

# Constitution

## 1. NAME

The name of the Association shall be the Australian and New Zealand Association of Bellringers.

## 2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Association are

- (a) to foster good relations between ringers, interchange of visits, promotion of the art of change ringing and the building or improvement of ringing towers;
- (b) to encourage the installation, restoration, augmentation and maintenance of rings of bells and to provide technical, financial or other assistance in respect thereof;
- (c) to foster and provide education and training in the art of change ringing and all activities associated therewith or incidental thereto;
- (d) to preserve, record and encourage the preservation and recording of historical and archival material relating to bells and to change ringing, including the recording of peals and quarter peals rung for the Association;
- (e) to publish or cause to be published materials and resources in furtherance of the objects of the Association;
- (f) to provide representation on the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers for ringers of Australia and New Zealand;
- (g) to raise money, whether by subscription, donations or otherwise howsoever for the purposes of the Association;
- (h) to do and perform such things as may be conducive or incidental to the foregoing;

The income and property of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of profit to the members of the Association provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any servant or member of the Association in return for services actually rendered or expenses properly incurred by such servant or member.

## 2A. POWERS

Subject to the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1985 (SA) ("the Act") and to the provisions of this Constitution the Association shall have and may exercise the powers conferred by section 25 of the Act.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP

**A: Membership of the Association shall be open to persons in the following categories**

- (a) **Ringling Member** A person who:
  - (i) is a resident of Australia or New Zealand, and
  - (ii) has rung unaided a plain course of any treble dominated minor method or the extent of any doubles method on an 'inside' tower bell or has rung an extent of any minor method two-in-hand or has been an active ringer for at least 12 months or in special circumstances has been declared eligible for membership by resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Association, and
  - (iii) has paid the required subscription.
- (b) **Provisional Ringling Member** A person who:
  - (i) is a resident of Australia or New Zealand, and
  - (ii) is engaged in ringing tower or hand bells but has not yet reached the standard required for Ringling Membership, and
  - (iii) has paid the required subscription.

- (c) **Associate Member** A person who:
  - (i) is not qualified for Ringling or Provisional Ringling Membership, and
  - (ii) has paid the required subscription.
- (d) **Non-Resident Member** A person who:
  - (i) is not a resident but has rung within Australia or New Zealand, and
  - (ii) meets the qualifications specified in paragraph 3 A (a) (ii)
  - (iii) has paid the required joining fee.
- (e) **Honorary Life Member** A person who:
  - (i) has been a Ringling Member, and
  - (ii) has rendered substantial service to the Exercise in Australia or New Zealand.
- (f) **Honorary Associate Member** A person who:
  - (i) is not qualified to become a Ringling Member, and
  - (ii) has rendered substantial service to the Exercise in Australia or New Zealand

## B: Admission to any class of membership

- (a) In the case of Ringling Membership, Associate Membership and Provisional Ringling Membership, by nomination of a Ringling Member or Honorary Life Member who shall verify that the candidate has the necessary qualifications, shall notify the Secretary and shall forward the required subscription. At the immediately subsequent AGM any such nomination may be rejected if a motion to this effect is passed, in which case any subscription shall be returned.
- (b) In the case of Non-Resident Membership, either as specified in (a) above, or alternatively immediately before a peal attempt, in which the majority of the band are members of the Association, nomination may be made by any two of those members.
- (c) In the case of Honorary Life Membership and Honorary Associate Membership, by resolution of a majority of members present and voting at an Annual General Meeting of the Association, provided that the nominee has not been an Executive Officer for a least one year prior to nomination, and has been recommended unanimously by the Executive Officers before the Annual General Meeting.

## C: Ceasing or resuming residence

A Ringling Member who ceases to be a resident of Australia or New Zealand may by formal notice in writing to the Secretary become a Non-Resident Member without further payment of any subscription.

A Non-Resident Member who becomes a resident of Australia or New Zealand shall cease to be a Non-Resident Member but upon payment of the required subscription may become a Ringling Member.

## D: Eligibility for office

Voting and eligibility for any office of the Association shall be restricted to Ringling Members and Honorary Life Members, except that the Public Officer need not be a member of the Association.

## 4. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP FOR MISCONDUCT

- (a) A person may be expelled from membership of the Association on the grounds that the person's conduct is detrimental to the Association or contrary to the Constitution subject to the following conditions:
  - (i) that a unanimous recommendation for expulsion is made by the Executive Officers to an Annual General Meeting of the Association, and
  - (ii) that the expulsion is agreed to by two thirds of the members present and voting at the meeting at which the recommendation is made.

- (b) A member who is expelled shall forfeit any subscriptions paid to the Association.

