

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE CHANGE

26 September 2017

To: Members
From: General Manager

Changes to Club Rules for Proxy and Postal Voting

Introduction

The Club rules provide for member voting in two discrete circumstances:

- At a general meeting (either in person or by proxy)
- In a postal vote

It has been identified that the process specified in the Club rules for proxy voting and postal voting does not permit the Club to utilise modern digital communication forms (eg. email).

At its meeting in May 2017, in discussion regarding the extant governance review, Club Committee noted and resolved as follows:

“...a preliminary rule change to include email/electronic vote as a means of voting [was proposed]. It was agreed that this rule change should be proposed and voted on at the AGM. It was moved that:

“The Club amends rule 22b to allow for other means of recording votes”.

Jaz Morris/Shane Orchard Carried”

Club Committee did not, in terms of Club rule 35c, determine that a postal vote was required.

Following that meeting, further consideration by the National Office [*Executive Committee*??] has identified that both Club rule 21b and rule 22b should be amended to permit the use of modern digital communication forms for voting.

It is noted that the proposed changes are broadly in line with Club rule 19a (which provides for General Meeting notices to be issued by email).

Proposed rule changes

The proposed rule changes for voting at the Club AGM on 27 October are as per the underlined changes below:



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21. Voting and Proxies

- a. Voting at a general meeting shall be by a show of hands or, if either the Chairperson thinks it necessary or it is requested from the floor, by a secret ballot.
- b. Any Member unable to attend a general meeting may vote by proxy, written notice of which must be received in the National Office by post or fax, email or other form of digital communication as may be approved in advance by the Club Committee by the day before the meeting.
- c. A proxy vote must nominate another Club Member attending the meeting to act on that person's behalf.

22. Postal Voting

- a. On receiving a written requisition for a postal ballot signed by 25 Members and identifying the issue to be voted on at least 21 days before a General Meeting, National Office shall immediately send out ballot papers to all Members.
- b. Ballot papers sent to Members shall clearly indicate the question to be voted on, the manner of voting and the date by which votes must be received by the National Office. Votes may be sent by post or fax, email or other form of digital communication as may be approved in advance by the Club Committee.
- c. The Club Committee shall appoint 3 Members to be scrutineers, and at the voting deadline the National Office shall hand the ballot papers to the scrutineers.
- d. The validity of any vote shall be in the absolute discretion of the scrutineers and they shall count the votes and report the result to the Club Committee in time for the general meeting

Appendix – Process for Rule Changes

35. Rule Changes

- a. Any Member or Section desiring to change the Club's Rules shall submit in writing the proposed rule change to the National Office for consideration at the next meeting of the Club Committee.
- b. The National Office, following the meeting of the Club Committee, shall send the proposal together with the Club Committee's comments and/or recommendations on it to Sections.
- c. At the discretion of the Club Committee or upon a requisition to the National Office signed by 25 Members, a postal vote of Members shall be held to decide upon the proposed rule change.
- d. If a postal vote is not required the proposed rule change shall then be included in the business to be transacted at the next Annual General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting, and notice of the proposed rule change given accordingly.
- e. No rule may be made, altered or deleted except by a majority of two thirds of the votes cast in a postal vote or of Members present or represented by proxy at a General Meeting.
- f. No rule alteration, deletion or addition to the rules shall have the effect of altering the amateur sports promotion status of the Club.