



*Notice of*  
***SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING***  
*Tuesday, 23 July 2024*

Part One

Notice of Special General Meeting

Part Two

Notice of Motion for Special Business

Part Three

Delegate Nomination



## **PART ONE – NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that a Croquet Australia Special General Meeting will be held:

Date: Tuesday, 23 July 2024

Time: 7:30PM AEST

Venue: Electronically via Microsoft Teams.  
Details for login are to be provided to all confirmed Delegates.

### **Business of Special General Meeting**

The business of the Special General Meeting includes:

1. Adoption of the Company Limited by Guarantee Constitution in its entirety, effective immediately, subject to the amendment of Clause 5.4

## PART TWO – NOTICE OF MOTION FOR SPECIAL BUSINESS



### Motion to Adopt New Constitution and Substitute Clause

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#### Motion:

Croquet Australia adopts the proposed new constitution in its entirety, effective immediately, subject to the amendment of Clause 5.4 to be substituted with the following new clause:

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#### Amendment to Substitute Clause:

Current Clause 5.4:

#### 5.4 Clubs and Individual Members

- (a) The Company may at its discretion refuse to accept a person as an Individual Member or Club and shall not be required or compelled to provide any reason for such rejection.
- (b) Subject to clause 5.4(a) an individual may apply to become an Individual Member of the Company and is subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
- (c) In addition to the effect of membership set out in **clause 5.2**, an Individual Member must comply with this Constitution and the Policies and support the Company and the Objects.
- (d) An Individual Member is entitled to any benefits of membership prescribed to apply to Individual Members or Clubs respectively in the Policies.
- (e) All acknowledged Individual Members at the time of the update to this Constitution will be considered Individual Members under this new Constitution.

#### New Clause 5.4

#### 5.4 Clubs and Individual Members

- (a) A Club that is directly or indirectly affiliated with a Member State will, upon becoming a member of or affiliating with the Member State (or other relevant organisation), become a Club Member of Croquet Australia and is subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
- (b) An individual that is recognised by, and affiliated with directly or indirectly, a Member State as a member will, upon becoming a member of or affiliating with the Member State, become an Individual Member of Croquet Australia and is subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
- (c) All Club Members and Individual Members must:
  - (i) renew their membership or affiliation with their Member State (or other Croquet organisation as listed in clause 5.4 (a)) in accordance with the Member State's (or other Croquet organisation as listed in clause 5.4(a)) procedures;
  - (ii) otherwise remain a member, affiliated with their Member State (or other Croquet organisation as listed in clause 5.4 (a)) in accordance with the procedures applicable;
  - (iii) without limiting clauses 5.4 (a)(i) and 5.4 (a)(i), pay such fees as may be prescribed by their respective Member State (or other Croquet organisation as listed in clause 5.4 (a)) in respect of their membership or affiliation with that Member State (or other Croquet organisation as listed in clause 5.4 (a)); and
  - (iv) in addition to the requirements of clause 5.2, Club Members and Individual Members must comply with this Constitution, the Policies and the Statutes and Regulations.
- (d) Club Members and Individual Members are entitled to any benefits of membership prescribed to apply to Club Members or Individual Members (as applicable) in the Policies

Add definition for Club Member

## Definitions and Interpretations

**Club Member** means any Croquet organisational body directly or indirectly affiliated with a Member State and admitted to Croquet Australia as an organisational member under **clause 5.4**

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### Rationale:

The proposed new constitution provides a more comprehensive and updated framework for the governance of Croquet Australia. The amendment to Clause 5.4 is necessary to ensure improved clarity of Club and Individual members.

### Details of New Clause:

The new clause is intended to provide consistent membership criteria.

**Inclusive Membership:** The new clause automatically includes clubs and individuals affiliated with a Member State, ensuring a broad and consistent membership base. This promotes inclusivity and stability within Croquet Australia.

**Clear Obligations and Benefits:** Members under the new clause have clear guidelines for maintaining their membership and the benefits they receive. This clarity helps in setting expectations and ensuring compliance.

**Consistency and Unity:** By tying membership to affiliation with Member States, the new clause fosters a unified structure where all members are linked through their Member States, promoting a cohesive national organisation.

In contrast, the original clause discretionary acceptance process could lead to inconsistent membership criteria and potentially exclude some clubs or individuals without transparent reasoning. This might result in a less unified and more fragmented organisation.

