



Lusitano Horse
Association of
Australasia Inc
Constitution

January 2022

LHAA CONSTITUTION

Table of Contents

1.	Definitions.....	3
2.	Name.....	3
3.	Purpose of the Association.....	3
4.	Membership	4
4.1	Membership Generally	4
4.2	Types of Membership.....	5
4.3	Application for Membership.....	5
4.4	Cessation of Membership	6
4.5	Membership Entitlements Not Transferable.....	6
4.6	Conflicts of Interest	6
4.7	Resignation of Membership	6
4.8	Register of Members	6
4.9	Fees and Subscriptions	7
4.10	Members' Liabilities	7
4.11	Resolution of Disputes.....	7
4.12	Disciplining of Members	8
4.13	Right of Appeal of Disciplined Member	9
5.	The Committee.....	9
5.1	Powers of the Committee.....	9
5.2	Composition and Membership of Committee.....	9
5.3	Election of Committee Members	10
5.4	President's Responsibilities	10
5.5	Vice President's Responsibilities	10
5.6	Secretary's Responsibilities	11
5.7	Treasurer's Responsibilities.....	11
5.8	Registrar's Responsibilities	11
5.9	Casual Vacancies.....	11
5.10	Removal of Committee Members	12
5.11	Committee Meetings and Quorum	12
5.12	Appointment of Association Members as Committee Members to Constitute Quorum 13	
5.13	Use of Technology at Committee Meetings	13
5.14	Delegation by Committee to Sub-Committee.....	13
5.15	Voting and Decisions.....	13
6.	General Meetings	14
6.1	Annual General Meetings - Holding of	14

6.2	Annual General Meetings - Calling of and Business at.....	14
6.3	Special General Meetings - Calling of	14
6.4	Notice.....	15
6.5	Quorum for General Meetings	15
6.6	Presiding Member	16
6.7	Adjournment	16
6.8	Making of Decisions.....	16
6.9	Special Resolutions	16
6.10	Voting	17
6.11	Proxy Votes.....	17
6.12	Postal or Electronic Ballots.....	17
6.13	Use of Technology at General Meetings	17
7.	Miscellaneous.....	17
7.1	Common Seal.....	17
7.2	Insurance.....	18
7.3	Funds – Source.....	18
7.4	Funds - Management	18
7.5	Auditors	18
7.6	Association is Non-Profit.....	18
7.7	Distribution of Property on Winding up of Association.....	19
7.8	Change of Name, Objects and Constitution.....	19
7.9	Custody of Books etc.....	19
7.10	Inspection of Books etc	19
7.11	Service of Notices	20
7.12	Financial Year	20
8.	Matters not Covered by these Rules.....	20

1. Definitions

In this constitution:

ordinary committee member means a member of the committee who is not an office bearer of the association.

secretary means:

- (a) the person holding office under this constitution as secretary of the association, or
- (b) if no person holds that office - the public officer of the association.

special general meeting means a general meeting of the association other than an annual general meeting.

the Act means the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*.

the Regulation means the *Associations Incorporation Regulation 2016*.

In this constitution:

- (a) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty, and
- (b) a reference to the exercise of a function includes, if the function is a duty, a reference to the performance of the duty.

The provisions of the *Interpretation Act 1987* apply to and in respect of this constitution in the same manner as those provisions would so apply if this constitution were an instrument made under the Act.

2. Name

The name of the Association is 'The Lusitano Horse Association of Australasia Incorporated' (In these rules referred to as "the Association").

3. Purpose of the Association

The purpose of the Association is to:

- (a) To maintain the purity of the Lusitano Horse in Australasia
- (b) To liaise and cooperate with the Associação Portuguesa de Criadores do Cavalo Puro Sangue Lusitano (APSL) in the correct keeping of the PSL STUD BOOK so that all horses therein shall be eligible for birth and adult registration with the APSL.
- (c) To foster the development of the Lusitano Horse and its derivatives and to educate, assist and instruct new breeders and owners
- (d) To promote in any way whatsoever the interests of breeders of Lusitano Horses in Australasia both pure and part-bred.
- (e) To act as the National Governing Body to whom other bodies can refer for guidance in all aspects of Association work.
- (f) To promote good fellowship and sportsmanship amongst breeders and owners of Lusitano Horses.
- (g) To compile, print and publish registers of Lusitano Horses in Australasia containing amongst other things and by way of appendix part-bred Lusitano horses that the Association shall from time to time accept as being eligible for such an appendix.

