shall be detailed in the By-laws.

Section 5.3 Social Members

- (a) Any person who has attained the age of 18 years may be elected as a Social Member.
- (b) Every application for Social Membership shall be:
 - i. in writing in a form approved by the Board from time to time;
 - ii signed by the applicant
- (c) Once the completed form and the appropriate fee, if any, is delivered to the Society, the applicant becomes a Social Member.
- (d) The Board retains the right to revoke any application for Social Membership or any existing Social Membership.
- (e) Details of privileges afforded to Social Members shall be detailed in the By-laws.

Section 5.4 Honorary Life Members

- (a) The Board may resolve to recommend any Member who has rendered outstanding service to the Society for Honorary Life Membership provided that there shall be no more than 15 Life Members at any one time.
- (b) The recommendation of the Board shall be put to the Members at the annual general meeting following the date that the Board made the resolution, and if a majority of Members present and voting at the annual general meeting approves the recommendation, the Member shall be elected as an Honorary Life Member.
- (c) Honorary Life Membership of any person may be revoked by a majority of Members present and voting at a general meeting.
- (d) Details of privileges afforded to Honorary Life Members shall be detailed in the By-laws.

Section 5.5 Junior Sporting Members

- (a) Any person under the age of 18 years may be elected as a Junior Member.
- (b) Applications for Junior Membership shall be in writing in a form approved by the Board from time to time and signed by the applicant’s legal guardian or responsible person.
- (c) Any Junior Member must be in the presence of the legal guardian or responsible person when using the Society’s sporting facilities.
- (d) Upon attaining the age of 18 years all Junior Members shall indicate the category of Membership to which they wish to subscribe and they will be transferred to that category on payment of the fee set by the Board from time to time as the transfer fee.
- (e) Details of privileges afforded to Junior Members shall be detailed in the By-laws.

Section 5.6 Temporary Bowling Members

- (a) Any Member of any bowling club who is temporarily visiting the municipality in which the Society is located may be appointed as a Temporary Bowling Member in accordance with this Rule.
- (b) A Temporary Bowling Member may be a Temporary Member for a period not exceeding six consecutive weeks and on no more than four occasions in any one year.
- (c) Application for appointment as a Temporary Bowling Member must be in writing and include the name and address of the applicant and the name of the applicant’s proposer and seconder, both of whom must be either a Bowling Member, a General Member or an Honorary Life Member.

- (d) The application is to be delivered to the General Manager and referred by the General Manager to an election committee consisting of any two Board Members.
- (e) The election committee referred to in the previous Rule (d) will consider the application and at its discretion decide whether or not to accept the applicant as a Temporary Bowling Member for a specified period.
- (f) The General Manager shall record the vote of the election committee and shall post and keep posted in a conspicuous place in the Society premises for the duration of the Temporary Bowling Member's Membership, the name of each Temporary Bowling Member and the name of the Members who proposed and seconded the Temporary Bowling Member.
- (g) Details of privileges afforded to Temporary Bowling Members shall be detailed in the By-laws.

Section 5.7 Honorary Members

- (a) Any person who meets one or more of the following criteria shall be an Honorary Member for the day/s upon which they meet that criteria:
 - i. any person who is competing in any Inter-Club Match, Tournament, or game organised by the Society and taking place at the Society premises;
 - ii. any person who is an official or supporter of any other recognised Club and who is attending the Society premises in connection with any Match, Tournament or Game;
 - iii. any person who is a Member of any Society which the Board may from time to time determine as providing reciprocal rights and benefits;
 - iv. any person who is attending at the Society's premises as an invited guest at a reception or function or who has paid for admission to the Society's premises for the purpose of attending an event or occasion conducted at the premises may, upon presentation of evidence of invitation or payment, be admitted as an Honorary Member;
 - v. any person who is temporarily visiting the municipality or attending the Society's premises for leisure activities .
- (b) All Honorary Members must provide the Society with their name and address in a form as required by the Board from time to time.
- (c) Honorary Members shall not be required to pay annual subscriptions.
- (d) The General Manager shall keep appropriate records of the names and addresses of all Honorary Members. Such records shall specify the occasion or period in respect of which Honorary Membership is granted.
- (e) The Board shall have the power to cancel the Membership of any Honorary Member without notice and without assigning any cause therefore.
- (f) No person shall be granted Honorary Membership under this Section for more than a total of fourteen (14) days in any financial year.
- (g) Details of privileges afforded to Honorary Members shall be detailed in the By-laws.

