

Proposed changes to BNSC Rules

A number of Special Resolutions will be tabled at the AGM to allow changes to the BNSC constitution (rules). The resolutions are listed below, followed by some background and explanation of the changes.

Special Resolution 1.

That rule 36 (2) of the BNSC Constitution be modified to read:

The quorum for a general meeting is the presence (physically, by proxy or as allowed under rule 35) of 15 members entitled to vote.

Special Resolution 2.

That rule 14 of the BNSC Constitution be modified to read:

14 Categories of Membership

- a) A Junior member is a member who is under the age of 18. A Junior member is not entitled to vote.
- b) An Associate member is a member whose membership rights and privileges exclude use of the clubhouse, club facilities and club programs. An Associate member is not entitled to vote.
- c) A Life member is a member who has been elected as a Life Member of the Association at a general meeting. A Life Member, once elected, is entitled to all of the rights and privileges of the Club without payment of an annual subscription. A Life member is entitled to vote.
- d) A General member is a member of the Association who does not belong to any other membership category. A General member is entitled to vote.

Special Resolution 3.

That rule 55 (1) of the BNSC Constitution be modified to read:

Subject to subrule (3) and rule 56, a committee member holds office until the positions of the Committee are declared vacant at the next annual general meeting provided that no person shall hold office as President for more than three consecutive years unless a further term is approved at the general meeting

Special Resolution 4.

That all other rule changes be accepted and the Draft BNSC rules as tabled be adopted.

Background

BNSC was incorporated in 1984 and adopted the Model Rules of Incorporation in 2012.

In 2020, a review of the rules was undertaken and it became evident that some rules required modification to better suit the operations of BNSC.

The key changes proposed are:

- What constitutes a quorum for General Meetings such as the AGM
- Clarifying types of membership and their rights and privileges
- Modifying the rule around the term of office of the President.

Other changes have been made to neaten the rules and are not particularly significant.

Key changes:

36 Quorum at general meetings

The model rules state that a quorum is 10% of members entitled to vote, which is about 25 members. The proposed change is for a quorum to be 15 members entitled to vote. This will allow much easier management of a quorum at General Meetings such as the AGM.

Current wording:

- (2) *The quorum for a general meeting is the presence (physically, by proxy or as allowed under rule 35) of 10% of the members entitled to vote.*

New Wording:

- (2) The quorum for a general meeting is the presence (physically, by proxy or as allowed under rule 35) of 15 members entitled to vote.

14 Categories of Membership

It is proposed that **Rule 14** be changed significantly to clarify types of membership and their rights and privileges. Currently only Associate membership is mentioned in rule 14. The rights and privileges of Life Members isn't clear, and what constitutes a Junior member doesn't align with Membership fees.

Current wording

14 Associate members

- (1) *Associate members of the Association include—*
- (a) *any members under the age of 15 years; and*
 - (b) *any other category of member as determined by special resolution at a general meeting.*
- (2) *An associate member must not vote but may have other rights as determined by the Committee or by resolution at a general meeting.*

New Wording:

14 Categories of Membership

- e) A Junior member is a member who is under the age of 18. A Junior member is not entitled to vote.
- f) An Associate member is a member whose membership rights and privileges exclude use of the clubhouse, club facilities and club programs. An Associate member is not entitled to vote.
- g) A Life member is a member who has been elected as a Life Member of the Association at a general meeting. A Life Member, once elected, is entitled to all of the rights and privileges of the Club without payment of an annual subscription. A Life member is entitled to vote.

- h) A General member is a member of the Association who does not belong to any other membership category. A General member is entitled to vote.

55 Term of office

In rule 55, subrule 1, it is proposed the term of office of the President be modified to allow the term to be extended beyond 3 years if approved at a General Meeting.

Current wording:

- (1) *Subject to subrule (3) and rule 56, a committee member holds office until the positions of the Committee are declared vacant at the next annual general meeting provided that no person shall hold office as President for more than three consecutive years.*

New wording:

- (1) Subject to subrule (3) and rule 56, a committee member holds office until the positions of the Committee are declared vacant at the next annual general meeting provided that no person shall hold office as President for more than three consecutive years unless a further term is approved at the general meeting

Other Minor Changes:

2 Purposes

The wording in this section has been modified to read better.

Current wording:

The purposes of the association are—

- i) To promote the development of ski touring, cross-country ski racing and associated activities.*
- j) To provide for the members the opportunity for the enjoyment of skiing.*
- k) To associate with other organisations with similar objectives.*
- l) To conduct social activities.*
- m) To assist in searches for persons lost in bushland areas of the State and to maintain a Search and Rescue group.*

New Wording:

The purposes of the association are;

- a) to promote the development of recreational and competitive cross country skiing and associated activities;
- b) to provide members with opportunities for the enjoyment of cross country skiing;
- c) to associate with other organisations with similar objectives;
- d) to conduct social activities; and
- e) to assist in searches for persons lost in bushland areas of the State and to maintain a Search and Rescue group.

4 Definitions

Associate member has been deleted from the definitions as this is no longer relevant.

9 Application for membership

The wording has been modified slightly to allow for electronic submission of membership applications and that they are submitted to the secretary (this is considered a fundamental role of the secretary, who can delegate to our membership secretary). The requirement for the application

to be signed and accompanied by a joining fee has been removed. Rationale: Online membership doesn't allow for signatures and we don't have a joining fee.

18 Register of members

Minor changes are proposed to allow for accurate recording of membership categories. Eg the DOB of children who are part of a family subscription will be recorded, as those over 18 will be eligible to vote.

42 Role and powers

(3) (b) Added that Subcommittees may include non-members to cater for the Kangaroo Hoppet subcommittee

51 Nominations

Added that Nominations will be called for 14 days prior to the AGM.

Added the words in brackets –

Prior to the election of each position, (if no nominations have been received for that position), the Chairperson of the meeting must call for nominations to fill that position.

54 Ballot

Added 54 (6) to allow for voting using technology

- (6) Where a member or members participate in a meeting by use of technology as provided for by Rule 35, the returning officer must ensure that each member is provided with a means of voting by use of technology on his or her own behalf and on behalf of each proxy appointed by a member.

69 Management of funds

It is proposed to make changes to reflect online banking and how we're operating currently – ie president, secretary and treasurer are signatories to the accounts and have access to the online banking. Also to allow for debit cards for petty cash.

Current wording:

- (3) *The Committee may authorise the Treasurer to expend funds on behalf of the Association (including by electronic funds transfer) up to a specified limit without requiring approval from the Committee for each item on which the funds are expended.*
- (4) *All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by 2 committee members.*
- (5) *All funds of the Association must be deposited into the financial account of the Association no later than 5 working days after receipt.*
- (6) *With the approval of the Committee, the Treasurer may maintain a cash float provided that all money paid from or paid into the float is accurately recorded at the time of the transaction.*

New wording:

- (3) Any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer are required to electronically authorise electronic funds transfers to expend funds on behalf of the Association.
- (4) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by any two of the President, Secretary and Treasurer to expend funds on behalf of the Association.

- (6) With the approval of the Committee, a debit card can be obtained for any of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and/or Treasurer for online or petty cash purchases.
 - (a) a minimum balance as approved by the Committee be maintained on the debit card
 - (b) each card holder must provide the Treasurer with documentation associated with any purchases on their card.