- (h) To print, publish or make contributions to any newspaper, periodicals, books or leaflets and to publish whether in print, type or broadcast or otherwise any information which the Association may think desirable for the promotion of its objects.
- (i) To adopt such means of making known the objects and benefits of the Association as the Association may deem expedient and practical and to otherwise further the interests of members by advertising in the mass media, by circulars, by publications of books, periodicals and articles, by broadcasting, by granting prizes, rewards and donations and by other means that the Association may deem expedient and practical.
- (j) To establish and maintain relationships with Lusitano Breed Societies in other countries and with other Societies formed to promote the welfare and interests of other breeds of horses.
- (k) To support, join in, compete and assist in any Agricultural Show
- (l) To appoint Judges and stewards and to maintain a register of persons competent to judge Lusitano Horses.
- (m) To hold and promote shows, exhibitions and demonstrations.
- (n) To hold, promote, assist or join in assisting sales of horses registered with the Association.
- (o) To register with the Association and with other similar Societies brands of all descriptions and to register copyrights for the use of the Association and its members
- (p) To do all or any thing deemed necessary to promote the furtherance of the Lusitano Horse breed.

Financial gain is not a purpose of the Association.

4. Membership

4.1 Membership Generally

4.1.1 A person is eligible to be a member of the Association if:

- (a) the person is a natural person, and
- (b) the person has applied and been approved for membership of the Association in accordance with these rules
- (c) To become a member a person must be the registered owner of a Horse/Horses in one of the Registers kept by this Association; or a person appointed at the discretion of the Committee.

4.1.2 If two or more members are joint owners of any horse and shall be entitled to be full members by virtue only of the ownership of that horse, all of such joint owners shall for the purpose of this Constitution be regarded as one Full Member only and the joint owner who shall be entitled to exercise the rights and privileges of Full Membership shall be such one of such joint owners who is for the time being and from time to time nominated as such by all the joint owners. The other joint owners shall be eligible to be Associate Members;

4.1.3 A Member is an individual admitted to membership under these rules who has not ceased to be a Member of the Association. No businesses, nor incorporated or unincorporated bodies may be members

4.1.4 A person is taken to be a member of the Association if the person was one of the individuals on whose behalf an application for registration of the Association under section 6 (1) (a) of the Act was made.

4.2 Types of Membership

The membership of the Association shall consist of Full Members, Associate Members and Life Members.

A **Full Member** shall be either a member who is the registered owner of a Horse/Horses in one of the Registers kept by this Association; or a person appointed at the discretion of the Committee.

Honorary Life Member: This membership may be bestowed by resolution on a member by the membership at a General Meeting for outstanding services to the Association. Honorary Life Members shall have all the rights and privileges of a Full Member including FULL voting rights and shall be subject to all the same duties as a Member except are exempt from paying any membership fees.

Associate Member: This membership may be assigned from time to time at the discretion of the Committee where an applicant does not meet approval for Full Membership with voting rights - Associate members will have all the rights and privileges of a Full member though shall have NO voting rights. All members under the age of 18 are to be considered Associate Members.

4.3 Application for Membership

4.3.1 An application by a person for membership of the Association:

- (a) must be made in writing (including by email or other electronic means, if the committee so determines) in the form determined by the committee, and
- (b) must be lodged (including by electronic means, if the committee so determines) with the Registrar of the Association.

4.3.2 As soon as practicable after receiving an application for membership, the Registrar must refer the application to the committee, which is to determine whether to approve or to reject the application.

4.3.3 As soon as practicable after the committee makes that determination, the Registrar must:

- (a) notify the applicant in writing (including by email or other electronic means, if the committee so determines) that the committee approved or rejected the application (whichever is applicable), and
- (b) if the committee approves the application, request the applicant to pay (within the period of 28 days after receipt by the applicant of the notification) the sum payable under this constitution by a member as entrance fee and annual subscription.

4.3.4 The Registrar must, on payment by the applicant of the amounts referred to in subclause (4.3.3) (b) within the period referred to in that provision, enter or cause to be entered the applicant's name in the register of members and, on the name being so entered, the applicant becomes a member of the Association.

4.4 Cessation of Membership

4.4.1 A person ceases to be a member of the Association if the person:

- a) dies, or
- b) resigns membership, or
- c) is expelled from the Association, or
- d) fails to pay the annual membership fee under clause 4.9 (2) within 3 months after the fee is due.

4.5 Membership Entitlements Not Transferable

4.5.1 A right, privilege or obligation which a person has by reason of being a member of the Association:

- a) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person, and
- b) terminates on cessation of the person's membership.

4.6 Conflicts of Interest

4.6.1 A conflict of interest arises where any member's interests or duties in a particular matter conflict or might conflict with the member's duty to the Association.

4.6.2 Where a conflict of interest arises for a member, that member must declare the nature of the conflict or the potential conflict and file the appropriate form with the Registrar. The member must not take part in deliberations of proceedings including decision making in relation to the conflict of interest. The member must not be counted in the quorum required for decision making on the matter for which the member has a conflict of interest.