Section 5.8 Temporary Members

- (a) Any person who qualifies for Temporary Membership by virtue of these Rules is a Temporary Member.
- (b) Temporary Members, and particularly Temporary Bowling Members, are entitled to the rights and privileges as determined by the Board from time to time.
- (c) The Board may revoke the membership of any Temporary Member at its discretion.

Reasons for Change

- Simplifies the process of applying for membership.
- Recognises the growing incidences of younger persons participating in sporting activities.
- Privileges afforded to each category of Membership are detailed in the By-laws so that they may be more easily improved.

Rule 13 MANAGEMENT

Section 13.1

13.3.1 The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Board of Management consisting of 7 Board Members elected in accordance with these Rules.

13.3.2 The Immediate Past President shall be an ex officio Board Member for a period of 12 months after cessation as President when the immediate past president is not otherwise serving as a Board Member. The Immediate Past President can participate in discussions but will have no voting rights. To avoid confusion, it is noted that the number of Board Members will sometimes be 7 and sometimes be 8.

Reasons for Change

- It has proven difficult over the last three years to attract sufficient suitable candidates for the vacant positions arising on the Board.
- A smaller number of Board Members will increase the efficacy of the Board’s deliberations.

Rule 15 ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Section 15.5

If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the Board, the candidates nominated shall be deemed to be elected. The remaining vacancy/ies will be deemed to be Casual Vacancy/ies in terms of Rule 19.1 (h).

Reason for change

- Calling for nominations at the Annual General Meeting is an inappropriate manner to seek further applications as the current procedure limits those members who can nominate to those attending the Annual General Meeting.

Rule 16 CONDUCT OF THE BALLOT FOR ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Section 16.6

Members must have paid their annual subscriptions on or before the 31st day of July to be eligible to vote in a ballot for the election of Board Members.

Reason for Change

- Transferred from existing By-laws as eligibility for voting rights is considered a crucial element of an election..

Section 16.24

Deleted

Reason for Change

- Flow-on from changes to Rule 15 above.

Rule 17 OFFICE BEARERS

17.1 The Office Bearers of the Society shall be:

- President
- Vice President
- Deputy Vice President
- Treasurer

17.2 Office Bearers shall hold office for a term of one year and shall be eligible for re-election by the Board except that the President may not exceed three consecutive years in office.

Reason for Change

- Numbering omitted from the last amendments which were made in 2012.

Rule 18 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Section 18.3

Each year the Board shall meet as soon as possible after the election of Board Members for the purpose of conducting an election for the Office Bearers.

Reason for Change

- Reflects current practice.

Rule 19 CASUAL VACANCIES

Section 19.1(h)

Board Member's position is not filled at an election.

Section 19.5

In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the position of an Ordinary Board Member, the Board of Management shall call for nominations to fill such casual vacancies at a time of their choosing. Depending on the number of nominations received, the process to be managed in the same manner as outlined in Sections 15.5, 15.6 and 15.7.

Reasons for Change

- The existing rule limits the ability of members to nominate for a vacant Board position.
- The new rule does not prevent those members who were unsuccessful in previous elections for Board Members from renominating.

Rule 22 BOWLS VICTORIA SUB-COMMITTEES

22.1 There shall be one standing bowls sub-committee, the Bowling Sub-committee, which will be convened and operate in accordance with the rules and procedures contained in the Society's By-laws.

22.2 These rules and procedures, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Constitution, shall not be altered by the Board without the Board consulting with the Bowling Sub-committee prior to the Bowling Sub-committee's rules and procedures being altered.

Reason for Change

- The Men's and Ladies Bowls Committees have amalgamated in accordance with Bowls Victoria directive.

Rule 44 TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Section 44.2

Members will be assigned to a category of membership in accordance with Section 4.1(a).

Reason for Change

- Omitted from the last amendments which were made in 2012.