

WAGGA WAGGA JUNIOR RUGBY UNION INCORPORATED

“The Wagga Crows”

DOCUMENT: CLUB CONSTITUTION



Vision: Our vision is to be a Club that players and their families want to engage with.

Mission: Our mission is to share the JOY OF RUGBY where every player is encouraged and supported to build their physical and emotional confidence as individuals and as part of a team.

The Wagga Wagga Junior Rugby Club (Wagga Crows) is a not for profit community Junior Rugby Union Club. The club is based in Wagga Wagga and holds strong links with all senior rugby clubs in Wagga Wagga.

The purpose of this document is to capture the policy and structure to support the continuity of the club and its culture.

Current Contact Details:

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Club Vice President: Erica Beggs

Club Secretary: (Vacant)

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Document References:

NSW Offices of Sport

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INTRODUCTION:

TEMPLATE USED: Model Sport Club Constitution

Based on: Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) (Act)

(June 2018)

This model Constitution has been prepared by the NSW Office of Sport as a guide for sport Clubs in the community to either become incorporated or, if already incorporated, to update their existing Constitutions.

The template has been designed specifically for sport so it is more detailed than the model rules available on the Office of Fair Trading website. It takes into account issues which a general community organisation might not need to include; for example, Sport must deal with the impact of drugs; Sport is affected by child protection legislation; and Sport operates under a national system where the national body can make rulings and set policy that will flow through the Sport and affect those playing at Club level.

This model Constitution assumes that the Club being formed will either be directly affiliated with the state peak body for that particular sport, or that the Club will participate within a regional sport association, which in turn is affiliated with the state body.

The benefit of such a structure is that all levels of the Sport are working together for the advancement of the Sport and therefore share common purposes, structures, policies and procedures. It also makes it easy to address issues of joint concern, to share information and to maximise the sport's marketability.

Finally, with the increasing amount of legislation affecting sport, this structure enables organisations to enact consistent and complementary policies and strategies that address areas of common risk and that flow effectively through the organisation.

Following the development of your Constitution, you will also develop a set of Regulations that provide more detail on sections of the Constitution. Regulations (sometimes called rules or by-laws) are more easily adjusted and have a more operational tone to them. This is where you can include more detail of the policies and procedures that underpin the Constitution.

ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION ACT 2009 (NSW)

CONSTITUTION

WAGGA WAGGA JUNIOR RUGBY UNION INCORPORATED

This constitution is based on a template Constitution for a New South Wales Sporting Club from the NSW Office of Sport as a guide for sport Clubs in the community to either become incorporated or, if already incorporated, to update their existing Constitutions.

The document complies with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW) ("Act"). The document has been also drafted to take into account the Australian Sports Commission's (ASC) Sports Governance Principles.

1. NAME OF CLUB

The name of the Club is **WAGGA WAGGA JUNIOR RUGBY UNION Incorporated (Club)**.

2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

2.1 Definitions

In this Constitution unless the contrary intention appears:

Act means the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW)*.

Committee means the body managing the Club and consisting of the Committee Members.

Constitution means this Constitution of the Club.

Committee Member means a member of the Committee and includes any person acting in that capacity from time to time appointed in accordance with this.

This template has no "offices" such as President, Vice-President or Treasurer. Committee Member positions and job descriptions are included in the Regulations and Club Manual.

Financial Year means (unless determined otherwise by the Committee) the year ending on the next 30 June following incorporation and thereafter a period of 12 months commencing on 1 July and ending on 30 June each year.

General Meeting means the annual or any special general meeting of the Club.

Intellectual Property means all rights subsisting in copyright, business names, names, trade marks (or signs), logos, designs, equipment including computer software, images (including photographs, videos or films) or service marks relating to the Club or any activity of or conducted, promoted or administered by the Club.

MEMBERS: Member means a Member of the Club for the time being under clause 5. There are several types of members:

- **Individual Member** means a registered, financial Member of the Club who is at least 18 years of age.
- **Junior Member** means a registered Member of the Club who is younger than 18 years of age.
- **Life Member** means an Individual appointed as a Life Member of the Club under clause 5.2.

Local area means the geographical area for which the Club is responsible as recognised by the Australian Rugby Union for the Sport of which the Club is a Member.

Objects means the Objects of the Club in **clause 3**.

Public Officer means the person appointed to be the public officer of the Club in accordance with the Act. For the Club, this should be the Secretary.

Register means a register of Members kept and maintained in accordance with **clause 7**.

Regulations means any rules, by-laws or regulations made by the Committee under **clause 35**.

Special Resolution means a Special Resolution defined in the Act.

Sport means the sport of RUGBY UNION.

2.2 Interpretation

In this Constitution:

- (a) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty;
- (b) a reference to the exercise of a function includes, where the function is a power, authority or duty, a reference to the exercise of the power or authority of the performance of the duty;
- (c) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (d) words importing any gender include the other genders;
- (e) references to persons include corporations and bodies politic;
- (f) references to a person include the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of that person;
- (g) a reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other statutory instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them (whether of the same or any legislative authority having jurisdiction); and
- (h) a reference to "writing" shall unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form, including messages sent by electronic transmission.

