



DICKSON SQUASH CLUB

DICKSON SQUASH CLUB INCORPORATED

CONSTITUTION

1. Name

- (a) The Club shall be called the Dickson Squash Club Incorporated, hereafter referred to as 'the Club'.
- (b) The Club is incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991*.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Club are:

- (a) to bring together people who have a common interest in the game of Squash;
- (b) to promote and conduct (either alone or jointly with other persons, organisations or Clubs) competitions, social functions, outings, meetings, conferences and charitable and community services;
- (c) to foster the game of Squash among juniors;
- (d) to afford a means of recording events of the Club and its members and others, to publish and promote information on matters of interest to its members and to distribute the same for payment or gratuitously; and
- (e) to promote goodwill and fellowship between members of the Club.

3. Membership

Membership shall be open to any person interested in the furtherance of the objectives of the Club.

4. Application for Membership

- (a) Application for membership of the Club shall be made by lodging an application form, along with the prescribed fee, with the Secretary.

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- (b) If an application for membership of the Club is lodged in the months of January to April inclusive, one-half of the prescribed annual membership fee shall be payable. Applications for membership lodged in May or June shall be deemed to be applications for membership in the next financial year.

5. Refusal of Membership or Expulsion from the Club

- (a) The Committee of the Club reserves the right to refuse a person membership, or to expel a member from the Club, without giving a reason. Reasons may be given at the Committee's discretion.
- (b) A motion of refusal of acceptance of an application for membership, or for expulsion from the Club, shall be voted upon in a secret ballot at a Committee meeting. Such a motion shall be decided upon by a sixty per cent (60%) majority of valid votes cast. Informal votes shall be counted for the motion.
- (c) A person who is refused membership or is expelled from the Club in accordance with this Clause may appeal against the Committee's decision by lodging a notice with the Secretary within seven (7) days of notification of the decision. Upon receipt of the notice the Secretary will notify the Committee which shall, within twenty-one (21) days (or as soon as possible after that date), convene a General Meeting of the Club. The Committee and the member shall be given the opportunity to make representations, either orally or in writing, in relation to the Committee's decision. The members of the Club present at the General Meeting shall vote on the Committee's decision by secret ballot. The decision of the General Meeting in relation to the matter shall be final.

6. Membership Subscription Fees

- (a) The prescribed annual membership fee for the next financial year shall be set by a sixty per cent (60%) majority of the Committee at a Committee Meeting held prior to 30 June of each year.
- (b) Members who have not paid the prescribed annual membership fee by the last day of August of the financial year in which the fees are due (or such other date as the Committee determines) shall be deemed to be unfinancial and will cease to be a member of the Club.

7. Liability of Members

The liability of a member to contribute towards the payment of debts and liabilities of the Club (or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Club) is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the Club as required by Clause 4.

8. Meetings

- (a) The Committee of the Club shall meet within one month of being elected and thereafter as often as is deemed necessary.
- (b) General Meetings of the Club may be held at any time when deemed necessary by at least ten (10) financial members. The date of any General Meeting shall be notified in writing to all financial members at least twenty-one (21) days in advance of the Meeting.
- (c) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in July or August of each year.

9. Committee

- (a) Subject to the over-riding powers of a General Meeting of the Club, the business and affairs of the Club shall be under the management of the Committee.
- (b) The Committee members shall be elected or appointed in accordance with Clause 10 and shall consist of
 - (i) the office bearers of the Club; and
 - (ii) a minimum of five (5) ordinary Committee members.
- (c) The office bearers of the Club shall be:
 - (i) the President;
 - (ii) the Vice-President;
 - (iii) the Secretary; and
 - (iv) the Treasurer.
- (d) The Committee shall have the power to:
 - (i) make decisions, make, amend and repeal by-laws and do such things as are necessary for the efficient management of the Club that are consistent with this Constitution;
 - (ii) appoint sub-committees with specific powers and duties as may be expedient;
 - (iii) raise funds for the purpose of fulfilling the objectives of the Club by any lawful means it might deem expedient subject to section 114 of the Act;
 - (iv) authorise expenditure of the funds of the Club as it deems necessary for the efficient management of the Club;
 - (v) appoint life members of the club (who will not be required to pay membership fees);
 - (vi) interpret any matters arising out of this Constitution; and
 - (vii) appoint a public officer in accordance with section 57 of the Act.
- (e) The duties of the elected office bearers shall be those generally accepted for the respective offices or those directed by a General Meeting.
- (f) In the absence of the President at a General Meeting or a Committee Meeting, the Meeting shall be chaired by the Vice-President. In the absence of both the President and the Vice-President the Meeting shall select a chairman by a simple majority vote.

