# KENMORE BRIDGE CLUB INC. 

## Kenmore Bridge Club Constitution and Rules <br> August 2023

## 1 Interpretation

## (1) In these rules-

Act means the Associations Incorporation Act 1981(Qld).
casual vacancy, on a management committee, means a vacancy that happens when an elected member leaves the management committee.
(2) A word or expression that is not defined in these rules, but is defined in the Act, has if the context permits, the meaning given by the Act.

## 2 Name

The name of the incorporated association is Kenmore Bridge Club Inc (the Club).

## 3 Objects

The objects of the Club are-
(1) The encouragement, promotion and advancement of contract bridge at all levels;
(2) To provide a friendly and supportive environment for members of the community who wish to play, compete, or to learn to play, bridge;
(3) To provide opportunities for playing bridge and other competition events as set out by the Club;
(4) To actively promote the social interaction and mental stimulation of members of the Club;
(5) To cooperate with other organisations or associations with similar aims and objectives;
(6) To provide the premises, facilities and resources necessary for the attainment of these objects.

## 4 Non-Profit

The assets and income of the Club shall be applied solely in furtherance of its abovementioned objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the Club except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Club.

## 5 Powers

(1) The Club has the powers of an individual.
(2) The Club may, for example-
(a) enter into contracts;
(b) acquire, hold, deal with and dispose of property;
(c) make charges for services and facilities it supplies; and
(d) do other things necessary or convenient to be done in carrying out its affairs.
(3) The Club may also issue secured and unsecured notes, debentures and debenture stock for the Club.
(4) The Club is to be affiliated with the Queensland Bridge Association and the Australian Bridge Federation

## 6 Classes of members

(1) The membership of the Club consists of ordinary members, and any of the following classes of members -
Life member: being a person whom the management committee recognises for outstanding service to the Club, and presents for recognition at a general meeting, to be admitted to life membership. Honorary member: being a person who is presented by the management committee for recognition at a general meeting in acknowledgement of the service, benefit or esteem rendered to the Club; recognition shall be for one year and may be renewed, and the
member shall have the same privileges as ordinary members except will not be entitled to hold office in the Club, nominate or second members for election to office or persons for membership, take part or vote at meetings of the Club, but be exempt from the payment of subscriptions and levies.
(2) The number of ordinary members, life members and honorary members shall be determined by the management committee.

## 7 New membership

(1) An applicant for membership of the Club must be proposed by one member of the Club (the proposer) and seconded by another member (the seconder).
(2) An application for membership must be-
(a) in writing;
(b) signed by the applicant and the applicant's proposer and seconder; and
(c) in the form decided by the management committee.

## 8 Membership fees

(1) The membership fee for each ordinary membership and for any other class of membership (if any) is -
(a) the amount decided by the management committee from time to time; and
(b) payable when, and in the way, the management committee decides

## 9 Admission and rejection of new members

(1) The management committee must consider an application for membership at the next committee meeting held after it receives-
(a) the application for membership; and
(b) the appropriate membership fee for the application.
(2) The management committee must decide at the meeting whether to accept or reject the application.
(3) If a majority of the members of the management committee present at the meeting vote to accept the applicant as a member, the applicant must be accepted.

## 10 When membership ends

(1) A member may resign from the Club by giving a written notice of resignation to the secretary or president
(2) The resignation takes effect at-
(a) the time the notice is received; or
(b) if a later time is stated in the notice-the later time.
(3) The management committee may terminate a member's membership if the member-
(a) is convicted of an indictable offence; or
(b) does not comply with any of the provisions of these rules; or
(c) has membership fees in arrears for at least two months; or
(d) conducts themselves in a way considered to be injurious or prejudicial to the character or interests of the Club.
(4) Before the management committee terminates a membership, the committee must give the member a full and fair opportunity to show why the membership should not be terminated.
(5) If, after considering all representations made by the member, the management committee decides to terminate the membership, the secretary of the committee must give the member a written notice of the decision.