## 5. BRANCHES

- (a) If no less than five persons, being members, request that a Branch be formed in an area, such a Branch may be constituted at an Annual General Meeting.
- (b) Subject to the next sub-section, each Branch shall have freedom to adopt and amend any set of by-laws and to admit members, hold meetings, fix and collect subscriptions, make resolutions and otherwise conduct the affairs of the Branch as may be provided by those by-laws, provided that each Branch shall send a copy of its by-laws to the Secretary of the Association.
- (c) Should by-laws of a Branch be inconsistent in any respect with this Constitution of the Association (as from time to time amended), the by-laws shall be invalid to the extent of that inconsistency.
- (d) Any members may choose to belong to the Association but not to a Branch.

## 6. ORGANISATION

Subject to any direction or decision made by an Annual General Meeting, the affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Committee of Management which shall comprise the Executive Officers hereinafter mentioned, together with such other Executive Officers (if any) as shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting. The Committee of Management may exercise all such powers and do all such things as the Association is authorised to exercise and do and which are not by these rules directed or required to be exercised or done by the Association in General Meeting. The Committee of Management shall conduct its business in such manner as it shall determine, provided that the Secretary shall record all the decisions of the Committee and shall report thereon to the next Annual General Meeting.

### Officers of the Association

- (a) The Executive Officers shall be President, Secretary and Treasurer, and shall also include one or more Vice-Presidents as described in (b) below, with no individual holding more than one of these offices. The President shall not hold office for more than three consecutive years, nor shall the Secretary or the Treasurer hold office for more than six consecutive years.
- (b) One or more Vice-Presidents shall also be elected. Such Vice-Presidents shall be Executive Officers. Vice-Presidents shall hold office until the following Annual General Meeting but may stand for election in subsequent years.
- (c) The Association at each Annual General Meeting shall elect a Public Officer who shall be a resident of South Australia but need not be a member of the Association.
- (d) Non-executive officers shall be elected to such roles as the Annual General Meeting shall from time to time determine. Such other officers shall include, but not be restricted to, Peal Secretary, Ringing Towers Editor, Webmaster, Librarian/ Archivist
- (e) Subject to paragraph 6 (c) all Ringing Members and Honorary Life Members of the Association shall be eligible for nomination to any office. To stand for election, a member must be nominated and seconded by Ringing Members or Honorary Life Members of the Association (and such nomination and seconding can be made in advance or at the time of the meeting). When there is more than one person standing for any position, the election shall be determined by a simple non-preferential secret ballot at the AGM.
- (f) All officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and they shall assume their office at the end of that Meeting and hold the same until the end of the next Annual General Meeting (or until their prior resignation).

- (g) If any office falls vacant at any time between Annual General Meetings then a replacement officer shall be appointed by the remaining Executive Officers.

## 7. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

### (a) President

The President shall act as Chairman for the Annual General Meeting and shall see that the affairs of the Association are properly conducted at all other times. If the President is unable to attend the Annual General Meeting, the Committee of Management shall appoint a member to act as Chairman for the Annual General Meeting.

### (b) Secretary

The Secretary shall conduct correspondence, keep Minutes of meetings, and keep registers of the members of the Association in all categories.

### (c) Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys and shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Association. The Treasurer shall cause accounts to be prepared and audited for presentation to the Annual General Meeting .

### (d) Other officers

Other officers, whether executive or not, shall have such duties as are published in a separate document, with the AGM having the power to change such definitions at the time of the elections or at other times as it sees fit.

## 8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- (a) The Annual Meeting of the Association shall be held on or after 1 March of each year, shall elect Officers and receive reports of Officers, and may examine and define the policy of the Association.
- (b) The agenda shall be that which is determined by the Secretary before the meeting and published at the meeting. It shall include items submitted by any member to the Secretary for inclusion in the agenda, provided that such items are received at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. A draft agenda shall be published in the edition of Ringing Towers immediately preceding the meeting, to include items submitted sufficiently in advance of its printing, and this draft agenda shall also be published on the ANZAB website and updated as further items are received by the Secretary, with a final copy available to members ten days prior to the meeting.
- (c) Notwithstanding clause (b), at the Annual General Meeting any Ringing Member or Honorary Life Member may as part of 'Any Other Business' propose and second motions (and amendments to motions) that are not set down on the agenda and may vote on these motions.
- (d) Any member of the Association may attend the AGM and may speak to any motion at the invitation of the Chairman.
- (e) A quorum at all AGMs shall consist of one Executive Officer and six members, each of whom is a Ringing Member or Honorary Life Member.
- (f) The meeting shall elect the Association's Representatives on the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers at intervals conforming with the CCCBR's requirements.
- (g) Any Ringing Member or Honorary Life Member may vote at an Annual General Meeting of the Association by proxy, provided that written notice is delivered to the Secretary before the commencement of the Annual General Meeting for which it is given, specifying the member's and the proxy's name, the notice being dated, signed by the member and specifying the meeting at which the proxy is to be used.
- (h) The Association shall at each Annual General Meeting appoint an auditor (who need not be a member of the Association) to hold office from the end of that meeting until the close of the

next AGM. In the event of earlier vacation of the office, the Committee of Management may appoint an auditor to fill the vacancy.

