



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
LONG DISTANCE
RACING PIGEON CLUB INC.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

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of

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LONG DISTANCE RACING PIGEON CLUB INC.

(enacted 23rd August 2011)

(1) NAME

The Club shall be known as the South Australian Long Distance Racing Pigeon Club Incorporated and hereafter referred to as the SALDC or The Club.

The SALDC is a club affiliated with the South Australian Homing Pigeon Association Inc. SAHPA

(2) LOCATION

The meeting place of the Club shall be at the Club Rooms owned by the SA Homing Pigeon Association Inc. at 10 Boulderstone Road, Gepps Cross, South Australia.

(3) THE OBJECTS OF THE CLUB

1. The encouragement of breeding, training and racing of the long distance homing pigeon.
2. The encouragement and guidance of newcomers to the sport of pigeon racing.
3. The organising, controlling and regulating of the sport of pigeon racing and training for long distance events.
4. The breeding and training of homing pigeons for the purposes of national defence.
5. The organising and promoting of such tests and competitions as may be deemed necessary from time to time to achieve these objects.
6. To ensure that the birds are sent in charge of fully qualified convoyers in order that they may be fed, watered and have every attention during the journey and at the race points.
7. To make such arrangement that the convoyers have, as far as possible, full information as to the state of weather between the home end and the race points, thus to ensure that every precaution has been taken to optimise the safety of the homing pigeons competing.
8. To have a uniform system of race-marking, setting and opening clocks, checking on race marks and the compiling of race results.
9. The protection of birds and owners by the adoption of the SAHPA Code of Practise for The Keeping and Racing of Pigeons (enacted December 1999).
10. To organise and hold events such as the SA Sires Produce/Classic each year, where all monies raised from this event, less related expenses, is paid back in prizes. Any interest earned on these monies contribute to the SALDC as a fund raising event for the purpose of carrying out these aforesaid objects.
11. To raise funds through pigeon auctions and web sales for the purpose of carrying out these aforesaid objects.

12. The acquisition by any lawful means of property or funds for the purpose of carrying out the aforesaid objects or other objects of the Club for the time being, including such special object or objects as shall be determined by the Club, whether such acquisition shall be by subscription, gift, devise or bequest of real or personal property, or the sale of goods or other real or personal property, or by exchange, purchase or such other means as may be approved by the Club.
13. To borrow or raise money by the issue of debentures or debenture stock, bonds, mortgages or any other securities founded or based upon all or any of the property of the Club, or without any such security, and upon such terms as to priority or otherwise as the Club shall think fit.
14. To provide or lease land and a clubhouse, for the furtherance of such objects and for the accommodation of the members and their friends, and for such purposes to purchase, take or lease, exchange or otherwise acquire land, and to erect, maintain and alter any buildings or erections that may be required for the purposes of or can be conveniently use in connection with the Club.
15. To furnish any such building or buildings in such a manner as may be thought expedient, and to maintain, improve, repair or replace the buildings and furniture of the Club whenever necessary or expedient.
16. To manage, let lease, sell, hire, exchange or otherwise deal with the property of the Club in such manner and upon such terms as may be considered expedient or desirable.
17. To appoint or employ officers, clerks, servants and workers for the purposes of the Club and to remunerate any persons so appointed or employed for their services by the payment of wages, salaries and gratuities.
18. To provide prizes, trophies and shields to be competed for by members of the Club.
19. To invest the monies of the Club not immediately required in such a manner as may from time to time be determined. From time to time to contribute or subscribe to any charitable, benevolent or useful object of a public character.
20. To draw, accept, make, endorse, discount and negotiate bills of exchange and promissory notes.
21. Generally to do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects.

(4) MEMBERSHIP

1. The Club shall be open to Lofts situated, or Members within a 100km radius of Adelaide GPO or by invitation. Members outside the SAHPA boundaries will be recognised in the SALDC result but not the SAHPA result.
2. Persons desiring to join the Club shall be admitted to Membership unless he/she has applied for Membership in writing. The application shall be in such form as the Committee shall prescribe from time to time.
3. All applications for Membership shall be presented to the Members at any General Meeting of the Club, and must be approved by a two-thirds majority of those Members present and entitled to vote.
4. A register of members will be maintained by the SALDC General Secretary.