## 11 Appeal against rejection or termination of membership

(1) A person whose application for membership has been rejected, or whose membership has been terminated, may give the secretary written notice of intention to appeal against the decision.
(2) A notice of intention to appeal must be given to the secretary within one month after the person receives written notice of the decision, or within one month and one week after such notice has been sent to the person (whichever is the longer).
(3) If the secretary receives a notice of intention to appeal, the secretary must, within one month after receiving the notice, call a general meeting to decide the appeal.

## 12 General meeting to decide appeal

(1) The general meeting to decide an appeal must be held within three months after the secretary receives the notice of intention to appeal.
(2) At the meeting, the applicant must be given a full and fair opportunity to show why the application should not be rejected or the membership should not be terminated.
(3) Also, the management committee and the members of the committee who rejected the application or terminated the membership must be given a full and fair opportunity to show why the application should be rejected or the membership should be terminated.
(4) An appeal must be decided by a majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote at the meeting.
(5) If a person whose application for membership has been rejected does not appeal against the decision within the period referred to in Rule 11 (2) above, or the person appeals but the appeal is unsuccessful, the secretary must, as soon as practicable, refund the membership fee paid by the person.

## 13 Register of members

(1) The management committee must keep a register of members of the Club.
(2) The register must be open for inspection by members of the Club at all reasonable times.
(3) A member must contact the secretary to arrange an inspection of the register.
(4) However, the management committee may, on the application of a member of the Club, withhold information about the member (other than the member's full name) from the register available for inspection if the management committee has reasonable grounds for believing the disclosure of the information would put the member at risk.

## 14 Prohibition on use of information on register of members

(1) A member of the Club must not-
(a) use information obtained from the register of members of the Club to contact, or send material to, another member of the Club for the purpose of advertising for political, religious, charitable or commercial purposes; or
(b) disclose information obtained from the register to someone else, knowing that the information is likely to be used to contact, or send material to, another member of the Club for the purpose of advertising for political, religious, charitable or commercial purposes.
(2) Subrule (1) does not apply if the use or disclosure of the information is approved by the Club.

## 15 Appointment or election of secretary

(1) The secretary must be an individual residing in Queensland who is-
(a) a member of the Club elected by the Club as secretary; or
(b) any of the following persons appointed by the management committee as secretary(i) a member of the Club's management committee;
(ii) another member of the Club ;
(2) If a vacancy happens in the office of secretary, the members of the management committee
must ensure a secretary is appointed or elected for the Club within one month after the vacancy happens.
(3) However, if the management committee appoints a person as secretary to fill a casual vacancy on the management committee, the person becomes a member of the management committee.

## 16 Removal of secretary

(1) The management committee of the Club may at any time remove a person appointed by the committee as the secretary.
(2) If the management committee removes a secretary who is a person appointed pursuant to rule 15 , the person remains a member of the management committee.

## 17 Functions of secretary

The secretary's functions include, but are not limited to-
(a) calling meetings of the Club, including preparing notices of a meeting and of the business to be conducted at the meeting in consultation with the president;
(b) keeping minutes of each meeting;
(c) keeping copies of all correspondence and other documents relating to the Club; and
(d) maintaining the register of members of the Club .

## 18 Membership of management committee

(1)The management committee of the Club consists of a president, treasurer, secretary, and other members of the Club elected or appointed at an AGM provided that the total membership of the management committee does not exceed 11. Other Club members may be seconded from time to time for specific roles or tasks as the management committee determines.
(2)The election or appointment of a person to the management committee at an AGM will be for a two-year term, with the opportunity for re-election for a further two two-year terms (total of six years).
(3) A member elected as president may serve one year on the management committee at the completion of their term to ensure continuity and advice as required.
(4) The management committee who are elected at an annual general meeting shall take office from the next day after this meeting.