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### Procedure:

1. **Conduct**
  - As per clause 17 of the current constitution
2. **Voting:**
  - As per clause 18 of the current constitution

### Conclusion:

Adopting this motion will allow Croquet Australia to implement a new constitution that better reflects our current needs and goals, with the amended Clause 5.4 providing consistent membership criteria.

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Moved By (State Delegate)	
Seconded By (State Delegate)	

## PART THREE – STATE ASSOCIATION DELEGATE NOMINATION FORM



### Delegate Attendance at Special General Meeting

State Association means an entity recognised under Rule 7 to administer croquet in Australia and includes the State Associations, which, subject to the Constitution, shall each be represented by their Delegate who shall have the right to attend, debate and vote at General Meetings for and on behalf of the State Association.

Each State Association shall appoint one (1) Delegate for such term as is deemed appropriate by the Member State. A Delegate must:

1. be a member
2. be appropriately empowered by the appointing State Association to consider, make decisions and vote at General Meetings
3. not be a Director of Croquet Australia

Each State Association shall, at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to any General Meeting, advise the Secretary of Croquet Australia of its appointed Delegate.

### Voting

Each State Association in attendance shall, subject to the current Constitution, be entitled to one (1) vote at General Meetings

Nominate your State Delegate [HERE](#)



# Constitution

Date: 23 July 2024

**CROQUET AUSTRALIA**  
Formally the Australian Croquet Association

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# Constitution

## CROQUET AUSTRALIA

### 1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

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#### 1.1 Definitions

**AGM** or **Annual General Meeting** means the Annual General Meeting of the Company required to be held by the Company in each calendar year under the Corporations Act.

**Appointed Director** means a Director appointed under **clause 14.11**.

**CEO** means a person appointed as chief executive officer of the Company by the Directors.

**Chairperson** or **Chair** means the person elected as the chair of the Company under **clause 16.7(a)**.

**Committee** means a committee established by the Directors under **clause 20.1**.

**Company** means Croquet Australia (ACN ### ### ##).

**Company Secretary** means a person appointed as a company secretary of the Company by the Directors under **clause 19**.

**Constitution** means this constitution as amended from time to time, and a reference to a particular clause is a reference to a clause of this constitution.

**Corporations Act** means the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) as amended from time to time and includes any regulations made under the Act and any exemption or modification to the Act that applies to the Company.

**Croquet** includes Association Croquet, Golf Croquet, Gateball and other recognised forms of mallet sports.

**Director** means a director of the Company and includes Elected Directors and Appointed Directors.

**Directors** mean, as the case requires, all or some of the Directors acting together as a board in accordance with their powers and authority under this Constitution.

**Elected Director** means a Director elected under **clause 14**.

**FARM Committee** means the Finance, Audit and Risk Management Committee established by the Directors under **clause 20.4**.

**First Appointed Directors** mean the persons referred to in **clause 14.2(a)**.

**First Elected Directors** mean the persons referred to in **clause 14.2(a)**.

**Gateball Australia** is a registered business name owned by Croquet Australia. The name of Gateball Australia (GA) will be used in respect of all matters relating to the game of Gateball. The Office-bearers of GA are those of the Board, and all players/clubs affiliated with Croquet Australia are automatically affiliated with GA.

**General Meeting** means a general meeting of Members and includes the AGM.

**Honorary Member** means a person admitted to the Company as an individual member under **clause 5.5**.

**Individual Member** means a person admitted to the Company as an individual member under **clause 5.4**.

**Intellectual Property** means all rights subsisting in copyright, business names, names, trademarks (or signs), logos, designs, equipment including computer software, images (including photographs, videos or films) or service marks relating to the Company or any activity of or conducted, promoted or administered by the Company.

**Member State** means a legal entity recognised by the Company under **clause 5.3** as representing a State.

**Nominations Committee** means the Nomination Committee established by the Directors under **clause 14.4**

**Objects** mean the objects of the Company in **clause 2**.

**Official Position** means, in connection with a body corporate or organisation, a person who:

- (a) holds a position, whether elected or appointed, as president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, director or equivalent of that body corporate or organisation; or
- (b) has, directly or indirectly, a material ownership or financial interest in that body corporate or organisation.

**Policy** means a policy made under **clauses 7.2** and **21.1(a)**

**Registration** means registration or affiliation of an Individual Member, Club or an Affiliate Member with a Member State or Croquet Australia directly, such registration being in the form of a signed application form, whether in hard copy or by electronic means of acceptance and, in the case of Individual Members, their consent to membership of the Company as required by **clause 5.2**. **Registered** has a corresponding meaning.

**Representative** means a person (other than a proxy) appointed in accordance with the Corporations Act to represent a Member State at a General Meeting of the Company.