4. Entrance Fees
All persons joining the Club shall pay an Entrance Fee in accordance with the rules herein. The amount of which will be determined annually at the Annual General Meeting.
5. Subscription
The Annual Subscription to the Club shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting each year.
6. Membership Categories
 - a) Junior Membership: is available for persons who have not attained the age of eighteen (18) years. This Membership is not entitled to a vote. No Fee is payable for this Membership.
 - b) Senior Flying Member: this is a Single Membership which entitles the Member to one vote. A Fee is payable for this Membership.
 - c) Partnership/Family: this is a Partnership/Family Membership which entitles the Partnership/Family to one Partnership/Family vote. A Fee is payable for this Membership.
 - d) Non Flying Member: this is a Single Membership which entitles the Member to vote on all matters other than Race Rules/Conditions. A Fee is payable for this Membership.
 - e) Social Member: this is a Single Membership which does not entitle this class of Membership to any vote. A Fee is payable for this Membership
 - f) Life Members: no Fees, Full Voting Rights. Life Members may be elected by the Members at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, and the Membership is to be restricted to Members who have conferred outstanding service to the Club or to the SAHPA (Special Races/Long Distance Committee) for a period of no less than 15 years
7. Any Member who shall be in arrears with regard to subscriptions at the end of any financial year shall, if the Club so decide, be deemed to have ceased to belong to the Club. the Member shall thereupon cease to be a Member of the Club, but shall nevertheless remain liable for any subscription in arrears. the subscription of each Member shall be a debt due to the Club by the Member, and recoverable accordingly.

(5) FINANCIAL YEAR

1. The Financial Year shall commence on 1st April and conclude on 31st March of each year.
2. The Annual Subscriptions shall be payable no later than 30th April of each year.
3. Failure to pay by 30th April of each year will result in an additional fee of \$25.00, such fee only to be accepted up to the date of the first race on the programme.

(6) TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. The Committee of Management by a majority of its Members present in person may in its absolute discretion resolve not to admit to Membership any applicant for Membership of the Club and may by such majority of its Members so present resolve to expel from Membership of the Club any Member deemed guilty of any one or more of the following:

- a) Conduct detrimental to the Club
 - b) Breach of the Rules or Regulations of the Club or any of them.
 - c) Wilful refusal or neglect to carry out any lawful direction or ruling of the Committee in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Club or any of them.
 - d) Failure to pay annual subscription or other dues lawfully imposed by the Club in accordance with these rules and regulations or any of them.
 - e) Conduct contrary to the best interest of the Club.
2. No resolution to expel a Member in accordance with sub-paragraph 1 hereof shall be carried unless the Member involved has had the opportunity of stating his/her case to either the Committee of Management or the Annual General Meeting of Members, or any Meeting held in accordance with the Rules of the Club.
 3. Any Member of the Club who shall be expelled from the Club shall forthwith upon the passing of the resolution for expulsion surrender and lose his/her Membership and all rights and privileges of the Club and no such expelled Member shall have any claim whatsoever upon the Committee of Management Members, Officers or Members of the Club.
 4. All disqualifications, suspensions or expulsions endorsed by the General Membership of the Club pursuant to these rules and regulations shall be notified in writing to the SAHPA by the General Secretary within seven (7) days of the said disqualification, suspension or expulsion.
 5. The Committee of Management shall have power to summon before it any Member of the Club to give evidence and/or to produce documents in any matter before the Committee of Management in accordance with these rules and regulations. The form of enquiry or proceedings conducted by the Committee of Management and the manner in which evidence or statements are given to the Committee and documents produced shall in all things be entirely in the absolute and unfettered discretion of the Committee of Management.
 6. The decision by a majority of Members of the Club General Membership present at a Meeting of the Club upon any disqualification, suspension or expulsion from Membership of the Club, shall be final and conclusive.