## 19 Electing the management committee

(1) A member of the management committee shall be elected as follows-
(a) any two members of the Club may nominate another member (the candidate) to serve as a member of the management committee;
(b) the nomination must-
(i) be in writing;
(ii) specify if the nomination is for president, secretary, treasurer or general committee member;
(iii) be signed by the candidate and the members who nominated the candidate; and
(iv) be given to the secretary at least 14 days before the annual general meeting at which the election is to be held;
(c) each member of the Club present and eligible to vote at the annual general meeting may vote for one candidate for each vacant position on the management committee;
(d) if, at the start of the meeting, there are insufficient candidates nominated, nominations may be taken from the floor of the meeting.
(2) A person may be a candidate only if the person-
(a) is an adult;
(b) is eligible to be elected as a member under the Act; and
(c) has had a one year gap after having served three consecutive terms (six years) on the management committee.
(3) A list of the candidates' names in alphabetical order, with the names of the members who nominated each candidate, must be posted in a conspicuous place in the usual place of meeting of the Club for at least seven days immediately preceding the annual general meeting.
(4) If required by the management committee, balloting lists must be prepared containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order.
(5) The management committee must ensure that, before a candidate is elected as a member of the management committee, the candidate is advised-
(a) whether or not the Club has public liability insurance; and
(b) if the Club has public liability insurance - the amount of the insurance.

20 Resignation, removal or vacation of office of management committee member
(1) A member of the management committee may resign from the committee by giving written notice of resignation to the secretary or president.
(2) The resignation takes effect at-
(a) the time the notice is received; or
(b) if a later time is stated in the notice-the later time.
(3) A member may be removed from office at a general meeting of the Club if a majority of the members present and eligible to vote at the meeting vote in favour of removing the member.
(4) Before a vote of members is taken about removing the member from office, the member must be given a full and fair opportunity to show cause why they should not be removed from office.
(5) A member has no right of appeal against the member's removal from office under this rule.
(6) A member immediately vacates the office of member in the circumstances mentioned in section 64(2) of the Act.

## 21 Vacancies on management committee

(1) If a casual vacancy happens on the management committee, the continuing members of the committee may appoint another member of the Club to fill the vacancy until the next annual general meeting.
(2) The continuing members of the management committee may act despite a casual vacancy on the management committee.
(3) However, if the number of committee members is less than a quorum, the continuing members may act only to-
(a) increase the number of management committee members to the number required for a quorum; or
(b) call a general meeting of the Club .

## 22 Functions of management committee

(1) Subject to these rules or a resolution of the members of the Club carried at a general meeting, the management committee has the general control and management of the administration of the affairs, property and funds of the Club.
(2) The management committee has authority to interpret the meaning of these rules and any matter relating to the Club on which these rules are made under the Act.
Note-The Act prevails if the Club's rules are inconsistent with the Act
(3)The management committee may exercise the powers of the Club -
(a) to borrow, raise or secure the payment of amounts in a way the members decide;
(b) to invest in a way the members of the Club may from time to time decide.
(4)The management committee shall review these rules and any bylaws for currency and
relevance every four years from the date of acceptance of revision of these rules.

## 23 Meetings of management committee

(1) Subject to this rule, the management committee may meet and conduct its proceedings as it considers appropriate.
(2) The management committee must meet at least once every two months to exercise its functions.
(3) The management committee must decide how a meeting is to be called.
(4) Notice of a meeting is to be given in the way decided by the management committee.
(5) The management committee may hold meetings, or permit a committee member to take part in its meetings, by using any technology that reasonably allows the member to hear and take part in discussions as they happen.
(6) A committee member who participates in the meeting as mentioned above is taken to be present at the meeting.
(7) A question arising at a committee meeting is to be decided by a majority vote of members of the committee present at the meeting and, if the votes are equal, the question will be decided by a casting vote of the president.
(8) A member of the management committee must not vote on a question about a contract or proposed contract with the Club if the member has an interest in the contract or proposed contract.
(9) The president is to preside as chairperson at a management committee meeting.
(10) If there is no president or if the president is not present within 10 minutes after the time fixed for a management committee meeting, the members may choose one of their number to preside as chairperson at the meeting.

## 24 Quorum for, and adjournment of, management committee meeting

(1) At a management committee meeting, more than $50 \%$ of the members elected to the committee as at the close of the last general meeting of the members form a quorum.
(2) If there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a management committee meeting called on the request of members of the committee, the meeting lapses.
(3) If there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a management committee meeting called other than on the request of the members of the committee-
(a) the meeting is to be adjourned for at least one day; and
(b) the members of the management committee who are present are to decide the day, time and place of the adjourned meeting.
(4) If, at an adjourned meeting there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for the meeting, the meeting lapses.