4.7 Resignation of Membership

4.7.1 A member of the Association may resign from membership of the Association by first giving to the secretary written notice of at least 1 month (or any other period that the committee may determine) of the member's intention to resign and, on the expiration of the period of notice, the member ceases to be a member.

4.7.2 If a member of the Association ceases to be a member under subclause (4.7.1), and in every other case where a member ceases to hold membership, the secretary must make an appropriate entry in the register of members recording the date on which the member ceased to be a member.

4.8 Register of Members

4.8.1 The secretary must establish and maintain a register of members of the Association (whether in written or electronic form) specifying the name and postal, residential or email

address of each person who is a member of the association together with the date on which the person became a member.

- 4.8.2 The register of members must be kept in New South Wales:
 - (a) at the main premises of the Association, or
 - (b) if the Association has no premises, at the Association's official address.
- 4.8.3 The register of members must be open for inspection, free of charge, by any member of the Association at any reasonable hour.
- 4.8.4 A member of the association may obtain a copy of any part of the register on payment of a fee of not more than \$1 for each page copied.
- 4.8.5 If a member requests that any information contained on the register about the member (other than the member's name) not be available for inspection, that information must not be made available for inspection.
- 4.8.6 A member must not use information about a person obtained from the register to contact or send material to the person, other than for:
 - (a) the purposes of sending the person a newsletter, a notice in respect of a meeting or other event relating to the Association or other material relating to the Association, or
 - (b) any other purpose necessary to comply with a requirement of the Act or the Regulation.
- 4.8.7 If the register of members is kept in electronic form:
 - (a) it must be convertible into hard copy, and
 - (b) the requirements in subclauses (4.8.2) and (4.8.3) apply as if a reference to the register of members is a reference to a current hard copy of the register of members.

4.9 Fees and Subscriptions

- 4.9.1 Membership shall be deemed to be active only when the approved applicant has paid to the Association the prescribed fee or such other amount as the Committee determines from time to time to constitute a membership fee ("Membership Fee").
- 4.9.2 No fee is payable until membership is accepted
- 4.9.3 Member subscriptions are annual and do not automatically roll into the next financial year, namely 1st January to 31st December each year.

4.10 Members' Liabilities

- 4.10.1 The liability of a member of the Association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Association or the costs, charges, and expenses of the winding up of the Association is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the Association as required by clause 4.9.

4.11 Resolution of Disputes

- 4.11.1 If a dispute arises between any member against another member or the committee, or where any member has a complaint with respect to the Association or these Rules (the "Dispute") then the following procedures will apply:
 - a) Any member claiming the Dispute has arisen under or in relation to these Rules or the Association shall give notice to the parties subject to the Dispute specifying the nature of the Dispute.
 - b) The parties should meet together in good faith within 10 Business Days of receiving the written notice of the Dispute to resolve the Dispute.

- c) If they are unable to resolve the Dispute within 10 Business Days of receiving the written notice, the parties shall agree on a process for resolving the Dispute expeditiously using informal dispute resolution techniques such as mediation, expert evaluation or determination or similar techniques agreed by them.
- 4.11.2 If the parties do not agree within 5 Business Days (or such period agreed in writing by them) following failure to resolve the Dispute by good faith discussions as to:
- a) The dispute resolution technique and procedures to be adopted;
 - b) The timetable for all steps in those procedures; and
 - c) The selection and compensation of the independent person required for such technique,
- the dispute shall be referred to a Community Justice Centre for mediation under the *Community Justice Centres Act 1983*.
- 4.11.3 If a dispute is not resolved by mediation within 3 months of the referral to a Community Justice Centre, the dispute is to be referred to arbitration.
- 4.11.4 The *Commercial Arbitration Act 2010* applies to a dispute referred to arbitration.

4.12 Disciplining of Members

- 4.12.1 A complaint may be made to the committee by any person that a member of the Association:
- (a) has refused or neglected to comply with a provision or provisions of this constitution, or
 - (b) has wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the Association.
- 4.12.2 The committee may refuse to deal with a complaint if it considers the complaint to be trivial or vexatious in nature.
- 4.12.3 If the committee decides to deal with the complaint, the committee:
- (a) must cause notice of the complaint to be served on the member concerned, and
 - (b) must give the member at least 14 days from the time the notice is served within which to make submissions to the committee in connection with the complaint, and
 - (c) must take into consideration any submissions made by the member in connection with the complaint.
- 4.12.4 The committee may, by resolution, expel the member from the Association or suspend the member from membership of the Association if, after considering the complaint and any submissions made in connection with the complaint, it is satisfied that the facts alleged in the complaint have been proved and the expulsion or suspension is warranted in the circumstances.
- 4.12.5 If the committee expels or suspends a member, the secretary must, within 7 days after the action is taken, cause written notice to be given to the member of the action taken, of the reasons given by the committee for having taken that action and of the member's right of appeal under clause 4.13.
- 4.12.6 The expulsion or suspension does not take effect:
- (a) until the expiration of the period within which the member is entitled to appeal against the resolution concerned, or
 - (b) if within that period the member exercises the right of appeal, unless and until the Association confirms the resolution under clause 4.13, or whichever is the later.

