

## **Significant Changes to the ACTFA Constitution**

The following changes have been made to the ACTFA Constitution, which represent the most encompassing modification to the ACTFA constitution since it was first adopted, aligned with the expectations of the Australian Sports Commission.

- 1.** There were a number of layout, spelling and formatting changes throughout the constitution to give it a more professional and modern appearance.
- 2.** All internal references, numbering and the Table of Contents were updated to correlate with the changes made throughout.
- 3.** Wherever the word “executive” was used, the word “committee” was added to clarify that the entire elected committee hold governing powers, not just the office bearers.
- 4.** Wherever “these Rules” appeared, it was replaced with “this Constitution” to be more accurate in referencing.
- 5.** Wherever “chairman” was used, it has been replaced with “Chair” to be less gender biased.
- 6.** The word “subscriptions” has been removed throughout and in most cases replaced with “memberships”.
- 7.** The full name of the ACT was included in Section 1 for clarity.
- 8.** Section 3 was added to denote the colours and badge of the association.
- 9.** In Section 4, three new subsections were added (1c , 1d and 2), some minor wording was changed, a sentence was removed “ To promote and organise exhibitions, public displays, lectures and conferences in the Australian Capital Territory calculated to further the interests of fencing generally.”
- 10.** The definitions were rewritten to correlate with the changes made throughout the constitution and to reflect the current terminology used
- 11.** In Section 6.1 the number of membership categories has been reduced from 6 (clubs, club members, independent members, honorary members, non-fencing members and associate members) to 3 (general members, honorary members and associate members) to simplify definitions and fee structures.
- 12.** Section 6.2 has been rewritten to align with the constitution and policies of the AFF.

- 13.** The word “Association” added to title of Section 8 and the long form of the AFF has been removed.
- 14.** In Section 9 the description has been simplified and club qualifications for affiliation have been removed, as well as the description of the committee actions on receiving a club affiliation application.
- 15.** The word “club” changed to “general” in title of Section 10 and the line requiring membership of an affiliated club is removed.
- 16.** Sections about independent and non-fencing members removed.
- 17.** “Affiliation of” added to title of Section 12.
- 18.** Old membership categories have been removed from Section 13, voting age changed from “over the age of 18” to “aged 16 years and over” and a new provision for a parent or guardian of affiliated fencers under the age of 16 years to have a vote as a general member.
- 19.** The wording of Section 14 has been updated to reflect current processes.
- 20.** Section 15 title and other wording updated for clarity and to reflect current processes.
- 21.** Subsection 15.4 added to show ACTFA’s financial accountability to the AFF.
- 22.** Section 16 has been rewritten with a new method for electing the executive committee and deciding the office bearers.
- 23.** Subsection 17.2 is a new subsection.
- 24.** Sentence removed “To institute, defend, compound or abandon any legal proceedings by or against the Association.”
- 25.** Title removed “Duties of the Office Bearers”
- 26.** Words “of the Executive Committee” added to Subsection 19a for clarification
- 27.** Subsection 20b is a new addition.
- 28.** Recording of minutes is updated to reflect modern methods in Subsection 21a
- 29.** References to portfolios removed throughout Section 23. Other wording changed to give clarification.

- 30.** “All Office Bearers” replaced with “The Executive Committee” in Subsection 24.1 to be consistent with changes in Section 16.
- 31.** Subsection 24.2 is a new subsection.
- 32.** Subsection 25.1 wording changed from “office of a member” to “elected members” and “Suffers from mental or physical incapacity;” has been removed.
- 33.** Subsection 25.2 is a new subsection.
- 34.** In Section 26 “Office Bearer or” is replaced by “elected” and “majority” is replaced with “of the members”
- 35.** To make it easier for changes to the financial year dates in the future, Subsection 28a has been altered with “within four (4) months of the end of the financial” replacing “between January and February inclusive each”
- 36.** The wording of Subsection 28d has been simplified.
- 37.** The clause “with the Chair having no vote” has been added to Subsection 28f.
- 38.** Section 29 updated for current and proposed practices
- 39.** Subsection 30f is a new provision for virtual attendance at meetings using different media.
- 40.** Clause “stand adjourned to the same place and time, the same day in the following week” has been replaced in subsection 30g with “be dissolved”
- 41.** Removed sentence dealing with lack of quorum at the adjourned meeting.
- 42.** Subsection 30i has been changed to reflect change made in Section 20.
- 43.** Subsection 30j has “within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving the draft Agenda” added and “at least 48 hours prior to the time of the meeting” removed to indicate current practices.
- 44.** Subsection 30k & 30l are new subsections.
- 45.** Section 31 updated to reflect current and proposed practices.
- 46.** Word “Questions” replaced with “Decisions” in Subsection 32a.
- 47.** Subsection 32b has “except the Chair” added, “, (including the person chairing at the meeting) removed and “second or” removed.

- 48.** Subsection 33c has “with the Chair having no vote” added.
- 49.** In Subsection 34c “an elected member of the Executive Committee” replaces “President, Secretary or nominated General Committee Member”.
- 50.** Wording simplified in subsection 37a.
- 51.** Subsection 37b is a new subsection
- 52.** “two-third (2/3)” added to subsection 38a to refine the definition of majority.
- 53.** Subsection 39b has “Membership is automatically forfeit on” added and “or other” removed.
- 54.** “Bylaws and Regulations” has been removed from, and “Policy” and “Correspondence” have been added to, subsection 41.2.
- 55.** In Section 42 “Any casual vacancy occurring in the office of an auditor shall be filled by the Executive Committee” has been removed