## 25 Special meeting of management committee

(1) If the secretary receives a written request signed by at least $40 \%$ of the members of the management committee, the secretary must call a special meeting of the committee by giving each member of the committee notice of the meeting within 14 days after the secretary receives the request.
(2) If the secretary is unable or unwilling to call the special meeting, the president must call the meeting.
(3) A request for a special meeting must state-
(a) why the special meeting is called; and
(b) the business to be conducted at the meeting.
(4) A notice of a special meeting must state-
(a) the day, time and place of the meeting; and
(b) the business to be conducted at the meeting.
(5) A special meeting of the management committee must be held within 14 days after notice of the meeting is given to the members of the management committee.

## 26 Minutes of management committee meetings

(1) The secretary must ensure full and accurate minutes of all questions, matters, resolutions and other proceedings of each management committee meeting are recorded.
(2) A signed copy of the minutes shall be kept by the secretary.
(3) To ensure the accuracy of the minutes, the minutes of each management committee meeting must be signed by the chairperson of the meeting, or the chairperson of the next management committee meeting, verifying their accuracy.

## 27 Appointment of subcommittees

(1) The management committee may appoint a subcommittee of members considered appropriate by the management committee to help with the conduct of the Club.
(2) A member of a subcommittee who is not a member of the management committee is not entitled to vote at a management committee meeting.
(3) A subcommittee may elect a chairperson of its meetings.
(4) If a chairperson is not elected, or if the chairperson is not present within 10 minutes after the time fixed for a meeting, the members present may choose one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting.
(5) A subcommittee may meet and adjourn as it considers appropriate.
(6) A question arising at a subcommittee meeting is to be decided by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting and, if the votes are equal, the question is decided in the negative and be referred back to the management committee.

## 28 Acts not affected by defects or disqualifications

(1) An act performed by the management committee, a subcommittee or a person acting as a member of the management committee is taken to have been validly performed.
(2) Subrule (1) applies even if the act was performed when-
(a) there was a defect in the appointment of a member of the management committee, subcommittee or person acting as a member of the management committee; or
(b) a management committee member, subcommittee member or person acting as a member of the management committee was disqualified from being a member.

## 29 Resolutions of management committee without meeting

(1) A resolution agreed in writing or electronically by $40 \%$ of members of the management committee is as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a committee meeting that was properly called and held.

## 30 Annual general meetings

Each annual general meeting must be held-
(a) at least once each year; and
(b) within six months after the end date of the Club's reportable financial year.

## 31 Business to be conducted at annual general meeting

The following business must be conducted at each annual general meeting of the Club-
(a) receiving the Club's financial statement, and audit report, for the last reportable financial year;
(b) presenting the financial statement and audit report to the meeting for adoption;
(c) electing members of the management committee;
(d) appointing an auditor for the present financial year.

## 32 Notice of general meeting

(1) The secretary may call a general meeting.
(2) The secretary must give at least 14 days' notice of the meeting to each member.
(3) If the secretary is unable or unwilling to call the meeting, the president must call the meeting.
(4) The management committee may decide the way in which the notice must be given.
(5) However, notice of the following meetings must be given in writing-
(a) a meeting called to hear and decide the appeal of a person against the management committee's decision-
(i) to reject the person's application for membership of the Club; or
(ii) to terminate the person's membership of the Club;
(b) a meeting called to hear and decide a proposed special resolution of the Club.
(6) A notice of a general meeting must state the business to be conducted at the meeting.