4.13 Right of Appeal of Disciplined Member

- 4.13.1 A member may appeal to the Association in a general meeting against a resolution of the committee under clause 4.12, within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served on the member, by lodging with the secretary a notice to that effect.
- 4.13.2 The notice may, but need not, be accompanied by a statement of the grounds on which the member intends to rely for the purposes of the appeal.
- 4.13.3 On receipt of a notice from a member under subclause (4.13.1), the secretary must notify the committee, which is to convene a general meeting of the Association to be held within 28 days after the date on which the secretary received the notice.
- 4.13.4 At a general meeting of the Association convened under subclause (4.13.3):
 - (a) no business other than the question of the appeal is to be transacted, and
 - (b) the committee and the member must be given the opportunity to state their respective cases orally or in writing, or both, and
 - (c) the members present are to vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- 4.13.5 The appeal is to be determined by a simple majority of votes cast by members of the Association.

5. The Committee

5.1 Powers of the Committee

- 5.1.1 Subject to the Act, the Regulation, this constitution and any resolution passed by the Association in a general meeting, the committee:
 - (a) is to control and manage the affairs of the Association, and
 - (b) may exercise all the functions that may be exercised by the Association, other than those functions that are required by this constitution to be exercised by a general meeting of members of the Association, and
 - (c) has power to perform all the acts and do all things that appear to the committee to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the Association.

5.2 Composition and Membership of Committee

- 5.2.1 The committee is to consist of:
 - (a) the office-bearers of the association, and
 - (b) at least 3 ordinary committee members, each of whom is to be elected at the annual general meeting of the association under clause 5.3.
- 5.2.2 The total number of committee members is to be 8.
- 5.2.3 The office-bearers of the association are as follows:
 - (a) the President,
 - (b) the Vice-president,
 - (c) the Treasurer,
 - (d) the Secretary.
 - (e) The Registrar
- 5.2.4 A committee member may hold up to 2 offices (other than both the offices of president and vice-president).
- 5.2.5 There is no maximum number of consecutive terms for which a committee member may hold office.

- 5.2.6 Each member of the committee is, subject to this constitution, to hold office until immediately before the election of committee members at the annual general meeting next following the date of the member's election, and is eligible for re-election.

5.3 Election of Committee Members

- 5.3.1 Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the Association or as ordinary committee members:
- (a) must be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the Association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of the nomination), and
 - (b) must be delivered to the secretary of the Association at least 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.
- 5.3.2 If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the committee, the candidates nominated are taken to be elected and further nominations are to be received at the annual general meeting.
- 5.3.3 If insufficient further nominations are received, any vacant positions remaining on the committee are taken to be casual vacancies.
- 5.3.4 If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated are taken to be elected.
- 5.3.5 If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot is to be held.
- 5.3.6 The ballot for the election of office-bearers and ordinary committee members of the committee is to be conducted at the annual general meeting in any usual and proper manner that the committee directs.
- 5.3.7 A person nominated as a candidate for election as an office-bearer or as an ordinary committee member of the association must be a member of the Association.

5.4 President's Responsibilities

- (a) Ensuring the Rules are followed;
- (b) Convening Meetings and establishing whether or not a quorum is present;
- (c) Chairing Meetings, deciding who may speak and when;
- (d) Overseeing the operation of the Association in accordance with the decisions of the Committee and the Constitution, Rules, Regulations and Policies;
- (e) Providing a report on the operations of the Association at each Annual General Meeting;
- (f) Use the casting vote in the event of a tie provided that they are the Chair of the meeting. Note: The casting vote belongs to the Chair

5.5 Vice President's Responsibilities

- (a) Assisting the President as and when required;
- (b) Standing in for the President as and when required. If the President is unavailable the Vice President becomes Acting President;
- (c) Chairing the meetings in the absence of the President;
- (d) Filling the position of President should the President position become vacant, as per clause 5.9.2.