**Sport** means the "sport" of croquet in all of its forms, disciplines and variations, including as recognised and regulated by the WCF and WGU from time to time.

**Sporting Power** means that power delegated to the Company by WCF and WGU for the exclusive control and management of the Sport in Australia.

**Special Resolution** has the same meaning as that given to it in the Corporations Act.

**Stakeholder Forum** means a forum convened by the Directors under **clause 13**.

**State** means the States of Australia, which shall be deemed to include each of the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, also known as State Association.

**Statutes and Regulations** mean the statutes and regulations of WCF in force from time to time.

**Virtual Meeting** means a meeting held by telephone, video or any other technology (or any combination of these technologies), that permits each Director at a meeting of Directors or each Voting Member at a meeting of members to communicate with any other participant.

**Voting Member** means, in relation to a General Meeting, those Members present and entitled to vote in accordance with **clause 5.1**.

**WCF** means World Croquet Federation.

**WGU** means World Gateball Union.

## 1.2 Interpretation

In this Constitution unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a) **(presence of a Member)** a reference to a Member present at a General Meeting means the Member present in person or by proxy or Representative;
- (b) **(document)** a reference to a document or instrument includes any amendments made to it from time to time and, unless the contrary intention appears, includes a replacement;
- (c) **(gender)** words importing any gender including 'unspecified' or 'indeterminate';
- (d) **(person)** the word person includes a firm, a body corporate, a partnership, a joint venture, an unincorporated body or association or an authority;
- (e) **(successors)** a reference to an organisation includes a reference to its successors;
- (f) **(singular includes plural)** the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
- (g) **(instruments)** a reference to a law includes regulations and instruments made under it;
- (h) **(amendments to legislation)** a reference to a law or a provision of a law includes amendments, re-enactments or replacements of that law or the provision, whether by a State or the Commonwealth or otherwise;
- (i) **(include)** the words include, includes, including and for example are not to be interpreted as words of limitation;
- (j) **(signed)** where, by a provision of this Constitution, a document including a notice is required to be signed, that requirement may be satisfied in relation to an electronic communication of the document in any manner permitted by law or by any State or Commonwealth law relating to electronic transmissions or in any other manner approved by the Directors;

- (k) **(writing)** writing and written includes printing, typing and other modes of reproducing words in a visible form including, without limitation, any representation of words in a physical document or in an electronic communication or form or otherwise; and
- (l) **(headings)** headings are inserted for convenience and do not affect the interpretation of this Constitution.

### 1.3 Corporations Act

- (a) In this Constitution, unless the context requires otherwise, an expression has, in a provision of this Constitution that deals with a matter dealt with by a particular provision of the Corporations Act, the same meaning as in that provision of the Corporations Act.
- (b) The provisions of the Corporations Act that apply as replaceable rules are displaced by this Constitution and accordingly do not apply to the Company.

## 2. OBJECTS

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The Objects of the Company shall be to:

- (a) adopt and exercise the Sporting Power as the national federation for the Sport in Australia and to act as the sole Australian affiliated member of the International Sporting Federation the World Croquet Federation (WCF) and the International Sporting Federation the World Gateball Union (WGU) in accordance with the Statutes and Regulations;
- (b) operate as the peak body for the administration of the sport of Croquet in Australia;
- (c) advance and promote competitive and recreational Croquet;
- (d) adopt the Laws of Association Croquet and the Rules of Golf Croquet that have been agreed to by the World Croquet Federation (WCF) and the Rules of Gateball that have been agreed to by World Gateball Union (WGU);
- (e) recognise the other forms of Croquet played in Australia such as but not limited to Aussie Croquet and Ricochet;
- (f) convene, manage and control all Interstate and National Croquet tournaments, championships and games, and as appropriate any International Croquet tournaments, championships or games played within Australia;
- (g) select National Teams and Training Squads;
- (h) be a means of liaison between State Associations;
- (i) be a Full Member of the WCF and WGU;
- (j) pursue high standards of safety, education and training in all aspects of the sport.
- (k) encourage and promote widespread participation in Sport and physical activity;

- (l) ensure that all Sport in Australia is carried on in a manner that secures and enhances the safety of participants, officials, spectators and the public;
- (m) use and promote the Intellectual Property;
- (n) have regard to the public interest in its operations; and
- (o) undertake other actions or activities necessary, incidental or conducive to advance these Objects.