2.3 Severance

If any provision of this Constitution or any phrase contained in it is invalid or unenforceable, the phrase or provision is to be read down if possible, so as to be valid and enforceable, and otherwise shall be severed to the extent of the invalidity or unenforceability, without affecting the remaining provisions of this Constitution.

2.4 The Act

Except where the contrary intention appears, in this Constitution, an expression that deals with a matter under the Act has the same meaning as that provision of the Act. The model constitution under the Act is expressly displaced by this Constitution.

3. OBJECTS OF THE CLUB

The Club is established solely for the Objects. The Objects of the Wagga Wagga Junior Rugby Incorporated are to:

- (a) conduct, encourage, promote, advance and administer Junior rugby throughout the Local area;
- (b) act, at all times, on behalf of and in the interest of the Members and the Sport in the Local area;
- (c) advance the operations and activities of the Club throughout the local area;
- (d) have regard to the public interest in its operations; and
- (e) undertake and or do all such things or activities which are necessary, incidental or conducive to the advancement of these Objects.

4. POWERS OF THE CLUB

Solely for furthering the Objects, the Club has, in addition to the rights, powers and privileges conferred on it under section 19 of the Act, the legal capacity and powers of a company limited by guarantee as set out under section 124 of the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*.

5. MEMBERS

5.1 Members

The Members of the Club shall consist of:

- (a) Life Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and to be present, to debate and to vote, at General Meetings;
- (b) Individual Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and to be present, to debate and to vote at, General Meetings; and
- (c) Junior Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have no right to receive notice of General Meetings and no right to be present, or debate, or vote, at General Meetings. However, each Junior Member is allowed one parent or guardian to be treated as a Member in his or her own right with the right to attend, participate and vote at the annual general meeting. This ensures the Club has adequate adult Members to maximise the potential for volunteer recruitment and the requirement that Committee Members are also Members of the Club.

5.2 Life Members

- (a) The Committee may recommend to the annual General Meeting that any natural person who has rendered distinguished service to the Club be appointed as a Life Member.
- (b) A resolution of the annual General Meeting to confer life membership (subject to **clause 5.2(c)**) on the recommendation of the Committee must be a Special Resolution.
- (c) A person must accept or reject the Club's resolution to confer life membership in writing. Upon written acceptance, the person's details shall be entered upon the

Register, and from the time of entry on the Register the person shall be a Life Member.

6. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

6.1 Application for Membership

An application for membership must be:

- (a) from the applicant, in writing on the form prescribed from time to time by the Committee (if any), and lodged with the Club; and
- (b) accompanied by the appropriate fee (if any).

By applying an applicant acknowledges and agrees that they voluntarily agree to be bound by the rules, regulations and policies of the Club including but not only this Constitution.

- (i) Discretion to Accept or Reject Application
- (c) The Committee, may acting in the best interests of the Club and in good faith, accept or reject an application whether the applicant has complied with the requirements in **clause 6.1** or not. The Club shall not be required or compelled to provide any reason for such acceptance or rejection.
- (d) Where the Committee accepts an application, the applicant shall become a Member. Membership shall be deemed to commence upon acceptance of the application by the Committee. The Register shall be amended accordingly as soon as practicable.
- (e) Where the Committee rejects an application, it shall refund any fees forwarded with the application and the application shall be deemed rejected by the Club. No reasons for rejection need be given.
- (f) There is no right of appeal where the Committee rejects an application for membership, whether a new application or a renewal application.

6.2 Renewal

- (a) Members (other than Life Members) must re-apply for membership annually in accordance with the timeframes and procedures set down by the Club from time to time. Members acknowledge and agree that membership renewal is not automatic. **Clause 6.2** applies to re-applications for membership.
- (b) Upon re-application a Member must provide details of any change in their personal details, and any other information reasonably required by the Club.

6.3 Deemed Membership

- (a) All persons who are, prior to the approval of this Constitution under the Act, Members of the Club shall be deemed Members from the time of approval of this Constitution under the Act.
- (b) Any persons, prior to approval of this Constitution under the Act, who are not deemed Members under **clause 6.4(a)** shall be entitled to carry on such functions analogous to their previous functions as are provided for under this Constitution.

7. REGISTER OF MEMBERS

7.1 Club to Keep Register

The Club shall keep and maintain a Register in which shall be entered (as a minimum):

- (a) the full name and address of the Member;
- (b) the category of membership of the Member;
- (c) the date on which the Member became a Member;
- (d) any other information determined by the Committee; and
- (e) where applicable, the date of cessation of membership of any Member.

Members shall provide notice of any change and required details to the Club within one month of such change.

7.2 Inspection of Register

Having regard to privacy and confidentiality considerations, inspection of the Register will only be available as required by the Act and under **clause 29.2(b)**. If permitted, only an extract of the Register, excluding the address or other direct contact details of any Member, shall be made available for inspection (but not copying) by Members.

7.3 Use of Register

Subject to the Act, confidentiality considerations and privacy laws, the Register may be used by the Club solely to further the Objects, as the Committee considers appropriate.