5.6 Secretary's Responsibilities

- (a) Recording of minutes of Meetings;
- (b) Holding the Association's records relevant to the position, not including those required for the Registrar or Treasurer's Function;
- (c) Convening Committee meetings, the Annual General Meeting and any other meetings as required; Preparing Agendas and distribute information pertaining to meetings;
- (d) Receiving and replying to correspondence as required by the Committee;
- (e) Forwarding the Association's annual financial statements to the Director General of NSW Fair Trading upon their approval by the members at an Annual General Meeting;
- (f) Advising the Director General of NSW Fair Trading of any Rule changes

5.7 Treasurer's Responsibilities

- (a) Keeping of proper accounting records of the Association's financial transactions to allow the Association's financial position to be readily ascertained;
- (b) Preparing annual financial statements for the presentation at each Annual General Meeting. These statements should be prepared in accordance with the Association's accounting policies and in accordance with accounting standards, regulations and legal requirements;
- (c) Providing a financial report at each Annual General Meeting;
- (d) Providing financial information to the committee as the committee determines;
- (e) Sending out invoices and paying of accounts as determined by the committee.

5.8 Registrar's Responsibilities

- (a) The keeping of the Studbooks and Registers in accordance with the regulations as determined by the committee and for any such matters directed by the committee or requiring committee attention;
- (b) Keeping the Register of Members and ensuring the secretary and the public officer have an up-to-date copy of this register.
- (c) Holding and maintaining the Association's records, documents, stallion returns, conflicts of interest register, policies document folder and books except those required for the Secretary and Treasurers function;
- (d) Process all matters relating to horse registration;
- (e) The sourcing and keeping of equine DNA profiles;
- (f) Liaising with overseas Studbooks and sourcing stallion information;
- (g) Changes of ownership;
- (h) Corresponding with members including Memberships and Membership queries;
- (i) Providing a report to the committee on the status of the registry at committee meetings and for the annual general meeting;

5.9 Casual Vacancies

5.9.1. In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member of the Association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed is to hold office, subject to this constitution, until the annual general meeting next following the date of the appointment.

5.9.2. A casual vacancy in the office of a member of the committee occurs if the member:

- (a) dies, or
- (b) ceases to be a member of the Association, or
- (c) is or becomes an insolvent under administration within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth, or

- (d) resigns office by notice in writing given to the secretary, or
- (e) is removed from office under clause 5.10, or
- (f) becomes a mentally incapacitated person, or
- (g) is absent without the consent of the committee from 3 consecutive meetings of the committee, or
- (h) is convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty for which the maximum penalty on conviction is imprisonment for not less than 3 months, or
- (i) is prohibited from being a director of a company under Part 2D.6 (Disqualification from managing corporations) of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth.

5.10 Removal of Committee Members

- 5.10.1. The Association in a general meeting may by resolution remove any member of the committee from the office of member before the expiration of the member's term of office and may by resolution appoint another person to hold office until the expiration of the term of office of the member so removed.
- 5.10.2. If a member of the committee to whom a proposed resolution referred to in subclause (5.10.1) relates makes representations in writing to the secretary or president (not exceeding a reasonable length) and requests that the representations be notified to the members of the Association, the secretary or the president may send a copy of the representations to each member of the Association or, if the representations are not so sent, the member is entitled to require that the representations be read out at the meeting at which the resolution is considered.

5.11 Committee Meetings and Quorum

- 5.11.1. The committee must meet at least twice times in each period of 12 months at the place and time that the committee may determine.
- 5.11.2. Additional meetings of the committee may be convened by the president or by any member of the committee.
- 5.11.3. Oral or written notice of a meeting of the committee must be given by the secretary to each member of the committee at least 48 hours (or any other period that may be unanimously agreed on by the members of the committee) before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.
- 5.11.4. Notice of a meeting given under subclause (5.11.3) must specify the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting and no business other than that business is to be transacted at the meeting, except business which the committee members present at the meeting unanimously agree to treat as urgent business.
- 5.11.5. Any 5 members of the committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the committee.
- 5.11.6. No business is to be transacted by the committee unless a quorum is present and if, within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting is to stand adjourned to the same place and at the same hour of the same day in the following week.
- 5.11.7. If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting is to be dissolved.
- 5.11.8. At a meeting of the committee:
 - (a) the president or, in the president's absence, the vice-president is to preside, or
 - (b) if the president and the vice-president are absent or unwilling to act, one of the remaining members of the committee chosen by the members present at the meeting is to preside.

5.12 Appointment of Association Members as Committee Members to Constitute Quorum

- 5.12.1. If at any time the number of committee members is less than the number required to constitute a quorum for a committee meeting, the existing committee members may appoint a sufficient number of members of the Association as committee members to enable the quorum to be constituted.
- 5.12.2. A member of the committee so appointed is to hold office, subject to this constitution, until the annual general meeting next following the date of the appointment.
- 5.12.3. This clause does not apply to the filling of a casual vacancy to which clause 5.9 applies.