### 3. **POWERS**

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Solely for furthering the Objects under **clause 2**, the Company, in addition to the Sporting Power and any other powers it has under the Corporations Act, has the legal capacity and powers of a company limited by guarantee as set out in section 124 of the Corporations Act.

### 4. **INCOME AND PROPERTY OF THE COMPANY**

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#### 4.1 **Sole Purpose**

The income and property of the Company will only be applied towards the promotion of the Objects of the Company.

#### 4.2 **Payments to Members**

No income or property will be paid or transferred directly or indirectly to any Member except for payments to a Member:

- (a) in return for any services rendered or goods supplied in the ordinary and usual course of business to the Company; or
- (b) of interest at a rate not exceeding current commercial interest rates for moneys lent; or
- (c) of reasonable rent for premises let to the Company by them.

### 5. **MEMBERSHIP**

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#### 5.1 **Categories of Members**

Members of the Company shall fall into one of the following categories:

- (a) Member States, that, subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of, attend and vote at General Meetings;
- (b) Clubs, that are not entitled to receive notice of, attend or vote at General Meetings;
- (c) Individual Members, that shall have the right to attend, but are not entitled to receive notice of, or vote at General Meetings;
- (d) Honorary Members, that shall have the right to attend, but are not entitled to receive notice of, or vote at General Meetings or

- (e) such other category of Member as may be created by the Directors. Any category of Member created by the Directors under this **clause 5.1(e)** may not be granted voting rights.

## 5.2 Admission of Members

A person will become a Member, and the Directors will direct the Company Secretary to record their name, street address, email address and date on which they became a Member, in the register of Members kept by the Company, only upon meeting the criteria applicable to the relevant category of membership set out in this Constitution and provided the Member has submitted an application, which is accepted by the Directors, in which the Member undertakes to:

- (a) be bound by this Constitution, the Statutes and Regulations and the Policies (including Policies specific to the relevant category of Membership);
- (b) pay the fees and subscriptions determined to apply to the Member under **clause 9**; and
- (c) support the Company in the encouragement and promotion of its Objects.

## 5.3 Member States

- (a) The Company will recognise only one entity in each State as the controlling body responsible for ensuring the efficient administration of Croquet in the whole of that State in accordance with the Objects. Member States must be legal entities.
- (b) Adjoining States may, by mutual agreement, decide which State Association will administer clubs close to their mutual borders and will advise Croquet Australia of such decisions.
- (c) Unless otherwise determined by the Company and subject always to **clause 5.2** at the time of adoption of this Constitution, the first Member States of the Company will be those entities that are currently recognised by the Company as the recognised controlling body for Croquet in their respective State.
- (d) Each Member State will:
  - (i) have objects that align with those of the Company as stated in **clause 2** and do all that is reasonably necessary to enable the Objects to be achieved, having regard to any legislation applicable to that Member State;
  - (ii) at all times act for and on behalf of the interests of the Company, the Members and Croquet;
  - (iii) provide the Company with copies of its audited accounts, annual report and associated documents immediately following its Annual General Meeting;
  - (iv) be bound by this Constitution and the Policies and the Statutes and Regulations;
  - (v) act in good faith and loyalty to maintain and enhance the Company and Croquet, its standards, quality and reputation for the collective and mutual benefit of the Members and Croquet;

- (vi) at all times operate with and promote mutual trust and confidence between the Company and the Members, promoting the economic and sporting success, strength and stability of each other and work cooperatively with each other in the pursuit of the Objects;
  - (vii) maintain a database of all clubs, officials and members Registered with it in accordance with the Policies and provide a copy to the Company upon request from time to time by the Directors in such means as may be required;
  - (viii) not do or permit to be done any act or thing which might adversely affect or derogate from the standards, quality and reputation of Croquet and its maintenance and development; and
  - (ix) advise the Company as soon as practicable of any serious administrative, operational or financial difficulties, assist the Company in investigating those issues and cooperate with the Company in addressing those issues in whatever manner, including by:
    - (A) allowing the Company to appoint an administrator to conduct and manage its business and affairs; or
    - (B) allowing the Company itself to conduct all or part of the business or affairs of the relevant Member State,and on such conditions as the Company considers appropriate.
  - (x) Croquet Australia may, in its absolute discretion act to assist a Member State in whatever manner and on such conditions as Croquet Australia considers appropriate.
- (e) Constitutions of Member States
- (i) Each Member State shall take all steps necessary to ensure its constituent documents conform, and amendments conform, with this Constitution and the Policies, subject to any prohibition or inconsistency in any legislation applicable to that Member State.