(7) INFRINGEMENT OF RULES

1. Should any Member of the Club commit a breach of the Rules of the Club and any of them or of the Racing Rules of the Club or any of them the Committee of Management may, notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 6, punish the offender by a term of suspension or his/her Membership of the Club or by such other form of penalty as the Management Committee in its absolute discretion shall think fit.
 - a) Non Payment of Subscription of Dues
 should any Member of the Club fail to pay his/her Subscription or other dues or any part thereof when the same shall be due and payable the Committee of Management may, notwithstanding the provisions of Rules 4, 5 and 6, suspend such Member until such time as all arrears of Subscription and dues shall be paid and during the period of such suspension such Member shall not be entitled to the rights and privileges of the Club or any of them.

- b) Any Member of the Club leaving to join another Club shall resign from the Club in writing. Any Member retiring from the Club before the end of the Season must waive and forfeit all rights, monies, etc. deposited with the Club and will be held liable for an equal part of any deficit or General Expenses Account.
- c) Any Member/Person currently under suspension by any other Racing Pigeon Organisation in Australia is suspended from this Club until such suspension is lifted.
- d) In the event of any suspension upon any Member/Person being lifted, the said Member/Person must re-apply in writing for reinstatement of his/her Membership to the Club.
- e) The General Membership of the Club may in its absolute discretion endorse, refuse to endorse, or otherwise rules upon all disqualifications, suspensions or expulsions by any other Racing Pigeon Organisation in Australia.
- f) Notice in writing of any such disqualification, suspension or expulsion shall be given to the Member involved within seven (7) days from the date of such disqualification, suspension or expulsion.

(8) APPEALS

The General Membership of the Club shall hear and decide upon the appeal of any Club Member against any decision handed down by the Committee of Management, provided that notice of such appeal and the grounds thereof be sent to the General Secretary of the Club within seven (7) days of the Member receiving notice of the decision of the Management Committee.

(9) OFFICERS

The Officers of the Club shall consist of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, General Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, Hamper Chairperson, Clock Chairperson, Auditor and Publicity Officer all of whom shall be elected annually by the General Membership at the Annual General Meeting. All retiring Officers are eligible for re-election.

(10) SIGNATORIES

1. Cheques shall be signed by any two of the following Officers of the Club. Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer or General Secretary.

(11) OFFICERS' DUTIES

1. The Chairperson shall preside and keep order at all Meetings of the Club Members and Committees. Every Member shall pay strict obedience to the presiding Officer and shall uphold the dignity of the Chair. Any Member who, in the opinion of a Meeting of the Committee of Management of the Club is considered guilty of a breach of this rule, may be dealt with as though guilty of misconduct.
2. The Vice-Chairperson shall act in the place of the Chairperson when necessary and assist him/her whenever called upon by him/her to do so.
3. The General Secretary or Treasurer of the Club shall receive all monies of the Club which are or have been paid into the Club excepting such monies as are referred to in the Rule concerning powers and duties of Trustees and shall give the General Secretary a receipt for the same. All such monies received by the said Treasurer or General Secretary shall be paid into the general account of the Club in such bank or banks as the Committee of Management shall decide, and no monies shall be withdrawn from such account without the signature of any two of the following; Chairperson, Treasurer, General Secretary or Vice-Chairperson.
The Treasurer or General Secretary shall pay all expenses contracted by the Club other than those mentioned in the Rule concerning powers and duties of Trustees out of the said General Account after the Accounts have been endorsed by the Chairperson and approved by the Committee of Management. The Treasurer shall produce to the Chairperson, General Secretary of a Meeting of the Committee of Management all books, accounts, vouchers and Club papers in his/her possession whenever called upon to do so. He/she shall produce no later than fourteen (14) days before the Annual General Meeting of Members of the Club a properly audited statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the Financial Year. A Balance Sheet setting out the Assets and Liabilities of the Club shall be sent with notification of date of the Annual General Meeting
 - a) The General Secretary shall keep correctly such books as he/she may be instructed by the Club or as may be required for the fulfilment of his/her duties and in particular race record registration and receipts books and all usual and proper books of account and a register containing the names and addresses of the members of the Club and shall at the expiration of his/her term of office or soon, if required by the Committee of Management, hand to his/her successor all Club books, vouchers, papers, correspondence, etc. in his/her possession. He/she shall make arrangements subject to the approval of the Club for all meetings. He/she shall make arrangement for the carrying out of all races under the auspices of the Club and shall determine their result, only airline distances shall be recognised in Club races when a record is claimed. He/she shall conduct all the correspondence of the Club other than Trustee's correspondence.
4. The Assistant Secretary's duties are to assist the Secretary generally.
5. The Race Secretary shall determine the results of all races flown under the auspices of the Club and hand the results to the General Secretary for approval and presentation to the Members.
6. The Auditors shall audit the accounts of the Club annually, and shall give a proper Certificate in writing of the result of such audits.