5.13 Use of Technology at Committee Meetings

- 5.13.1. A committee meeting may be held at 2 or more venues using any technology approved by the committee that gives each of the committee's members a reasonable opportunity to participate.
- 5.13.2. A committee member who participates in a committee meeting using that technology is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

5.14 Delegation by Committee to Sub-Committee

- 5.14.1. The committee may, by instrument in writing, delegate to one or more sub-committees (consisting of the member or members of the Association that the committee thinks fit) the exercise of any of the functions of the committee that are specified in the instrument, other than:
 - (a) the power of delegation, and
 - (b) a function which is a duty imposed on the committee by the Act or by any other law.
- 5.14.2. A function the exercise of which has been delegated to a sub-committee under this clause may, while the delegation remains unrevoked, be exercised from time to time by the sub-committee in accordance with the terms of the delegation.
 - (a) Despite any delegation under this clause, the committee may continue to exercise any function delegated. A delegation under this clause may be made subject to any conditions or limitations as to the exercise of any function, or as to time or circumstances, that may be specified in the instrument of delegation.
- 5.14.3. Any act or thing done or suffered by a sub-committee acting in the exercise of a delegation under this clause has the same force and effect as it would have if it had been done or suffered by the committee.
- 5.14.4. The committee may, by instrument in writing, revoke wholly or in part any delegation under this clause.
- 5.14.5. A sub-committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper.

5.15 Voting and Decisions

- 5.15.1 Questions arising at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee are to be determined by a majority of the votes of members of the committee or sub-committee present at the meeting.

- 5.15.2 Each member present at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee (including the person presiding at the meeting) is entitled to one vote but, in the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote.
- 5.15.3 Subject to clause 5.11.5, the committee may act despite any vacancy on the committee.
- 5.15.4 Any act or thing done or suffered, or purporting to have been done or suffered, by the committee or by a sub-committee appointed by the committee, is valid and effectual despite any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the appointment or qualification of any member of the committee or sub-committee.

6. General Meetings

6.1 Annual General Meetings - Holding of

- 6.1.1 The Association must hold its first annual general meeting within 18 months after its registration under the Act.
- 6.1.2 The Association must hold its annual general meetings:
- (a) within 6 months after the close of the Association's financial year, or
 - (b) within any later time that may be allowed or prescribed under section 37 (2) of the Act.

6.2 Annual General Meetings - Calling of and Business at

- 6.2.1 The annual general meeting of the Association is, subject to the Act and to clause 6.1, to be convened on the date and at the place and time that the committee thinks fit.
- 6.2.2 In addition to any other business which may be transacted at an annual general meeting, the business of an annual general meeting is to include the following:
- (a) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since that meeting,
 - (b) to receive from the committee reports on the activities of the Association during the last preceding financial year,
 - (c) to elect office-bearers of the Association and ordinary committee members,
 - (d) to receive and consider any financial statement or report required to be submitted to members under the Act.
- 6.2.3 An annual general meeting must be specified as that type of meeting in the notice convening it.

6.3 Special General Meetings - Calling of

- 6.3.1 The committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting of the Association.
- 6.3.2 The committee must, on the requisition of at least 20% of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- 6.3.3 A requisition of members for a special general meeting:
- (a) must be in writing, and
 - (b) must state the purpose or purposes of the meeting, and
 - (c) must be signed by the members making the requisition, and
 - (d) must be lodged with the secretary, and
 - (e) may consist of several documents in a similar form, each signed by one or more of the members making the requisition.

- 6.3.4 If the committee fails to convene a special general meeting to be held within 1 month after the date on which a requisition of members for the meeting is lodged with the secretary, any one or more of the members who made the requisition may convene a special general meeting to be held not later than 3 months after that date.
- 6.3.5 A special general meeting convened by a member or members as referred to in subclause 6.3.4 must be convened as nearly as is practicable in the same manner as general meetings are convened by the committee.
- 6.3.6 For the purposes of subclause (6.3.3):
 - (a) a requisition may be in electronic form, and
 - (b) a signature may be transmitted, and a requisition may be lodged, by electronic means.

6.4 Notice

- 6.4.1 Except if the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the Association, the secretary must, at least 14 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, give a notice to each member specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.
- 6.4.2 If the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the Association, the secretary must, at least 21 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause notice to be given to each member specifying, in addition to the matter required under subclause (6.4.1), the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.
- 6.4.3 No business other than that specified in the notice convening a general meeting is to be transacted at the meeting except, in the case of an annual general meeting, business which may be transacted under clause 6.2.2.
- 6.4.4 A member desiring to bring any business before a general meeting may give notice in writing of that business to the secretary who must include that business in the next notice calling a general meeting given after receipt of the notice from the member.