- (i) The Committee of Management shall cause to be laid before the members of each AGM audited accounts presenting fairly the state of affairs of the Association at the preceding 31st December, and the results of the operations of the Association for the financial year ended on that date. A copy of the statement by the Committee of Management approving the accounts and a copy of the Auditor's report on those accounts shall be attached to the accounts laid before the AGM.
- (j) The Annual Festival of Ringing shall be held in association with the AGM at the same time, and as near as possible in the same place. The control of the Festival shall be in the hands of the President or some other person to whom the President delegates the authority.

## 9. DONATIONS FUNDS

- (a) There shall be a Public Fund into which shall be paid donations to the Association for any of its objects or purposes, such donations being eligible for tax deductibility under sub-division 30-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 or any Act amending or replacing that Act. The same shall be administered by a Committee ('the Funds Committee') which shall be the Committee of Management or such other Committee as the Committee of Management may appoint, provided that a majority of the Fund Committee must meet the eligibility criteria determined from time to time by or on behalf of the Australian Government for persons able to administer and control such funds.
- (b) There shall be a General Donations Fund into which shall be paid –
  - (i) Any donation to the Association from a person or body who or which is not able to or does not wish to claim an Australian tax deduction for the gift;
  - (ii) The net proceeds of any commercial sponsorship of the Association; and
  - (iii) Such other monies of the Association as the Committee of Management may from time to time determine, other than funds payable to the Public Fund.

The Fund shall be administered by the Funds Committee referred to in subclause (a).

- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of clause 6 of this Constitution, no monies shall be withdrawn from the bank or other accounts for the Public Fund or for the General Donations Fund without the concurrence of a majority of the Funds Committee.

## 10. SUBSCRIPTIONS

- (a) The subscriptions payable by Ringing Members, Provisional and Associate Members, and the joining fee payable by Non-Resident Members shall be determined from time to time at an Annual General Meeting, and may incorporate such special rates, discounts, or differing arrangements for Australian and New Zealand members as may be determined at an AGM.
- (b) No subscriptions shall be payable by Honorary Life Members or Honorary Associate Members.
- (c) Subscriptions shall fall due on 1st January each year, or such other date as may be decided at an Annual General Meeting. The Secretary may accept a reduced fee from a new member joining during the year.

## 11. PEALS

- (a) No Peal shall be recognised as having been rung for the Association unless all members of the band were, at the time of the Peal, members of the Association. Not less than one half of the band must qualify as
  - a Ringing Member, or

- a Former Ringing Member, or
- an Honorary Life Member.

- (b) All recognised peals shall be recorded in Ringing Towers and/or by such other means as may be determined at an AGM.
- (c) The conductor shall within three months of the performance ensure that the details of the peal are submitted to the Peal Secretary or recorded in whatever other way may be determined by the Peal Secretary or at an AGM, and shall notify the Secretary of any nominations made prior to the performance.
- (d) All peals shall conform to the regulations applicable thereto determined from time to time by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

## 12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be repealed or amended at any Annual General Meeting of the Association in accordance with the following procedure:

- (a) No proposal for amendment or repeal of the Constitution shall be considered at an Annual General Meeting unless notice thereof shall have been given in an edition of Ringing Towers published not less than two weeks nor more than twelve months before the date of the meeting; and shall have been published on ANZAB's website.
- (b) A copy of the proposed amendment or motion to repeal shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary and shall be signed by any two Ringing Members or Honorary Life Members.
- (c) Any amendment to the proposal which in the opinion of the Chairman of the meeting relates directly to the subject matter of the proposal may be made to the proposal by a majority of members present and voting.
- (d) The proposal (as amended, if at all) shall not be passed unless it is agreed to by a majority of two-thirds of the votes cast either in person or by proxy.

## 13. REGISTERED OFFICE AND SEAL

- (a) The registered office shall be such place in South Australia as the Committee of Management shall from time to time determine.
- (1) The common seal of the Association shall not be affixed to any document without the authority of the Committee of Management, and any two members thereof may witness the affixing of the seal.

## 14. WINDING UP

The Association shall only be wound up voluntarily by a special resolution passed at an Annual General Meeting of the Association. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association but shall be given or transferred to some other association or body having objects similar to the objects of the Association and which shall prohibit the distribution of its income and property amongst its members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Association under or by virtue of these rules, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provision, then to some charitable object provided however that upon the winding up or dissolution of the Public Fund the balance, if any, must be paid to a fund, authority or institution eligible for tax deductibility of donations under Subdivision 30 –B, section 30 – 100 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations maintained under the Act. The Association, body, fund, authority or institution to which any property is transferred under this clause shall be determined by the members of the Association at or before the time of winding up or dissolution as the case may require. For the purposes of this Rule "special resolution" means a special resolution as defined in and given with the notice required by the Act.