7. Any question regarding the accuracy of the figures in the Balance Sheet must be sent in to the Treasurer seven (7) days prior to the Annual General Meeting in order that they may be looked into and an explanation given to the Members at the time the Balance Sheet is under discussion.
8. The Clock Chairperson is responsible for the supervision and delegation of all duties to ensure the correct setting of all clocks and procedures as set down in the race rules.
9. The Hamper Chairperson is responsible for the supervision and delegation of all duties to ensure correct hampering of all birds.

(12) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting shall be held within the month of April at a Meeting called in accordance with the Rules of the Club. The meeting will be notified to members at least 21 days prior to the meeting and each member will receive a copy of the current years financial statements .

(13) COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

1. The Committee of Management to consist of the Club Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Race Secretary, Clock Chairperson, Hamper Chairperson and other Members, as long as there is an “odd” number of Committee of Management Members. This number to be reviewed annually at the Annual General Meeting. All positions will become vacant at the A.G.M. each year. Retiring Members may seek re-election.
2. Committee Meetings to held when deemed necessary at a time and place determined by the Committee, or the Chairperson. Minutes of these Meetings to be placed on the website.
3. Special Meetings can be called at any time by three Members requesting the same, to the Secretary or Treasurer in writing.
4. All Members of the Club shall vote for the election of Members to the Committee of Management, each financial Member shall be entitled to vote according to his/her Membership Entitlement by show of hand.
5. The Committee of Management may adjourned and otherwise regulate their Meetings and proceedings as they think fit. Until otherwise determined, four Members of the Committee shall form a quorum.
6. The Committee of Management shall have power at any time and from time to time to appoint any other person as a member of the Committee of Management to fill a casual vacancy. Any Member so appointed shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting of the Club when he/she shall retire, but he/she shall be eligible for re-election at such Meetings.
7. Votes of Members of the Committee of Management shall be by show of hands.
8. All decisions of the Committee shall be carried by a simple majority.
9. All Meetings of the Committee shall be held in camera and, with the exception of the Annual General Meeting, no notice of such meeting shall be given to Members of the Club.

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10. Any other Member of the Club may be appointed as a Member of the Committee of Management.
11. The Committee of Management may in its sole discretion, and at any time, invite any person or persons to attend Meetings of the Committee of Management. Such persons may, by invitation, be heard, but unless a Member of the Committee, shall not be entitled to vote.
12. Minutes of all Meetings of the Committee of Management and of the Annual General Meeting and of any Special General Meeting shall be recorded at the Meeting by the Secretary and subsequently read aloud at the next Meeting, alterations being made as necessitated. The Members present shall confirm the Minutes of the prior Meeting as read and amended.

(14) OVER-RIDING POWERS OF GENERAL MEMBERS

1. A resolution carried by 75% of General Members of the Club present, financial and eligible to vote, in person at a Special Meeting called pursuant to this rule shall override any resolution or decision of the Committee of Management to contrary effect and the General Members may by a majority of 75% of their total number at any time vote to remove from office any one or more of the Committee of Management and upon the passing of such resolution such Member or Members shall forthwith cease to hold office as Members of the Committee of Management and a casual vacancy shall be declared and filled in accordance with these rules.
2. In the event that the whole Committee of Management shall be dismissed from office or shall resign, an election to replace all Members of the Committee of Management shall be held in accordance with these rules and the Secretary for the time being shall have all powers given by these rules to conduct the election to appoint the returning officer, and to call a Special Meeting of Members for the purpose of declaring the results of the election and all other powers necessary to lead to the valid appointment of a new Committee of Management.
3. A Motion or Amendment becomes the property of the Meeting and can only be withdrawn upon consent of the Mover and Seconder of the said Motion and a majority of Member present.