For the avoidance of doubt, if any inconsistency remains between the constituent documents of a Member State (including its constitution and policies, however named) and this Constitution or the Policies, this Constitution and the Policies shall prevail to the extent of that inconsistency.
  - (ii) The constituent documents of a Member State must require the Member State to:
    - (A) advise the Company as soon as practicable of any serious administrative, operational or financial difficulties the Member State is having;
    - (B) assist the Company in investigating those issues; and
    - (C) cooperate with the Company in addressing those issues in whatever manner, including by allowing the Company to appoint an administrator



to conduct and manage the Member State's business and affairs, or to allow the Company itself to conduct all or part of the business or affairs of the Member State and on such conditions as the Company considers appropriate.

- (f) The Directors may develop and implement Policies which may set out the membership criteria to be met by Member States and the privileges and benefits of Member State membership in addition to those set out in this Constitution.

#### **5.4 Clubs and Individual Members**

- (a) The Company may at its discretion refuse to accept a person as an Individual Member or Club and shall not be required or compelled to provide any reason for such rejection.
- (b) Subject to clause 5.4(a) an individual may apply to become an Individual Member of the Company and is subject to the provisions of this Constitution.
- (c) In addition to the effect of membership set out in **clause 5.2**, an Individual Member must comply with this Constitution and the Policies and support the Company and the Objects.
- (d) An Individual Member is entitled to any benefits of membership prescribed to apply to Individual Members or Clubs respectively in the Policies.
- (e) All acknowledged Individual Members at the time of the update to this Constitution will be considered Individual Members under this new Constitution.

#### **5.5 Honorary Members**

- (a) The Company may recommend to the Annual General Meeting that any natural person who has rendered long and distinguished service to the Company or Croquet, where such service is deemed to have assisted the advancement of Croquet in Australia, be appointed as an honorary member.
- (b) A resolution of the Annual General Meeting to confer honorary membership (subject to clause 5.5(c)) on the recommendation of the honorary must be a Special Resolution.
- (c) Following approval at the Annual General Meeting, the person's details shall be entered upon the register of Members (in accordance with clause 7), and from the time of entry on the register the person shall be a honorary member.
- (d) An Honorary Member is entitled to any benefits of membership prescribed to apply to Individual Members or Clubs respectively in the Policies.
- (e) Honorary Membership may be removed at any General Meeting by special resolution

#### **5.6 General**

- (a) The Company must keep a register of all Members in accordance with the Corporations Act.

- (b) No Member whose membership ceases has any claim against the Company or the Directors for damages or otherwise arising from cessation or termination of membership.
- (c) Membership is personal to each Member. No Member shall, or purport to, assign the rights comprising or associated with membership to any other person and any attempt to do so shall be void.
- (d) A Member must treat all staff, contractors and representatives of the Company with respect and courtesy at all times.
- (e) A Member must not act in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of the Company or Croquet, or both.
- (f) Nothing in this Constitution prevents a person being an individual member of more than one member state, for the avoidance of doubt the principal affiliation shall be to the member state who remits subscriptions or fees on that person's behalf.

## 5.7 Limited Liability

Members have no liability in that capacity except as set out in **clause 26**.

## 6. CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP

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### 6.1 Cessation

A person ceases to be a Member on:

- (a) Resignation, subject to **clause 6.2**;
- (b) death;
- (c) the termination of their membership according to this Constitution or the Policies; and
- (d) without limiting the foregoing:
  - (i) in the case of Members who are not Member States, that Member no longer meeting the requirements for membership according to **clause 5**; and
  - (ii) in the case of Members who are Member States, that Member ceasing to be a Member in accordance with **clause 8**.

### 6.2 Resignation

- (a) Subject to **clause 6.2(b)**, for the purposes of **clause 6.1(a)**, a Member may resign as a member of the Company by giving 14 days written notice to the Directors.
- (b) A Member must not resign, and notice given under **clause 6.2(a)** is invalid, where the Member is at the time of notice being given, subject to disciplinary proceedings under **clause 7.2**, including proceedings under a Policy. For the purposes of this clause, "subject to disciplinary proceedings" includes where a complaint or allegations have been made against, but not yet conveyed to, a Member.

- (c) Where a Member State seeks to resign as a member of the Company the written notice must be accompanied by a copy of the special resolution passed by the Member State's members resolving that the Member State resign from the Company.

### 6.3 Forfeiture of Rights

A Member who or which ceases to be a Member shall forfeit all right in and claim upon the Company or the Directors for damages or otherwise, or claim upon its property including the Intellectual Property.