8. EFFECT OF MEMBERSHIP

Members acknowledge and agree that:

- (a) this Constitution forms a contract between each of them and the Club and that they are bound by this Constitution and the Regulations;
- (b) they shall comply with and observe this Constitution and the Regulations and any determination, resolution or policy which may be made or passed by the Committee or other entity with delegated authority;
- (c) by submitting to this Constitution and the Regulations, they are subject to the jurisdiction of the Club and Australian Rugby Union;
- (d) the Constitution and the Regulations are necessary and reasonable for promoting the Objects and particularly the advancement and protection of the Sport;
- (e) neither membership of the Club nor this Constitution gives rise to:
 - (i) any proprietary right of Members in, to or over the Club or its property or assets;
 - (ii) any automatic right of a Member to renewal of their membership of the Club;
 - (iii) subject to the Act and the Club acting in good faith, the right of Members to natural justice, unless expressly provided for in this Constitution;

- (f) they are entitled to all benefits, advantages, privileges and services of Club membership; and
- (g) a right, privilege or obligation of a person by reason of their membership of the Club:
 - (i) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person; and
 - (ii) terminates upon the cessation of membership whether by death, resignation or otherwise.

9. DISCONTINUANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

9.1 Notice of Resignation

- (a) A Member who has paid all arrears of fees payable to the Club may resign or withdraw from membership of the Club by giving notice in writing to the Club of such withdrawal or resignation.
- (b) When the Club receives a notice given under **clause 9.1(a)**, it must make an entry in the Register that records the date on which the Member ceased to be a Member.

9.2 Discontinuance for Breach

Notwithstanding anything in the Act or this Constitution:

- (a) membership of the Club may be discontinued by the Committee upon breach of any clause of this Constitution or the Regulations, including, but not limited to, the failure to pay any monies owed to the Club, failure to comply with the Regulations or any resolutions or determinations made or passed by the Committee or any duly authorised committee;
- (b) membership shall not be discontinued by the Committee under **clause 9.2(a)** without the Committee first giving the accused Member the opportunity to explain the breach and/or remedy the breach; and
- (c) where a Member fails, in the Committee's view to adequately explain the breach, that Member's membership shall be discontinued under **clause 9.2(a)** by the Committee giving written notice of the discontinuance to the Member. The Register shall be amended to reflect any discontinuance of membership under this **clause 9.2** as soon as practicable.

9.3 Member to Re-Apply

A Member whose membership has ceased or been discontinued under **clauses 9.1 or 9.2**:

- (a) must seek renewal and re-apply for membership in accordance with this Constitution; and
- (b) may be re-admitted at the discretion of the Committee. There is no right of appeal where the Committee refuses to re-admit a former Member under this clause.

9.4 Forfeiture of Rights

A Member who ceases to be a Member, for whatever reason, shall forfeit all rights in and claims upon the Club and its property and shall not use any property of the Club including

Intellectual Property. Any Club documents, records or other property in the possession, custody or control of that Member shall be returned to the Club immediately.

9.5 Membership may be Reinstated

Membership which has been discontinued under this **clause 9** may be reinstated at the discretion of the Committee, with such conditions as it deems appropriate.

9.6 Refund of Membership Fees

Membership fees or subscriptions paid by the discontinued Member may be refunded on a pro-rata basis to the Member upon discontinuance.

10. DISCIPLINE

10.1 Disciplinary proceedings

The Committee may commence or cause to be commenced disciplinary proceedings against a Member who has allegedly:

- (a) breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of this Constitution, the Regulations or any resolution or determination of the Committee or any duly authorised committee;
- (b) acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member, or prejudicial to the purposes and interests of the Club and/or the Sport; or
- (c) brought themselves, the Club, any other Member or the Sport into disrepute.

10.2 Procedure

- (a) That Member will be subject to and submits unreservedly to the jurisdiction, procedures, penalties and the appeal mechanisms of the Club set out in the Regulations or as otherwise determined by the Committee.
- (b) Without limiting the operation of **clause 10.2(a)** the Committee may appoint a Judiciary Committee to deal with any disciplinary matter referred to it. Such a Judiciary Committee shall operate in accordance with the procedures expressed in the Regulations or as otherwise determined by the Committee but subject always to the Act.

11. SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES

- (a) The annual membership subscription and any other fees or levies payable by Members or categories of Members to the Club, the benefits which apply, the time for, and manner of payment, shall be determined by the Committee from time to time.
- (b) The Committee is empowered to prevent any Member whose annual subscription or any other fees are in arrears from exercising the whole or any of the rights or privileges of membership of the Club, including but not limited to the right to vote at General Meetings. There is no right to natural justice or any right of appeal where the Committee exercises its power under this **clause 11(b)**.

12. EXISTING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The Members of the administrative or governing body (by whatever name called) of the Club in office immediately prior to approval of this Constitution under the Act shall continue in those positions until the next annual general meeting following such adoption of this

Constitution. After this General Meeting the positions of Committee Members shall be filled, vacated and otherwise dealt with in accordance with this Constitution.

13. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee's primary responsibility is one of trusteeship on behalf of its stakeholders, ensuring that the legal entity, the Club, remains viable and effective in the present and for the future. The Committee's role includes determining the Club's strategic direction, core values and ethical framework, as well as key objectives and performance measures. A key critical component of this role is the Committee's ultimate authority and responsibility for financial operations and budgeting to ensure the achievement of strategic objectives.

Subject to the Act and this Constitution, the business of the Club shall be managed and the powers of the Club shall be exercised by the Committee. In particular, the Committee shall act in accordance with the Objects and shall operate for the benefit of the Members and the Sport and community throughout the Local area.

14. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

14.1 Composition of the Committee

The Committee shall comprise up to:

- (a) four (4) elected Executive Committee Members who must all be Members and who shall be elected under **clause 15**; and
- (b) two (2) appointed Committee Members who need not be Members and who may be appointed by the Committee Members under **clause 16**.

14.2 Election and Appointment of Committee Members

- (a) The elected Committee Members shall be elected under **clause 15**.
- (b) The appointed Committee Members may be appointed under **clause 16**.

14.3 Portfolios

The Committee may allocate portfolios and/or titles to Committee Members. Subject to this Constitution and any properly passed resolution of the Committee, the allocation of portfolios or titles does not effect the powers and duties of Committee Members.

15. ELECTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

15.1 Nomination for Committee

- (a) Nominations for elected Committee Member positions shall be called for fourteen (14) days prior to the annual general meeting. When calling for nominations, details of the necessary qualifications and job descriptions for the positions shall also be provided. Qualifications and job descriptions may be determined by the Committee from time to time.
- (b) Nominees for elected Committee Member positions must declare any position they hold in affiliated or related Committees and Organisations.

15.2 Form of Nomination

Nominations must be:

- (a) in writing (can include electronic communication);
- (b) on the prescribed form (if any) provided for that purpose;
- (c) provided to the Club not less than seven (7) days before the date fixed for the annual general meeting.

15.3 Elections

- (a) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled or if there are insufficient nominations received to fill all vacancies on the Committee, then those nominated may be declared elected if approved by a meeting quorum.
- (b) If there are insufficient nominations received to fill all vacancies on the Committee, or if a person is not approved by the majority of Members under **clause 15.3(a)**, the positions will be deemed casual vacancies under **clause 17.1**.
- (c) If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, voting papers shall be prepared containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order for each vacancy on the Committee.
- (d) Voting shall be conducted in such a manner and by such a method as determined by the Committee from time to time.

15.4 Term of Appointment for Elected Committee Members

- (a) Committee Members elected under **clause 15** shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. Subject to provisions in this Constitution relating to early retirement or removal of Committee Members, elected Committee Members shall remain in office from the conclusion of the annual General Meeting at which the election occurred until the conclusion of the second annual General Meeting following.

16. APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Appointed Committee Members need not be appointed. The principle behind their potential appointment is to provide the Elected Committee Members with additional skills that may facilitate or assist the Committee with a particular issue over time. For example, a Club may require marketing or lobbying skills.

16.1 Appointment of Committee Members

The elected Committee Members may appoint up to two (2) appointed Committee Members.

16.2 Qualifications for Appointed Committee Members

The appointed Committee Members may have specific skills in commerce, finance, marketing, law or business generally or such other skills which complement the Committee composition. They do not need to be Members.

16.3 Term of Appointment

- (a) Appointed Committee Members may be appointed by the elected Committee Members under this Constitution for a term of one year (1), which shall commence from the first Committee meeting after the annual General Meeting until after the conclusion of the second annual General Meeting that follows.

17. VACANCIES ON THE COMMITTEE

17.1 Casual Vacancies

Any casual vacancy occurring in the position of Committee Member may be filled by the remaining Committee Members from among appropriately qualified persons. Any casual vacancy may only be filled for the remainder of the Committee Member's term under this Constitution.

17.2 Grounds for Termination of Committee Member

In addition to the circumstances in which the office of a Committee Member becomes vacant by virtue of the Act, the office of a Committee Member becomes vacant if the Committee Member:

- (a) dies;
- (b) becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally;
- (c) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in anyway under the law relating to mental health;
- (d) resigns his office in writing to the Club;
- (e) is absent without the consent of the Committee from meetings of the Committee held during a period of six (6) months;
- (f) holds any office of employment with the Club without the approval of the Committee;
- (g) is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with the Club and fails to declare the nature of that interest;
- (h) in the reasonable opinion of the Committee (but subject always to this Constitution) has:
 - (i) acted in a manner unbecoming or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of the Club;
 - (ii) brought themselves or the Club into disrepute;
- (i) is removed by Special Resolution; or
- (j) would otherwise be prohibited from being a Committee Member of a corporation under the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth.)*.

17.3 Committee May Act

If a casual vacancy or vacancies arises in the office of a Committee Member or Committee Members, the remaining Committee Members may act. If the number of remaining Committee Members is not sufficient to constitute a quorum at a meeting of the Committee however, they may act only for the purpose of increasing the number of Committee Members to a number sufficient to constitute a quorum.

18. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

18.1 Committee to Meet

The Committee shall meet as often as is deemed necessary in every calendar year for the dispatch of business (and shall be at least as often as is required under the Act). Subject to this Constitution, it may adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit. A Committee Member may at any time convene a meeting of the Committee within a reasonable time.

18.2 Decisions of Committee

Subject to this Constitution, questions arising at any meeting of the Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes and a determination of a majority of Committee Members shall for all purposes be deemed a determination of the Committee. All Committee Members shall have one (1) vote on any question. Where voting is equal, the chair may exercise a casting vote. If the chair does not exercise a casting vote, the motion will be lost.