(15) STANDING ORDERS

1. Every Member, when about to speak, shall address the Chair respectfully and conduct himself/herself in a respectful manner towards the Chair. No Member shall be allowed to interrupt the Speaker, except through the Chairperson, and in explanation of a point of order.
2. No Member shall be allowed to speak more than once on any subject, nor longer than five (5) minutes, except with the consent of the Meeting. Any Member who has spoken on a motion shall not be in order in speaking on any amendment except the mover of the motion, who shall be called on by the Chairperson to reply after the debate has closed and not Member shall speak afterwards on the same subject.

3. Not more than two Members shall speak in succession, either for or against any motion or amendment, and if, at the conclusion of the second speaker's remarks, no Member wishes to speak on either side, the question shall be put to the meeting after the mover has replied.
4. The time for discussing any matter shall not exceed twenty (20) minutes, unless an extension of time has been agreed upon by a two-thirds majority of the Members present, and the time for such an extension must be stated.
5. On any Member raising a point of order during the debate, the speaker shall retire and the person raising the point of order shall state his/her point concisely, when the Chairperson shall rule thereon, his/her ruling being final, unless challenged by a formal motion submitted to the Meeting.
6. Should any Member disagree with the ruling of the Chair, he/she shall at once challenge the same, and on this action being taken, the Chairperson shall vacate the Chair, and the question put to the Meeting without discussion, it shall require a two-thirds majority to have the rulings disagreed with.
7. The Chairperson shall not speak for or against any motion or amendment. In the event of the votes on any subject being equal, he/she shall have a casting vote only, but not otherwise. He/she shall decide all points of order.
8. All notices of motion shall be in writing, and shall take precedence of all new business.
9. On the adoption of any amendment, such amendment shall become the motion.
10. No motion or amendment shall be entertained or discussed until it has been seconded, and one amendment only shall be before the meeting at any one time. Should a Member desire to move a further amendment he/she shall give notice of and indicate it before the vote is taken on the original motion.
11. The Chairperson or any other financial voting Member eligible to vote, present at any meeting of the Club may request that a secret ballot be held on a motion before the Chair. The decision to hold a secret ballot shall be decided by a simple majority, by a show of hands, called prior to the original motion or amendments being put to the meeting.
 - a) In the event of secret ballot the Chairperson shall call upon two Members to act as scrutineers.

(16) NOMINATIONS AND ACCEPTANCES

1. Entries in Club races must be made on the recognised Club Form and contain all marks on the Life Rings and the correct description of each bird entered.
2. If a Member cannot nominate his/her birds in person by 7.00pm, he/she is required to notify the Secretary or a member of the Committee of Management his/her number of birds (cocks and hens) for that particular race. All nomination forms to be in the Secretary's hands by 8.00pm. Any late nominations will incur a fine of two (2) times the cost of one pigeon nomination fee.
3. Unless in the opinion of the Committee of Management a clerical error has been made, the numbers on rubber race rings or electronic timing ring numbers produced in clock must correspond with those on the entry form.

(17) OWNERSHIP

1. All birds before nomination must be the absolute property of the competitor or competitors in whose name they are nominated and flown, and must be flown to a loft on the registered premises of competitor or competitors.
2. No competitor or competitors will be allowed to fly to more than one registered loft. If more than one Member's loft is situated on the same premises, such lofts and birds must be nominated. Any infraction of this rule will annul all rights to prizes.
3. Registration of foreign rings or gift rings. All Members to ensure transfer cards have been lodged with the SAHPA Ring Secretary before the date specified for registration of same by the governing body each year.
4. All birds to be entirely at owners risk from the time they leave the owners' hands but every care will be taken to prevent losses or injury.