## 7. GRIEVANCES AND DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

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### 7.1 Jurisdiction

All Members will be subject to, and submit unreservedly to, the jurisdiction, procedures, penalties and appeal mechanisms of the Company whether under the Policies or under this Constitution.

### 7.2 Policies

- (a) The Directors may make or adopt a Policy or Policies:
  - (i) for the hearing and determination of:
    - (A) complaints by a Member that feels aggrieved by a decision or action of the Company or a Member State; and
    - (B) disputes between Members relating to the conduct or administration of Croquet;
  - (ii) for the discipline of Members;
  - (iii) for the formation and administration of an appeals tribunal which must be independent of any party before it on the matter which is the subject of the appeal in question; and
  - (iv) for the termination of Members (except in respect of Member States).
- (b) The Directors may, in making or adopting a Policy under (a), incorporate provisions within the Policy to exclusively govern its subject matter, to the exclusion of **clause 7.2(c)** and/or other Policies.
- (c) The Directors in their sole discretion may refer an allegation (which in the opinion of the Directors is not vexatious, trifling or frivolous) by a complainant (including a Director or a Member) that a Member has:
  - (i) breached, failed, refused or neglected to comply with a provision of this Constitution, the Policies or any other resolution or determination of the Directors or any duly authorised Committee; or
  - (ii) acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of the Company or Croquet, or both; or

- (iii) prejudiced the Company or Croquet or brought the Company or Croquet or themselves into disrepute,

for investigation or determination either under the procedures set down in the Policies or by such other procedure and/or persons as the Directors consider appropriate.

- (d) Unless suspension is dealt with under a Policy, in which case the provisions regarding suspension in the applicable Policy apply, during investigatory or disciplinary proceedings under this **clause 7**, a respondent may not participate in Croquet, pending the determination of such proceedings (including any available appeal) unless the Directors decide continued participation is appropriate having regard to the nature of the matter.

## **8. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP OF MEMBER STATE**

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### **8.1 Sanctions for Discipline of Member States**

Without limiting matters that may be referred to in the Policies, any Member State that is determined by the Directors to have acted in a manner set out in **clause 7.2(b)** shall be liable for the sanctions set out in that Policy, including termination of Membership (which shall only take place in accordance with the procedure set out in this **clause 8**).

### **8.2 Termination of Membership of Member States**

- (a) No recommendation can be made by the Directors under this **clause 8** unless all avenues of appeal available to the relevant Member State under the Policies have been exhausted.
- (b) Subject to compliance with **clause 8.2(a)** (and the Policies), the Directors may recommend to a General Meeting to terminate the membership of a Member State.
- (c) Upon recommendation from the Directors under **clause 8.2(b)**, a General Meeting may, by Special Resolution, terminate the membership of a Member State.
- (d) Where the membership of a Member State is terminated in accordance with this **clause 8.2**, the Directors may admit another body, which meets the requirements in **clause 5.3(a)**, as the Member State to represent the relevant State.

### **8.3 Resignation of Membership**

- (a) A Member State may resign their position from Croquet Australia by giving three (3) months in writing to Croquet Australia of such intention to withdraw or resign and upon the expiration of that period of notice, the State Association shall cease to be a Member.

### **8.4 Materials of Member State**

- (a) A Member who or which ceases to be a Member, for whatever reason, shall forfeit all right in and claim upon Croquet Australia and its property including Intellectual Property. Any Association documents, records or other property in the possession, custody or control of that Member shall be returned to Croquet Australia immediately.

## 8.5 Cessation of a Member State

- (a) Where a Member State ceases to be a Member in accordance with this Constitution or the Act, the Individual Members previously affiliated to that State Association may cease or remain Members to the extent (if any) and for such time (if any) as is determined by the sole discretion of the Directors.

## 9. FEES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

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### 9.1 Membership Fee

- (a) The Directors must determine from time to time:
  - (i) the amount (if any) payable by an applicant for membership;
  - (ii) the amount of the annual subscription fee payable by each Member, or any category of Members;
  - (iii) any other amount to be paid by each Member, or any category of Members, whether of a recurrent or any other nature; and
  - (iv) the payment method and the due date for payment.
- (b) Each Member must pay to the Company the amounts determined under this **clause 9** in accordance with **clause 9.1(a)(iv)**.

### 9.2 Non-Payment of Fees

Subject to **clause 5.3(a)**, the right of a Member to attend and vote at a General Meeting is suspended whilst the payment of any subscription or other amount determined under **clause 9** is in arrears for longer than 45 days.

