

THE RETIRED AND FORMER POLICE ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.
INCORPORATED

THE CONSTITUTION

1. **Title**

The name of the Association shall be The Retired and Former Police Association of New South Wales Incorporated.

(As Amended AGM 23/7/2019)

2. **Aims and Objectives**

- (a) To protect and where possible, improve the economic and general interest of members by all legitimate and legal means.
- (b) To show consideration and comradeship to each other at all times, including visiting members when they are sick and offering them any kindly assistance as is practicable; showing respect where possible by attending the funeral of deceased members and offering consolation and assistance to the bereaved.
- (c) To provide for the development and acquaintance and the advancement of intellectual, social and cultural interests among the retired personnel.
- (d) The purpose of the Association is to provide regular meetings for members, who appreciate and value, in their retirement, increased social contacts and opportunities to meet others in similar circumstances, and of similar interests and background; to promote friendly discussions and hear addresses on topical subjects; also to arrange visits by members to places and organizations of mutual interest.
- (e) The activities of the Association shall be directed towards promoting a spirit of good fellowship amongst the members, the development of acquaintance and active participation in the Association's activities at a minimum cost to members.
- (f) (Deleted 20/7/99)

THE RULES

3. **Adoption of Model Constitution**

The model constitution set out in the Associations Incorporation Act 2009, as Amended, shall apply to the Association except in so far as rules are excluded, modified, or amended by the rules hereunder set out.

4. President

The President shall preserve order and give impartial rulings on all questions submitted to him at a meeting of the Association. If dissent is moved on any ruling given by him, he shall leave the chair until the matter is decided, after having given his reasons for so ruling.

5. Secretary

The Secretary shall receive and conduct all correspondence for the Association, as may be necessary, and generally assist in the management of the affairs of the Association. He will prepare and submit for the information of the members an Annual Report in connection with the affairs of the Association within 21 days after the close of each financial year, and he will be responsible for bringing notice of the Annual General Meeting to the attention of each member by way of a "Notice of Annual Meeting" 14 days before such meeting is held.

6. Treasurer

Association cheques shall be prepared by the Treasurer, and signed by any two office bearers, committee members, or members, as authorised by the rules of the Association. The Treasurer shall submit to the Annual General Meeting a duly audited Balance Sheet of all monies received and disbursed for the current financial year.

7. Office

The Office of the Association shall be the home of the Honorary Secretary.

8. Membership (As Amended AGM 16/07/2013)

Membership of the Association shall be offered in the following categories;

Full Member

Police who have retired, or who are on leave prior to retiring, from the NSW Police Force. Other former NSW Police who have been honourably discharged or who resigned after honourable and ethical service in the NSW Police Force.

Widow/Widower Member

The Widow, Widower or Partner of a former NSW Police officer who was a full member, or who was entitled to full membership of the Retired and Former Police Association of NSW Incorporated, may be approved by the Committee as a Member.

Associate Member

The spouse or partner of a Full Member, other retired or honourably resigned police and police widows/widowers from any recognised Police Service or Force, other than N.S.W. Special Constables who have retired or resigned under honourable circumstances from the N.S.W. Police Force, and their spouses, may be approved by the Committee as Associate Members.

Social member

Honourable citizens, not being former police, and proposed by two full members, may be approved by the Committee as Social Members. Conditions of approval will be that the proposed member will have demonstrated a commitment to support Branch activities, a capacity to contribute to Branch affairs and genuine support of Police.

Membership Conditions

Widow/Widower, Associate and Social Members may attend meetings and enjoy all amenities but have no voting rights at any meeting of the Association, except a Branch Social or Welfare Committee meeting. Widow/Widower, Associate and Social Members are not eligible for election to the Committee of Management.

Life Member

The Association, by resolution at an Annual General Meeting, may elect to Life Membership any member who has rendered outstanding service to the Association. The following procedures shall be used:

- i. Any member, in a detailed written submission, submitted at least three (3) months prior to the notified date of the next Annual General Meeting, may nominate a member for life membership.
- ii. All such nominations shall be considered by the Committee of Management.
- iii. The nomination is to be treated as strictly confidential and the response to the nominee is not to be endorsed by the Committee of Management as “Recommended” or “Not Recommended”.
- iv. An approving decision shall require a two-thirds (2/3^{rds}) majority of the Committee of Management present, being in favour.
- v. No more than two (2) life members may be appointed in any one calendar year.

