

U3A ROCKHAMPTON & DISTRICT INC.

Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws

Executive Summary – 29 March 2019.

The Constitution was last amended in July 2012 and the By-Laws in October 2017. There have been numerous changes in the business and legal worlds since that date, as well as in the circumstances of the operational procedures of U3A Rockhampton.

The amendments made in these latest editions reflect all those known changes. The management committee has also taken the opportunity to modernise the Constitution and to bring it more in line with the Model Rules included in the Associations Incorporation Act 1981, without losing the intent/content, where possible, of the original document. A large number of minor alterations are to correct grammar/punctuation/spelling and are of a cosmetic change only. Some changes have been made to reflect the current day operation of the management committee eg the use of the internet in banking.

In Summary the major changes are:

CONSTITUTION

Section 2. Objects –

The addition of clause 2.3 to include reference to discrimination, and

The addition of clause 2.8 to include a reference to reciprocation with other U3As.

Section 4. Classes of Membership. –

This section has been completely rewritten to recognise that we have or may like to have in the future, other classes of membership. These may include Honorary membership (for members over 90 years of age), life membership (for members who have been granted life membership), and affiliated membership (for financial members of other U3As who may wish to attend the activities of our Association).

Section 5. New membership –

The reference to 50 years of age has been deleted because of anti-discrimination laws.

Section 7 . Admission of members –

Clause 7.2 added to copy the Model Rules in relation to advising new members of our insurance cover.

Section 10. Register of members –

Model rules adopted to provide clarification of the use of information obtained from the members register.

Section 11 . Secretary

Model rules adopted. These are much more expansive than our original rules.

Section 17. Meetings of the management committee.

Amended to allow flexibility and to cater for the times we now meet. Also includes the provision to cover the use of technology and is more in line with the model rules in relation to quorums.

Section 31. Funds and Accounts

The constitution did not previously permit the use of the internet in banking. This has now been included.

Section 32. Documents

The provision that documents must be kept in the State and for 7 years has been added .
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BY-LAWS

For similar reasons changes are also required to the By-laws:

1. Fees and Charges.

The provision for a joining fee has been added.

3. Finances.

3.2 Amended so that there is no restriction on the use of the internet in banking operations.

3.4 Rewritten to specify cheque signatories and EFT authorisations.

4. Management Committee .

4.5 Rewritten to give the committee more flexibility in scheduling committee meetings.

5. Meetings

Reference to the "Show and Tell" day and "Sign-on" day being held in December and February respectively has been removed and replaced by the wording that such days "must be held once per calendar year".