### 9.3 Deferral or reduction of subscriptions

- (a) The Directors may defer the obligations of a Member to pay a subscription or other amount, or reduce (including to zero) the subscription or other amount payable by a Member, if the Directors are satisfied that:
  - (i) there are reasonable grounds for doing so;
  - (ii) the Company will not be materially disadvantaged as a result; and
  - (iii) the Member agrees to pay the deferred or (if greater than zero) the reduced subscription or other amount within a time fixed by the Directors.
- (b) If the Directors defer or reduce a subscription or other amount payable by a Member under this **clause 9.3**, that Member will retain their rights to attend and vote at a General Meeting, unless otherwise specified by the Directors.

## 10. GENERAL MEETINGS

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### 10.1 Annual General Meeting

AGMs of the Company are to be held:

- (a) according to the Corporations Act; and
- (b) at a date and venue determined by the Directors.

### 10.2 Power to convene General Meeting

- (a) The Directors may convene a General Meeting as they think fit and must do so if required by the Corporations Act.
- (b) The Voting Members may convene a General Meeting in accordance with the Corporations Act.

### 10.3 Notice of a General Meeting

- (a) Notice of a General Meeting of Members must be given:
  - (i) to all Members entitled to attend the General Meeting, the Directors, and the auditor of the Company; and
  - (ii) in accordance with **clause 24** and the Corporations Act.
- (b) At least 45 days prior to the proposed date of the AGM, the CEO will request from Voting Members notices of motions, which must be received no less than 28 days prior to the AGM.
- (c) At least 21 days' notice of the time and place of a General Meeting must be given, together with:
  - (i) all information required to be included in accordance with the Corporations Act;
  - (ii) in the case of a proposed Special Resolution, the intention to propose the Special Resolution and the terms of the proposed Special Resolution;
  - (iii) where applicable, any notice of motion received from any Voting Member or Director in accordance with the Corporations Act; and
  - (iv) where applicable, a list of all nominations received for positions to be elected at the relevant General Meeting.

### 10.4 No other business

No business other than that stated in the notice of meeting may be transacted at a General Meeting.

### **10.5 Cancellation or postponement of General Meeting**

Where a General Meeting (including an AGM) is convened by the Directors they may, if they think fit, cancel the meeting or postpone the meeting to a date and time they determine. This clause does not apply to a General Meeting convened by:

- (a) Members according to the Corporations Act;
- (b) the Directors at the request of Members; or
- (c) a court.

### **10.6 Written notice of cancellation or postponement of General Meeting**

Notice of the cancellation or postponement of a General Meeting must state the reasons for doing so and be given to:

- (a) each Member entitled to attend the General Meeting; and
- (b) each other person entitled to notice of a General Meeting under the Corporations Act.

### **10.7 Contents of a notice postponing a General Meeting**

A notice postponing a General Meeting must specify:

- (a) the new date and time for the meeting;
- (b) the place where the meeting is to be held, which may be either the same as or different to the place specified in the notice originally convening the meeting; and
- (c) if the meeting is to be held in two or more places, the technology that will be used to hold the meeting in that manner.

### **10.8 Number of clear days for postponement of General Meeting**

The number of clear days from the giving of a notice postponing a General Meeting to the date specified in that notice for the postponed meeting must not be less than the number of clear days' notice of that General Meeting required to be given by **clause 11.8** or the Corporations Act.

### **10.9 Business at postponed General Meeting**

The only business that may be transacted at a postponed General Meeting is the business specified in the notice originally convening the meeting.

### **10.10 Representative, proxy or attorney at postponed General Meeting**

Where:

- (a) by the terms of an instrument appointing a Representative, proxy or attorney that appointed person is authorised to attend and vote at a General Meeting on behalf of the appointing Member to be held on a specified date or at a General Meeting(s) to be held on or before a specified date; and

- (b) the date for the meeting is postponed to a date later than the date specified in the instrument,

then that later date is substituted for the date specified in the instrument appointing that appointed person, unless the appointing Member notifies the Company in writing to the contrary at least 48 hours before the time at which the postponed meeting is to be held.

#### **10.11 Non-receipt of notice**

The non-receipt of a notice convening, cancelling or postponing a General Meeting by, or the accidental omission to give a notice of that kind to, a person entitled to receive it, does not invalidate any resolution passed at the General Meeting or at a postponed meeting or the cancellation or postponement of the meeting.