18.3 Resolutions Not in Meeting

- (a) A resolution in writing that has been signed or assented to by any form of visible or other electronic communication by all the Committee Members for the time being present in Australia shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of Committee Members duly convened and held. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one or more of the Committee Members.
- (b) Without limiting the power of the Committee to regulate its meetings as it thinks fit, a meeting of the Committee may be held where one or more of the Committee Members is not physically present at the meeting, provided that:
 - (i) all persons participating in the meeting are able to communicate with each other effectively, simultaneously and instantaneously whether by means of telephone or other form of communication;
 - (ii) notice of the meeting is given to all the Committee Members entitled to notice in accordance with the usual procedures agreed upon or laid down from time to time by the Committee or this Constitution. The notice will specify that Committee Members are not required to be present in person;
 - (iii) if a failure in communications prevents **clause 18.3(b)(i)** from being satisfied by the number of Committee Members which constitutes a quorum, and none of such Committee Members are present at the place where the meeting is deemed by virtue of the further provisions of this clause to be held, then the meeting shall be suspended until **clause 18.3(b)(i)** is satisfied again. If such condition is not satisfied within fifteen (15) minutes from the interruption, the meeting shall be deemed to have been terminated or adjourned; and
 - (iv) any meeting held where one or more of the Committee Members is not physically present shall be deemed to be held at the place specified in the notice of the meeting, provided a Committee Member is there present. If no Committee Member is there present, the meeting shall be deemed to be held at the place where the chair of the meeting is located.

18.4 Quorum

At meetings of the Committee the number of Committee Members whose presence is required to constitute a quorum is a majority of available members. A quorum must remain present throughout the meeting.

18.5 Notice of Committee Meetings

Unless all Committee Members agree to hold a meeting at shorter notice (which agreement shall be sufficiently evidenced by their apology or presence) not less than seven (7) days written notice of the meeting of the Committee shall be given to each Committee Member. The agenda shall be forwarded to each Committee Member not less than four (4) days prior to such meeting.

18.6 Chair

The chair shall be the President of the Club and will act as chair of any Committee meeting or General Meeting at which he is present. If the chair is not present, or is unwilling or unable to preside at a Committee meeting the Vice President shall preside as chair for that meeting only.

18.7 Conflict of Interest

A Committee Member shall declare his interest in any contractual, selection, disciplinary, or financial matter in which a conflict of interest arises or may arise. He shall, unless otherwise determined by the Committee, absent himself from discussions of such matters and shall not be entitled to vote in respect of such matters. If the Committee Member casts a vote, the vote shall not be counted. If there is any uncertainty as to whether it is necessary for a Committee Member to absent himself from discussions and refrain from voting, the issue should be immediately determined by the Committee. If this is not possible, the matter shall be adjourned or deferred.

18.8 Disclosure of Interests

- (a) The nature of the interest of a Committee Member must be declared at the meeting of the Committee at which the relevant matter is first taken into consideration, if the interest then exists. In any other case, the interest should be disclosed to the Committee at the next meeting of the Committee. If a Committee Member becomes interested in a matter after it is made or entered into, the declaration of the interest must be made at the first meeting of the Committee held after the Committee Member interest has arisen.
- (b) All disclosed interests must also be disclosed to each annual General Meeting.

18.9 General Disclosure

A general notice stating that a Committee Member is a member of any specified firm or company and that he is 'interested' in all transactions with that firm or company is sufficient declaration under **clause 18.8**. After such general notice, it is not necessary for the Committee Member to give a special notice regarding any particular transaction with that firm or company.

18.10 Recording Disclosures

Any declaration made, any disclosure or any general notice given by a Committee Member under **clauses 18.7, 18.8 and/or 18.9** must be recorded in the minutes of the relevant meeting and otherwise in accordance with the Act.

19. DELEGATIONS

The delegations clause recognises that the Committee has to delegate functions and tasks to special committees or individuals. In sport, these are common. For example, rules and technical committees, selection committees and judicial committees. This clause sets out how such delegations should be made and how they operate.

This clause also allows that roles can be delegated to people who are not on the Committee except those powers defined by clause 19.2, with such people being accountable to the Committee.

This clause sets out how such delegations should be made and how they operate; clause 19.1 refers to an ‘instrument in writing’ that outlines delegations. The standard practice is that the instrument is a list/register of delegations, which is subject to a formal resolution of the Committee. In addition to the register of delegations, the resolution to approve the delegations should be clearly recorded in the Committee minutes.

Delegations can and should in some cases include the authority to spend the Club’s funds in accordance with the agreed budget.

19.1 Committee May Delegate Functions

The Committee may, by instrument in writing, create, establish or appoint special committees, individual officers and consultants to carry out specific duties and functions. The Committee will determine what powers these committees are given. In exercising its power under this clause, the Committee should take into account broad stakeholder involvement.

19.2 Delegation by Instrument

In the establishing instrument, the Committee may delegate such functions as are specified in the instrument, other than:

- (a) this power of delegation; and
- (b) a function imposed on the Committee by the Act, any other law or this Constitution.

19.3 Delegated Function Exercised in Accordance with Terms

A function, the exercise of which has been delegated under this clause, may, while the delegation remains unrevoked, be exercised from time to time in accordance with the terms of the delegation.