- vi. Life memberships shall not exceed twenty (20) in number at any point in time.

Absolve from payment of fees.

It shall be competent for the Association to absolve from payment of fees on account of age, health, or necessitous circumstances, any member who was a financial member for five continuous years.

Veteran Membership

Any member, on reaching the age of 80 years may be absolved from payment of further fees.

Exclusion from Membership

Membership may be cancelled if that member is two years in arrears with the payment of membership fees.

9. Auditors

Two members of the Association shall be appointed to audit the books and accounts of the Association and shall certify, or otherwise, the Annual Balance Sheet.

10. Affiliation

The Association may, if deemed advisable, cooperate with any other Association or Organization. In the furtherance of any objective of the Association, affiliation may be arranged with another Association or Organization, but the Retired and Former Police Association of N.S.W. Inc. shall retain its own full independence.

11. Quorum

In respect to the quorum for the holding of a general meeting, if only five members are present, they shall not be expected to make a decision on any contentious matter.

12. Dissolution

The Association shall not be dissolved, on the suggestion of a member, whilst there are twenty financial members remaining on the membership register of the Association.

13. Interpretation of Rules

The Association shall have the authority to interpret any rule for a member, and shall determine any matters relating to the Association on which the rules are silent, subject to the Authority of NSW Fair Trading.

14. Branches (As Amended AGM 16/07/2013)

Regional Branches and Sub-Branched of the Association may be formed if approved by the Association. Such branches must have a membership of not less than ten members. Branches will conduct their own local business.

All negotiations with the Government, Government Authorities, or other representative body, as well as approaches to the press, radio, television, and official Associations or organizations, relating to matters of general interest, shall be conducted through the head body and office of the Association in order to provide coordination during official negotiations being conducted by the Association.

All matters of policy or management of the Retired and Former Police Association of N.S.W. Incorporated must be dealt with, by and through the Committee of Management. Such matters must not be circulated between branches beforehand.

15. Surplus Property

- (a) The income and property of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objectives of the Association and no portion shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends bonus or otherwise by way of profit to the members of the Association provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith or remuneration to any officer or servant of the Association in return for any services actually rendered to the Association or reasonable or proper rent for premises let by any member to the Association.
- (b) The Association shall not be dissolved except at a General Meeting specially convened for the purpose and by a resolution carried by a majority of four fifths of the votes recorded. If upon winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association but shall be given to some other institution having objects similar to the objects of the Association and which shall also prohibit the distribution of property among members. Such institution to be determined by members of the Association at or before the time of dissolution or in default by the Chief Justice of such Court as may have jurisdiction in the matter.
- (c) In the event that any branch is wound up or dissolved, after any debts or liabilities of that branch are satisfied, the residue of any property and/or funds shall be transferred to the head body and distributed at the discretion of the Committee of Management.

16. Committee of Management

- (1) The Committee of Management shall consist of: -
- (a) the office bearers of the association; and
 - (b) up to six (6) full members, each of whom shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the association.
(as Amended AGM 23/7/2019)
- (2) The office bearers of the Association shall be -
- (a) the President;
 - (b) the Senior Vice President;
 - (c) the Vice President;
 - (d) the Treasurer;
 - (e) the Secretary;
 - (f) the State Welfare Officer
- (3) Each member of the committee shall, subject to these rules, hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election, but is eligible for reelection.
- (4) In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member of the association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed shall hold office, subject to these rules until the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of the appointment.

17. Branch administration

A Branch Management Committee shall consist of: -

- (a) the Branch Chairman;
- (b) the Branch Vice Chairman;
- (c) the Branch Secretary;
- (d) the Branch Treasurer;
- (e) the Branch Social Secretary;
- (f) the Branch Welfare Officer/s; and
- (g) and two full members.

18. The records, books and other documents of the association, with the exception of the minutes of the Committee of Management meetings and committee meetings, shall be open for inspection, free of charge, by a member of the Association at any reasonable time and in the presence of an officer of the Committee of management.

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