10. Election of the Committee

- (a) Only financial members shall be eligible to be members of the Committee of the Club.
- (b) The election of members of the Committee shall take place at the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) The term of office of members of the Committee shall commence immediately upon declaration of the poll and continue until a new Committee is elected at the next Annual General Meeting;
- (d) Nominations for the Committee shall be made in writing, signed by two members of the Club and submitted to the Secretary prior to the Annual General Meeting or, in the absence of any such nominations, may be accepted from the floor at the Annual General Meeting. Any acceptance of a nomination shall be signed by any nominee not present at the Annual General Meeting.
- (e) In the event of a position on the Committee being contested, voting shall be by secret ballot and members of the Committee shall be elected by simple majority.
- (f) The Committee may appoint a financial Club member to be a member of the Committee to fill a casual vacancy. Any member so appointed shall hold office until the next General Meeting when an election for the position shall be conducted.
- (g) Resignations from the Committee shall be submitted to the Secretary in writing and shall be tabled at the next Committee Meeting.
- (h) A motion of no confidence in any member, or group of members, of the Committee must be decided upon by a sixty per cent (60%) majority vote of financial members attending a General Meeting. The member(s) so affected shall be deemed to have resigned. Nominations shall be called immediately to fill the resulting vacancy or vacancies.
- (i) Any member of the Committee who fails to attend three consecutive Committee Meetings without apology shall be liable to a motion of no confidence as specified in Clause 10(h). Apology after a Committee Meeting not attended is not valid.

11. Voting

- (a) Only financial members shall be eligible to vote at any meeting of the Club.
- (b) All motions submitted to any meeting of the Club shall be decided by simple majority or other majority as specified in this Constitution. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote only.
- (c) Proxy voting shall be permitted on any motion presented to the Club provided that it is in writing and handed to the Secretary at or before the meeting at which the motion is decided.
- (d) Twenty-one (21) days notice shall be given in writing of any motion which requires a specified majority as stated in this Constitution.

12. Quorum

- (a) No General Meeting of the Club shall be valid unless attended by fifty per cent (50%) of financial members of the Club, or forty (40) financial members of the Club, whichever is lesser.
- (b) No meeting of the Committee shall be valid unless attended by at least five (5) of its members.

13. Rescission of Resolutions

No General Meeting of the Club shall rescind or alter a motion after it has been passed at a previous General Meeting of the Club unless the motion for rescission or alteration is passed by a sixty per cent (60%) majority vote of financial members attending the General Meeting.

14. Finance and Property of the Club

- (a) The Club's financial year shall be from 1 July to 30 June.
- (b) The funds of the Club shall be derived from annual membership fees, donations and amounts collected in accordance with Clause 9(d)(iii) of the Constitution.
- (c) All moneys received by an office bearer of the Club shall be forwarded to the Treasurer and deposited as soon as practicable to the credit of the Club's bank account. All disbursements are to be made in a manner agreed to by the Committee.
- (d) All disbursements are to be approved by any two of the Treasurer, the President, the Vice-President or the Secretary.
- (e) The banker of the Club shall be as determined from time to time by the Committee.
- (f) The payment of the prescribed annual membership fee does not entitle a member of the Club to any direct claim on, or ownership of, assets of the Club. No profits of the Club shall revert to the members other than in payment for work rendered, or services supplied, and approved by the Committee.
- (g) The Committee shall appoint an Auditor, in accordance with section 74 of the Act, at a Committee Meeting prior to the end of the financial year. The Auditor shall audit and certify all Club books and financial statements for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

15. Common Seal

- (a) The common seal of the Club shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary or the Treasurer.
- (b) The common seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the Committee and the affixing of the common seal shall be attested by the signature of the Secretary or the Treasurer and one other member of the Committee.

16. Custody of Books

Subject to the Act and this Constitution, the Secretary or the Treasurer shall keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all records, books and other documents relating to the Club.

17. Inspection of Books

The records, books and other documents of the Club shall be open to inspection at a place in the Australian Capital Territory, free of charge, by a member of the Club at any reasonable hour.

18. Amendments to the Constitution

- (a) Notice of a motion to amend the Constitution must be given in writing twenty-one (21) days before consideration at a General Meeting.
- (b) All clauses of the Constitution except Clause 1, Clause 2 and this Clause shall be changed only by a sixty per cent (60%) majority vote of financial members attending the General Meeting where the motion to amend the Constitution is considered.
- (c) Clause 1, Clause 2 and this Clause shall be changed only by an eighty per cent (80%) majority vote of financial members attending the General Meeting where the motion to amend the Constitution is considered.

19. Winding Up of the Club

- (a) The Club shall be wound up if so directed by a seventy-five per cent (75%) affirmative vote of all Club members.
- (b) Upon winding up of the Club, any funds left following the sale of all Club assets and the settlement of all outstanding Club debts shall be donated to a registered charitable organisation nominated by the Club President.