(18) RACE RULES

1. Race nomination fees and special prizes will be set annually at a General Meeting to be held one month prior to the commencement of racing.
2. Where prize-money has been allotted to any race and all positions are not filled in the stipulated flying time, all the money so allotted shall be redistributed between birds filling positions. When competing for special prizes, if no bird(s) clocked in race time, all monies, less costs, will remain in the Club funds and the Committee of Management will decide where they should be refunded to Members competing..
3. All pigeons must be vaccinated against pigeon pox as per SAHPA Rules.
4. Qualification of bird rules passed by the SALDC Management Committee over-ride any SAHPA Rules for any events held by the SALDC.

(19) FLYING TIME

1. SALDC will race under the rules of the SAHPA in regard to calculating flying time.
2. No race shall close until all positions, allotted certificates, points and prize money, including all pools have been filled except when time limits for races automatically close the race. Time limits shall be three (3) calendar days or 24 hours after the first bird is clocked for all races of 950kms or under. Races of over 950kms and up to and including 1360kms shall close at the end of the second calendar day after clocking of the first bird or at the end of the fifth calendar day, whichever is the earlier. The bird making the highest velocity to be declared the winner, excepting any competitor making such a velocity the Committee of Management rules to be impossible.
3. When two or more birds record an equal velocity to the third corrected decimal, the position shall be declared a dead heat and the prize divided. Time limits for races over 1360kms shall be determined at the time other regulations concerning these events are fixed. The common distances covered by this rule shall be calculated from the race point to the Adelaide GPO.
 - a) The onus is on the competitor to contact the Race Secretary to organise a clock to be read and result calculated.

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(20) HAMPERING

1. Birds must be race-marked with either electronic timing rings or rubber race rings and each Member's nomination sheet duplicate shall be placed in together with the clock setting sheet, entry forms and the Club Race Register, shall be kept secured.
2. No less than four Members shall be present at any table when race marking commences and is in progress
3. Each basket must be duly wired and sealed, one wire and seal to each of the two ends of a drop front. On the drop front door the name of the Club must be clearly painted. All doors must be fitted with chains or similar and each hamper must be numbered.
4. All birds competing in races must be rung with solid Life Rings, such rings not to be defaced in any manner, shape or form and to be registered and approved by the Club.
5. The Committee of Management shall have the power to disqualify any bird from competing in any or all races flown under these rules.
6. All competing Members are to ensure that their hampers are clearly marked with their name and Club identification.

(21) CLOCK RULES

1. SALDC will race under the rules of the SAHPA in regard to clock rules.

(22) ALTERATION OF RULES

No alteration or variation of or addition to these rules or of the objects of the Club shall be made except by a 50% majority of the financial Members present at the Annual General Meeting or 75% at a Special General Meeting of the Member of the Club called for the purpose. Twenty One (21) clear days notice of such Meetings shall be given to all Members stating the time and place of holding same and specifying the alterations, variations or additions to the rules or objects proposed to be brought forward.

(23) ROUTINE OF BUSINESS AT MEETINGS

The following shall be the course of business at Meetings of the Club and its Committees:

- a) Meeting declared open
- b) Chairperson to call for any apologies
- c) Minutes to be read and confirmed
- d) Business arising out of the Minutes
- e) Correspondence
- f) Payment of Accounts
- g) Reports from Committees

- h) Adjourned Motions and Business
- i) Motions of which notice has been given
- j) Breaches of rules and regulations
- k) General Business

Members are not entitled to voting by proxy, they must be in attendance at the meeting to vote.

(24) LOFT POSITIONS

Distance shall be measured by a GPS (Global Positioning System) placed at the trapping position of the loft.

(25) REPEAL OF PREVIOUS CONSTITUTION AND RULES

From the date of the registration of this Constitution and these rules, all previously registered Constitutions and Rules shall be repealed and the newly registered Constitution and Rules shall bind the Club and every Member to the same extent as if they had respectively signed and sealed them, and agreed to be bound by all the provisions thereof.

(26) DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY ON DISSOLUTION OR WINDING UP OF THE CLUB

If, upon the final winding up or dissolution of the SALDC, there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the Members of the Club but shall be paid to or distributed amongst such body or bodies as are considered best able to assist and promote the sport of Pigeon Racing within the State of South Australia by the Committee of Management or Trustees, if said Trustees have been duly elected.

All Members are required to make themselves fully conversant with these rules.