## 33 Quorum for, and adjournment of, general meeting

(1) The quorum for a general meeting is at least the number of members elected or appointed to the management committee at the close of the Club's last annual general meeting plus one.
(2) No business may be conducted at a general meeting unless there is a quorum present when the meeting proceeds to business.
(3) If there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a general meeting called on the request of members of the management committee or the Club, the meeting lapses.
(4) If there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a general meeting called other than on the request of members of the management committee or the Club-
(a) the meeting is to be adjourned for at least seven days; and
(b) the management committee is to decide the day, time and place of the adjourned meeting.
(5) The chairperson may, with the consent of any meeting at which there is a quorum, and must if directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place.
(6) If a meeting is adjourned only the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place may be conducted at the adjourned meeting.
(7) The secretary is not required to give the members notice of an adjournment or of the business to be conducted at an adjourned meeting unless a meeting is adjourned for at least 30 days.
(8) If a meeting is adjourned for at least 30 days, notice of the adjourned meeting must be given in the same way notice is given for an original meeting.

## 34 Procedure at general meeting

(1) A member may take part and vote in a general meeting in person, by proxy or by using any technology that reasonably allows the member to hear and take part in discussions as they happen.
(2) A member who participates in a meeting as mentioned in subrule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting.
(3) At each general meeting-
(a) the president is to preside as chairperson;
(b) if there is no president or if the president is not present within 15 minutes after the time fixed for the meeting or is unwilling to act, the members present must elect one of their number to be chairperson of the meeting; and
(c) the chairperson must conduct the meeting in a proper and orderly way.

## 35 Voting at general meeting

(1) At a general meeting, each question, matter or resolution, other than a special resolution, must be decided by a majority of votes of the members present.
(2) At a general meeting called to consider a special resolution, the matter must be decided by $3 / 4$ of the members who are present and entitled to vote on the matter.
(3) Each member present and eligible to vote is entitled to one vote only and, if the votes are equal, the chairperson has a casting vote as well as a primary vote.
(4) A member is not entitled to vote at a general meeting if the member's annual subscription is in arrears at the date of the meeting.
(5) The method of voting is to be decided by the management committee.
(6) However, if at least $20 \%$ of the members present demand a secret ballot, voting must be by secret ballot.
(7) If a secret ballot is held, the chairperson must appoint two members to conduct the secret ballot in the way the chairperson decides.
(8) The result of a secret ballot as declared by the chairperson is taken to be a resolution of the meeting at which the ballot was held.

## 36 Special general meeting

(1) The secretary must call a special general meeting by giving each member notice of the meeting within 14 days after-
(a) being directed to call the meeting by the management committee; or
(b) being given a written request signed by-
(i) at least $40 \%$ of the number of members of the management committee when the request is signed; or
(ii) at least the number of ordinary members equal to the number of members on the management committee when the request is signed plus one; or
(c) being given a written notice of an intention to appeal against the decision of the management committee-
(i) to reject an application for membership; or
(ii) to terminate a person's membership.
(2) A request mentioned in subrule (1)(b) must state-
(a) why the special general meeting is being called; and
(b) the business to be conducted at the meeting.
(3) A special general meeting must be held within three months after the secretary-
(a) is directed to call the meeting by the management committee; or
(b) is given the written request mentioned in subrule (1)(b); or
(c) is given the written notice of an intention to appeal mentioned in subrule (1)(c).
(4) If the secretary is unable or unwilling to call the special meeting, the president must call the meeting.

## 37 Proxies

(1) An instrument appointing a proxy must be in writing and be in the following or similar form-

Kenmore Bridge Club Inc:

I, of
being a member of the Club, appoint

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of
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of
as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the (annual) general meeting of the Club, to be held on the day of 20 and at any adjournment of the meeting. Signed this day of 20

Signature
(2) The instrument appointing a proxy must be signed by the appointor.
(3) A proxy may be a member of the Club or another person.
(4) The instrument appointing a proxy is taken to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a secret ballot.
(5) Each instrument appointing a proxy must be given to the secretary before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote.
(6) Unless otherwise instructed by the appointor, the proxy may vote as the proxy considers appropriate.
(7) If a member wants a proxy to vote for or against a resolution, the instrument appointing the proxy must be in the following or similar form-

Kenmore Bridge Club Inc:
I, of
being a member of the Club, appoint
of
as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the (annual) general meeting of the Club,
to be held on the day of 20
and at any adjournment of the meeting.
Signed this day of 20
Signature
This form is to be used $*$ in favour of $/ *$ against [strike out whichever is not wanted] the following resolutions-
[List relevant resolutions]