6.5 Quorum for General Meetings

- 6.5.1 No item of business is to be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members entitled under this constitution to vote is present during the time the meeting is considering that item.
- 6.5.2 8 members present (being members entitled under this constitution to vote at a general meeting) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.
- 6.5.3 If within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting:
 - (a) if convened on the requisition of members—is to be dissolved, and
 - (b) in any other case—is to stand adjourned to the same day in the following week at the same time and (unless another place is specified at the time of the adjournment by the person presiding at the meeting or communicated by written notice to members given before the day to which the meeting is adjourned) at the same place.
- 6.5.4 If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the members present (being at least 5) are to constitute a quorum.

6.6 Presiding Member

- 6.6.1 The president or, in the president's absence, the vice-president, is to preside as chairperson at each general meeting of the Association.
- 6.6.2 If the president and the vice-president are absent or unwilling to act, the members present must elect one of their number to preside as chairperson at the meeting.

6.7 Adjournment

- 6.7.1 The chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of the majority of members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and place to place, but no business is to be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place.
- 6.7.2 If a general meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, the secretary must give written or oral notice of the adjourned meeting to each member of the association stating the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- 6.7.3 Except as provided in subclauses (6.7.1) and (6.7.2), notice of an adjournment of a general meeting or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting is not required to be given.

6.8 Making of Decisions

- 6.8.1 A question arising at a general meeting of the Association is to be determined by:
 - (a) a show of hands or, if the meeting is one to which clause 6.13 applies, any appropriate corresponding method that the committee may determine, or
 - (b) if on the motion of the chairperson or if 5 or more members present at the meeting decide that the question should be determined by a written ballot—a written ballot.
- 6.8.2 If the question is to be determined by a show of hands, a declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or carried by a particular majority or lost, or an entry to that effect in the minute book of the association, is evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against that resolution.
- 6.8.3 Subclause (6.8.2) applies to a method determined by the committee under subclause (6.8.1) (a) in the same way as it applies to a show of hands.
- 6.8.4 If the question is to be determined by a written ballot, the ballot is to be conducted in accordance with the directions of the chairperson.

6.9 Special Resolutions

- 6.9.1 A special resolution may only be passed by the Association in accordance with section 39 of the Act.

6.10 Voting

- 6.10.1 On any question arising at a general meeting of the Association a member has one vote only.
- 6.10.2 In the case of an equality of votes on a question at a general meeting, the chairperson of the meeting is entitled to exercise a second or casting vote.
- 6.10.3 A member is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the Association unless all money due and payable by the member to the association has been paid.
- 6.10.4 A member is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the Association if the member is under 18 years of age.

6.11 Proxy Votes

- 6.11.1 A Member may exercise the right to vote by proxy instead of attending the meeting in person.
- 6.11.2 A proxy is entitled to attend and be heard at a meeting as if the proxy were the Member but is bound to exercise his or her vote in the manner set out in the notice described in 3)
- 6.11.3 A proxy must be appointed by a notice in writing that is signed by the Member and is submitted on the proxy voting form provided by Committee (or as near to this form as circumstances allow) or in such other form as the Committee may direct.
- 6.11.4 No person shall be appointed a proxy unless that person is the chairperson of the meeting for the time being.
- 6.11.5 Proxies must be lodged with the Secretary at least 3 clear days prior to the commencement of the meeting.

6.12 Postal or Electronic Ballots

- 6.12.1 The Association may hold a postal or electronic ballot (as the committee determines) to determine any issue or proposal (other than an appeal under clause 4.13).
- 6.12.2 A postal or electronic ballot is to be conducted in accordance with Schedule 3 to the Regulation.

6.13 Use of Technology at General Meetings

- 6.13.1 A general meeting may be held at 2 or more venues using any technology approved by the committee that gives each of the association's members a reasonable opportunity to participate.
- 6.13.2 A member of the Association who participates in a general meeting using that technology is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

7. Miscellaneous

7.1 Common Seal

- 7.1.1 The Association shall have a Common Seal and the Committee must provide for the safe custody of the seal. Every instrument to which the seal is affixed must be signed by the Registrar or President.

7.2 Insurance

7.2.1 The Association may affect and maintain insurance as they see fit.

7.3 Funds – Source

- 7.3.1 The funds of the Association are to be derived from annual subscriptions of members, registration of horses, donations and, subject to any resolution passed by the Association in general meeting, any other sources that the committee determines.
- 7.3.2 All money received by the Association must be deposited as soon as practicable and without deduction to the credit of the Association's bank or other authorised deposit-taking institution account.
- 7.3.3 The Association must, as soon as practicable after receiving any money, issue an appropriate receipt.