19.4 Procedure of Delegated Entity

The procedures for any entity exercising delegated power shall, subject to this Constitution and with any necessary or incidental amendment, be the same as that applicable to meetings of the Committee under **clause 18**. The entity exercising delegated powers shall make decisions in accordance with the Objects, and it shall promptly provide the Committee with details of all material decisions. The entity shall also provide any other reports, minutes and information as required by the Committee from time to time.

19.5 Delegation May Be Conditional

A delegation under this clause may be made subject to certain conditions or limitations regarding the exercise of any function. These may be specified in the delegation.

19.6 Revocation of Delegation

The Committee may by resolution and/or instrument in writing, at any time revoke wholly or in part any delegation made under this clause. The Committee may also amend or repeal any decision made by a body or person under this **clause 19**.

20. SEAL

- (a) The Club may have a Seal upon which its corporate name shall appear in legible characters.
- (b) The Seal shall not be used without the express authorisation of the Committee. Every use of the Seal shall be recorded in the Club's minute book. Two (2) Committee Members must witness every use of the Seal, unless the Committee determines otherwise.

21. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a) The Club's annual General Meeting shall be held in accordance with the Act and this Constitution. It should be held on a date and at a venue determined by the Committee.
- (b) All General Meetings other than the annual General Meeting shall be special General Meetings and shall be held in accordance with this Constitution.

22. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

22.1 Special General Meetings May be Held

The Committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special General Meeting. When, but for this clause, more than fifteen (15) months elapses between annual General Meetings, the Committee shall convene a special General Meeting before the expiration of that period.

22.2 Requisition of Special General Meetings

- (a) The secretary will convene a special General Meeting when at least five per cent (5%) of Members entitled to vote submit a requisition in writing.
- (b) The requisition for a special General Meeting shall state the object(s) of the meeting, be signed by the Members making the requisition and be sent to the Club. The requisition may consist of several documents in a like form, each signed by one (1) or more of the Members making the requisition.
- (c) If the Committee does not cause a special General Meeting to be held one (1) month after the date in which the requisition is sent to the Club, the Members making the requisition, or any of them, may convene a special General Meeting to be held no later than three (3) months after that date.
- (d) A special General Meeting convened by Members under this Constitution shall be convened in the same manner, or as close as possible, as those convened by the Committee.

23. NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

- (a) Notice of every General Meeting shall be given to every Life Member and Individual Member entitled to receive notice. Notices shall be sent to the addresses appearing in the Club's Register. The auditor and Committee Members shall also be entitled to receive notice of every General Meeting. No other person shall be entitled, as of right, to receive notices of General Meetings.

- (b) A notice of a General Meeting shall specify the place, day and hour of the meeting and shall state the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- (c) At least fourteen (14) days' notice of a General Meeting shall be given to those Members entitled to receive notice, together with:
 - (i) the agenda for the meeting; and
 - (ii) any notice of motion received from Members entitled to vote.
- (d) Notice of every General Meeting shall be given in the manner in **clause 37**.

24. BUSINESS

- (a) The business to be transacted at the annual General Meeting includes the consideration of accounts and the reports of the Committee and auditors, the election of Committee Members under this Constitution and subject to the requirements of the Act, the appointment of the auditors.
- (b) All business that is transacted at a General Meeting and at an annual General Meeting, with the exception of those matters set down in **clause 24(a)**, shall be special business.
- (c) No business other than that stated on the notice for a General Meeting shall be transacted at that meeting.

25. NOTICES OF MOTION

In a club run by volunteers, sufficient time needs to be allowed for each step to be completed. For example, some clubs may require Committee Members to undertake criminal history checks. If your club requires more time to complete each step, the timeframes set out in this Constitution should be increased.

26. PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

26.1 Quorum

No business shall be transacted at any general meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. A quorum for General Meetings of the Club shall be 50% of Committee Members.

26.2 Chair to Preside

The chair of the Committee shall, subject to this Constitution, preside as chair at every General Meeting except:

- (a) in relation to any election for which the chair is a nominee; or
- (b) where a conflict of interest exists.

If the chair is not present, or is unwilling or unable to preside, the Member present shall appoint another Committee Member to preside as chair for that meeting only.

26.3 Adjournment of Meeting

- (a) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be adjourned until the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to a date, time or place determined by the chair. If at

the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting will lapse.

- (b) The chair may, with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place. No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
- (c) When a meeting is adjourned for thirty (30) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of an original meeting.
- (d) Except as provided in **clause 26.3(c)** it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

26.4 Voting Procedure

At any meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded by:

- (a) the chair; or
- (b) a simple majority of the Members.

26.5 Recording of Determinations

Unless a poll is demanded under **clause 26.4**, the chair's declaration shall be conclusive evidence of the result of a resolution decided by a show of hands. The declaration does not need to record the number of votes in favour of or against the resolution; the result of the resolution must be recorded in the Club's book of proceedings.

26.6 Where Poll Demanded

If a poll is duly demanded under **clause 26.4** it shall be taken in such a manner and either at once or after an interval or adjournment or otherwise as the chair directs. The result of the poll shall be the resolution of the meeting.