## 38 Minutes of general meetings

(1) The secretary must ensure full and accurate minutes of all questions, matters, resolutions and other proceedings of each general meeting are recorded and a signed copy kept.
(2) To ensure the accuracy of the minutes-
(a) the minutes of each general meeting must be signed by the chairperson of the meeting, or the chairperson of the next general meeting, verifying their accuracy; and
(b) the minutes of each annual general meeting must be signed by the chairperson of the meeting, or the chairperson of the next meeting that is a general meeting or annual general meeting, verifying their accuracy.
(3) If asked by a member of the Club, the secretary must, within 28 days after the request is made-
(a) make the minutes for a particular general meeting available for inspection by the member at a mutually agreed time and place; and
(b) if requested, give the member a copy of the minutes of the meeting.
(4) The Club may require the member to pay the reasonable costs of providing a copy of the minutes.

## 39 By-laws

(1)The management committee may make, amend or repeal by-laws, not inconsistent with these rules, for the internal management of the Club.
(2)A by-law may be set aside by a vote of members at a general meeting of the Club.

## 40 Alteration of rules

(1) Subject to the Act, these rules may be amended, repealed or added to by a special resolution carried at a general meeting.
(2) As a requirement of affiliation, proposed changes to these rules must be approved by the Queensland Bridge Association before being put to a general meeting.
(3) However an amendment, repeal or addition is valid only if it is registered by the chief
executive of the Office of Fair Trading.

## 41 Funds and accounts.

(1)The funds of the Club must be kept in an account in the name of the Club in a financial institution decided by the management committee.
(2)Records and accounts must be kept in the English language showing full and accurate particulars of the financial affairs of the Club.
(3) All amounts received must be deposited in the financial institution account as soon as practicable after receipt.
(4)The Treasurer shall provide such reports regarding the finances of the Club as may be determined from time to time by the management committee.
(5)All expenditure must be approved or ratified at a management committee meeting.
(6) All transactions involving an amount greater than $\$ 10,000$ must be approved in advance by the management committee.

## 42 General financial matters

(1) On behalf of the management committee, the treasurer must, as soon as practicable after the end date of each financial year, ensure a financial statement for its last reportable financial year is prepared.
(2) The income and property of the Club must be used solely in promoting the Club's objects and exercising the Club's powers.

## 43 Disclosure of remuneration and other benefits

(1) Details of the remuneration or other benefits given to the following persons for the financial year must be provided at the annual general meeting
(a) all members of the management committee
(b) each senior staff member
(c) each relative of a person mentioned in (a) or (b) above
(2) The information required to be disclosed may be reported as the total value given to all persons but must include the number of people who benefitted.
(3) In this section -
remuneration includes salary, allowances and other entitlements, but does not include
reimbursement of out of pocket expenses;
senior staff member means a person who makes, or participates in making, decisions that affect the whole, or a substantial part, of the activities of the association; or has the capacity to affect significantly the association's financial standing; and
relative of a person, means a spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandparent or grandchild of the person.

## 44 Grievances

The procedure for resolving a dispute under the rules between -
(a) a member and another member; or
(b) a member and the management committee; or
(c) a member and the Club
shall be as set out in the model rules for incorporated associations.

## 45 Documents

The management committee must ensure the safe custody of all relevant documents.

## 46 Financial year

The end date of the Club's financial year is $30^{\text {th }}$ June in each year.

## 47 Distribution of surplus assets to another entity

(1) This rule applies if the Club-
(a) is wound-up under part 10 of the Act; and
(b) has surplus assets.
(2) The surplus assets must not be distributed among the members of the Club.
(3) The surplus assets must, as determined by a special resolution, be given to another entity(a) having objects similar to the Club's objects; and
(b) the rules of which prohibit the distribution of the entity's income and assets to its members.
(4) In this rule- surplus assets means the assets after payment of the debts and liabilities remaining on a winding-up of the incorporated Club and the costs, charges and expenses of the winding-up.

Registered with the Department of Justice and Attorney General November 2023