7.4 Funds - Management

- 7.4.1 Subject to any resolution passed by the Association in general meeting, the funds of the Association are to be used solely in pursuance of the objects of the Association in the manner that the committee determines.
- 7.4.2 All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by 2 authorised signatories
- 7.4.3 All payment of accounts must be approved by the Committee and authorised by two bank signatories from the Committee

7.5 Auditors

- 7.5.1 No review or audit of the annual financial statements is required unless a review or audit is requested by 50% of the Members eligible to vote at any General Meeting.
- 7.5.2 The Auditor shall report on whether the financial statements are prepared in all material respects in accordance with the Association's accounting policies. The Auditor must be a suitably qualified person and preferably be a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, and must not be a member of the Committee, or an employee of the Association.
- 7.5.3 The fees and expenses of the Auditor of the Association may be fixed by the Committee

7.6 Association is Non-Profit

- 7.6.1 Subject to the Act and the Regulation, the Association must apply its funds and assets solely in pursuance of the objects of the Association and must not conduct its affairs so as to provide a pecuniary gain for any of its members.

7.7 Distribution of Property on Winding up of Association

- 7.7.1 Subject to the Act and the Regulations, in a winding up of the Association, any surplus property of the Association is to be transferred to another organisation with similar objects and which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.
- 7.7.2 In this clause, a reference to the surplus property of an Association is a reference to that property of the Association remaining after satisfaction of the debts and liabilities of the Association and the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Association.

7.8 Change of Name, Objects and Constitution

- 7.8.1 An application for registration of a change in the Association's name, objects or constitution in accordance with section 10 of the Act is to be made by the public officer or a committee member.
- 7.8.2 These rules can only be rescinded or altered by way of addition or deletion at a General Meeting by Special Resolution.
- 7.8.3 Any proposed motion to amend or replace these Rules shall be proposed and seconded and accompanied by written explanation of the reasons for the proposal and provided to the Secretary 35 days before the General Meeting at which the motion is to be considered
- 7.8.4 At least 28 days before the General Meeting at which any file change is to be considered, the Secretary shall give to all Members written notice of the proposed motion, the reasons for the proposal, along with voting instructions and any recommendation the Committee has.
- 7.8.5 When a Rule change is approved by a General Meeting no further changes shall take effect until the Secretary has filed the change with the Director General of NSW Fair Trading.
- 7.8.6 The Committee is empowered to amend these Rules to correct a manifest error.

7.9 Custody of Books etc

- 7.9.1 Except as otherwise provided by this constitution, all records, books and other documents relating to the Association must be kept in New South Wales:
- (a) at the main premises of the Association, in the custody of the public officer or a member of the Association (as the committee determines), or
 - (b) if the Association has no premises, at the Association's official address, in the custody of the public officer.

7.10 Inspection of Books etc

- 7.10.1 The following documents must be open to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the association at any reasonable hour:
- (a) records, books and other financial documents of the Association,
 - (b) this constitution,
 - (c) minutes of all committee meetings and general meetings of the Association.
- 7.10.2 A member of the Association may obtain a copy of any of the documents referred to in subclause (7.10.1) on payment of a fee of not more than \$1 for each page copied.
- 7.10.3 Despite subclauses (7.10.1) and (7.10.2), the committee may refuse to permit a member of the Association to inspect or obtain a copy of records of the Association that relate to confidential, personal, employment, commercial or legal matters or where to do so may be prejudicial to the interests of the Association.

7.11 Service of Notices

- 7.11.1 For the purpose of this constitution, a notice may be served on or given to a person:
- (a) by delivering it to the person personally, or
 - (b) by sending it by pre-paid post to the address of the person, or
 - (c) by sending it by facsimile transmission or some other form of electronic transmission to an address specified by the person for giving or serving the notice.
- 7.11.2 For the purpose of this constitution, a notice is taken, unless the contrary is proved, to have been given or served:
- (a) in the case of a notice given or served personally, on the date on which it is received by the addressee, and
 - (b) in the case of a notice sent by pre-paid post, on the date when it would have been delivered in the ordinary course of post, and
 - (c) in the case of a notice sent by facsimile transmission or some other form of electronic transmission, on the date it was sent or, if the machine from which the transmission was sent produces a report indicating that the notice was sent on a later date, on that date.

7.12 Financial Year

- 7.12.1 The financial year of the Association is:
- (a) each period of 12 months after the expiration of the previous financial year of the association, commencing on 1 January and ending on the following 31st of December.

8. Matters not Covered by these Rules

- 8.1 Any matters not covered by these Rules shall be decided upon by the Committee