26.7 Procedural irregularities

- (a) No decision of the Club, the Committee or any Committee authorised entity shall be invalid merely because of a failure to give proper notice under this Constitution or the Regulations or other irregularity in procedure required by this Constitution or the Regulations unless a person suffers substantial prejudice as a result of that failure to give proper notice or irregularity in procedure.
- (b) The Club, the Committee or other Committee authorised entity may confirm an earlier decision which may have been otherwise invalid because of a failure to give proper notice or other irregularity in procedure and the decision shall be deemed to be valid from the time it was originally made.

27. VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

27.1 Members Entitled to Vote

Each Individual Member (a parent or guardian of a player;) shall be entitled to one (1) vote at General Meetings. No other Member shall be entitled to vote but shall, subject to this Constitution, have and be entitled to exercise those rights set out in **clause 5.1**.

27.2 Chair May Exercise Casting Vote

Where voting at General Meetings is equal, the chair may exercise a casting vote. If the chair does not exercise a casting vote the motion will be lost.

27.3 Proxy Voting

Proxy voting is not permitted at any General Meeting.

27.4 Postal or Electronic Voting

No motion shall be determined by a postal or electronic ballot unless determined by the Committee. If the Committee so determines, the postal or electronic ballot shall be conducted under procedures determined by the Committee from time to time.

28. GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

(a) The grievance procedure set out in this clause applies to disputes arising under this Constitution between a Member and:

- (i) another Member; or
- (ii) the Club.

It does not, however, apply to any appeal by a Member against a decision made in accordance with the disciplinary proceedings described in **clause 10**.

(b) The parties to the dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute, and, if possible, resolve the dispute within fourteen days after the dispute comes to the attention of all parties.

(c) If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting or if a party fails to attend that meeting, then the parties may refer the dispute to:

- (i) any independent tribunal established by the SSO in accordance with the procedures determined by the SSO from time to time; or
- (ii) a community justice centre for mediation under the *Community Justice Centres Act 1983 (NSW)*.

(d) The Committee may prescribe additional grievance procedures in Regulations consistent with this **clause 27.4**.

(e) If the dispute is not resolved the Committee may take whatever steps it considers appropriate in regard to the dispute in the best interests of the Club and the Members concerned.

29. RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS

29.1 Records

The Club shall establish and maintain proper records and minutes concerning all of its transactions, business, meetings and dealings (including those of the Club and the Committee). It shall produce these as appropriate at each Committee or General Meeting.

29.2 Records Kept in Accordance with the Act

- (a) Proper accounting and other records of the Club including books, minutes, documents and securities shall be kept in accordance with the Act and otherwise shall be kept in the care and control of the secretary.
- (b) Subject to the Act, the Committee may determine whether and to what extent, and at what times and places and under what conditions, the financial records, accounts, books, securities or other relevant documents of the Club will be open for inspection by the Members.

29.3 Committee to Submit Accounts

The Committee shall submit the Club's statements of account to the Members at the annual General Meeting in accordance with this Constitution and the Act.

29.4 Accounts Conclusive

The statements of account, when approved or adopted by an annual General Meeting, shall be conclusive except when errors have been discovered within three (3) months after such approval or adoption.

29.5 Accounts to be available to Members

The secretary shall ensure all persons entitled to receive notice of General Meetings under this Constitution, receive or have access to a copy of the statements of account, the Committee's report, the auditor's report and every other document required under the Act (if any).

29.6 Negotiable Instruments

All cheques, promissory notes, bankers' drafts, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments, and all receipts for money paid to the Club, shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed or otherwise executed, as the case may be, by any two (2) duly authorised Committee Members or in such other manner as the Committee determines.

30. AUDITOR

The Club is a Tier 2 association and there is no obligation for Tier 2 associations to undertake an audit unless the Committee elects to do so or it is voted by the Members to do so.

31. INCOME

- (a) Income and property of the Association shall be:
 - (i) derived from such sources; and
 - (ii) managed in such manner;as the Committee determines from time to time subject always to the Act and this Constitution.
- (b) The income and property of the Club shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects.
- (c) Except as prescribed in this Constitution or the Act:

- (i) no portion of the income or property of the Club shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise to any Member or Committee Member; and
 - (ii) no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be paid or given by the Club to any Member who holds any office of the Club.
- (d) Nothing in **clauses 31(b) or 31(c)** shall prevent payment in good faith to any Member for:
- (i) any services actually rendered to the Club whether as an employee, Committee Member or otherwise;
 - (ii) goods supplied to the Club in the ordinary and usual course of operation;
 - (iii) interest on money borrowed from any Member;
 - (iv) rent for premises demised or let by any Member to the Club; or
 - (v) any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by a Member on behalf of the Club;
- provided that any such payment shall not exceed the amount ordinarily payable between ordinary commercial parties dealing at arm's length in a similar transaction.

32. WINDING UP

- (a) Subject to this Constitution the Club may be wound up or cancelled in accordance with the Act.
- (b) The liability of the Members of the Club is limited.
- (c) Every Individual Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Club if it is wound up or cancelled while they are a Member, or within one year after ceasing to be a Member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Club contracted before the time at which they ceased to be a Member and towards the costs, charges and expenses of winding up or cancelling the registration of the Club, such an amount not exceeding one dollar (\$1.00).

33. DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY ON WINDING UP

If upon winding up or cancellation of the Club there remains, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any assets or property, they shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members. Instead, the assets or property shall be given or transferred to another organisation(s) that has objects similar to those of the Club. Such organisation(s) must prohibit the distribution of its income and property among its members to an extent at least as great as that imposed on the Club by this Constitution. Such organisation(s) will be determined by the Members in a General Meeting at or before the time of winding up or cancellation. If this does not occur, the decision is to be made by a judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales or other Court as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

34. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may require updating from time and time and shall not be completed by Special Resolution of the Committee after allowing for distribution and feedback from Club Members.

35. REGULATIONS

The Regulations are the key ‘delegated legislation’ of the Club (sometimes referred to as by-laws). These are key rule and policy documents, which can address a whole range of issues for a Club. These include disciplinary regulations, election procedures, policies, financial management and particular sporting matters.

The Regulations for Wagga Wagga Junior Rugby Incorporated is the Club Manual.

35.1 Committee to Formulate Regulations

The Committee may formulate, issue, adopt, interpret and amend Regulations for the proper advancement, management and administration of the Club, the advancement of the Objects and the Sport in the Local Area. Such Regulations must be consistent with this Constitution and any policy directives of the Committee.

35.2 Regulations Binding

All Regulations are binding on the Club and all Members.

35.3 Regulations Deemed Applicable

All clauses, rules, by-laws and regulations of the Club (by whatever name) in force at the date of the approval of this Constitution (as long as such clauses, rules, by-laws or regulations are not inconsistent with or have been replaced by, this Constitution) shall be deemed to be Regulations and shall continue to apply and be in operation.

35.4 Changes Binding on Members

Amendments, alterations, interpretations or other changes to Regulations shall be advised to Members by such means as are determined and approved by the Committee from time to time. The Club shall take reasonable steps to distribute such changes to Members. All changes are binding on all Members.

36. NOTICE

- (a) Notices may be given by the Club to any person entitled under this Constitution to receive any notice. The notice can be:
 - (i) sent by pre-paid post to the Member’s registered address or; or
 - (ii) sent by electronic mail to the Member’s electronic mail address; or
 - (iii) prominently posted on the Club’s website.
- (b) Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying and posting the notice. Service of the notice is deemed to have been effected three days after posting.
- (c) Where a notice is sent by electronic mail or by posting on the Club’s website, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected the next business day after it was sent or posted.

37. INDEMNITY

- (a) Every Committee Member and employee of the Club will be indemnified out of the property and assets of the Club against any liability incurred by them in their capacity as Committee Member or employee in defending any proceedings, civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in their favour or in which they are

acquitted or connected with any application in relation to any such proceedings in which relief is granted by the Court.

- (b) The Club shall indemnify its Committee Members and employees against all damages and losses (including legal costs) for which any such Committee Member or employee may be or become liable to any third party in consequence of any act or omission, except wilful misconduct:
- (i) in the case of a Committee Member, performed or made while acting on behalf of and with the authority, express or implied, of the Club; or
 - (ii) in the case of an employee, performed or made in the course of, and within the scope of, their employment by the Club.

LIQUOR AND GAMING LICENSES

Who Can Hold A Licence

Two types of liquor licences are available to sporting organisations in New South Wales.

A 'club licence' can only be held by a 'registered club' under the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*.

A 'limited licence' can generally only be held by not-for profit sporting clubs that are considered non-proprietary associations under the *Liquor Act 2007*.

Club Licence

In relation to preparing a Constitution that satisfies the required criteria, the applicant must show that the rules of the Club meet the requirements specified in section 10(1) of the *Registered Clubs Act 1976*, and otherwise comply with the requirements of that Act, including, but not limited to:

- the club must be a company within the meaning of the Corporations Act 2001;
- the club must be conducted in good faith as a club;
- the club shall be established for social, sporting or athletic purposes, and for the purpose of providing accommodation for its members and guests;
- club membership numbers shall be in accordance with statutorily defined minimum and maximum standards; and
- members of the club cannot derive any profit, benefit or advantage that is not offered equally to all full members;

This template has been prepared for an incorporated association. As a Club Licence requires an organisation to be a company within the meaning of the Corporations Act, this template will not be suitable (as it is a Constitution for an incorporated association) and legal advice should be sought in relation to a Constitution for a company.

There are other factors that may be required to be met. For example, the club must have premises and be the bona fide occupier of these premises for the purpose of the club. These premises must be maintained by way of funds of the club.

These criterion are heavily reliant on satisfying statutory requirements, and as such specific advice may be required.

Limited Licence

In relation to preparing a Constitution that satisfies the required criteria, the applicant must show that its rules allow it to be considered a non-proprietary association under the *Liquor Act 2007*, and provide for:

- the organisation to be an incorporated or unincorporated body or association of people;
- the organisation to apply any profits (if any) or other income to the promotion of its objectives; and
- the organisation to be prohibited from paying dividends, or distributing profits or income to its shareholders, members, local council or public authorities.

This template meets these requirements.

There are other factors that may be required to be met, for example:

- the granting of the licence must not result in the frequent undue disturbance of the quiet and good order of the neighbourhood of the licensed premises; and
- if licensing authority is of the opinion that the sale or supply of liquor under a limited licence would more appropriately be provided under another kind of licence, a limited licence will be refused