#### **10.12 Right to appoint a representative**

- (a) In accordance with the Corporations Act, each Voting Member is entitled to appoint an individual as their Representative to attend General Meetings, provided that the Voting Member has not appointed a proxy under **clause 10.13**, and to exercise the powers of the Voting Member in relation to resolutions to be passed without meetings.
- (b) In addition to each Voting Member's appointed Representative, each Voting Member shall be entitled to appoint one further representative to attend meetings on their behalf but not vote.
- (c) The Member State shall notify Croquet Australia, at least 48 hours prior, to any General Meeting the name and contact details of their appointed Representative.

#### **10.13 Right to appoint a proxy**

- (a) A Voting Member entitled to attend a General Meeting of the Company is entitled to appoint a person as their proxy to attend the meeting in their place in accordance with the Corporations Act.
- (b) A proxy may be revoked by the appointing Member at any time by notice in writing to the Company.

#### **10.14 Form of proxy**

The instrument appointing a proxy may be in form determined by the Directors from time to time provided that it complies with the requirements under the Corporations Act.

#### **10.15 Attorney of Member**

A Member may appoint an attorney to act on the Member's behalf at all or any meetings of the Company.

#### **10.16 Lodgement of proxy or attorney documents**

- (a) A proxy or Attorney may vote at a General Meeting or an adjourned or postponed meeting only if the instrument appointing the proxy or attorney, and the original or a



certified copy of the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which the instrument is signed, are received by the Company:

- (i) at the office, the email or other electronic address specified for that purpose in the notice of meeting; and
  - (ii) at least 48 hours before the scheduled commencement time for the meeting or adjourned or postponed meeting (as the case may be) at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote. The scheduled commencement time is as specified in the notice of meeting.
- (b) An undated proxy is taken to be dated on the day that it is received by the Company.

#### **10.17 Authority given by appointment**

- (a) Unless the terms of the appointment specify to the contrary, an appointment by a Voting Member confers authority on a proxy, attorney or Representative:
- (i) to agree to a General Meeting being convened by shorter notice than is required by the Corporations Act or by this Constitution;
  - (ii) to speak to any proposed resolution; and
  - (iii) to demand or join in demanding a poll on any resolution.
- (b) Unless the terms of the appointment specify to the contrary, even if the instrument of appointment refers to specific resolutions and directs the proxy, attorney or Representative on how to vote on those resolutions, the appointment is taken to confer authority:
- (i) to vote on any amendment moved to the proposed resolutions and on any motion that the proposed resolutions not be put or any similar motion;
  - (ii) to vote on any procedural motion; and
  - (iii) to act generally at the meeting.
- (c) Unless the terms of the appointment specify to the contrary, if the instrument of appointment refers to a specific meeting to be held at a specified time or venue and the meeting is postponed or adjourned or changed to another venue, then the appointment confers authority to attend and vote:
- (i) at the postponed or adjourned meeting; or
  - (ii) at the new venue.
- (d) An appointment of a proxy may be a standing proxy — that is, the appointment under the proxy remains valid until it is revoked by the Voting Member that made the appointment.

- (e) The instrument appointing a proxy may provide for the Chairperson to act as the proxy in the absence of any other appointment or if the person or persons nominated fails or fail to attend the meeting.
- (f) The instrument appointing a proxy may direct the manner in which the proxy is to vote in respect of a particular resolution.
- (g) If a proxy is appointed to vote on a particular resolution by more than one Voting Member and the instruments appointing the proxy direct the proxy to vote on the resolution in different ways, then the proxy must not vote on a show of hands taken on the resolution.

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## **11. PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETING**

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### **11.1 Number for a quorum**

The number of Voting Members who must be present and eligible to vote for a quorum to exist at a General Meeting is four (4).

### **11.2 Requirement for a quorum**

An item of business may not be transacted at a General Meeting unless a quorum is present at the commencement of, and remains throughout, the General Meeting.

### **11.3 Quorum and time**

If, within 30 minutes after the time appointed for a General Meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting:

- (a) if convened by, or on requisition of, Members, is dissolved; and
- (b) in any other case stands adjourned to such other day, time and place as the chair determines.

### **11.4 Adjourned meeting**

If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the time appointed for the adjourned meeting, those Voting Members then present shall constitute a quorum.

### **11.5 Chairperson to preside over General Meetings**

- (a) The Chairperson is entitled to preside as chair at General Meetings.
- (b) If a General Meeting is convened and there is no Chairperson, or the Chairperson is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, or is unable or unwilling to act, the following may preside as chair (in order of entitlement):
  - (i) a Director (or other person) chosen by a majority of the Directors present;
  - (ii) the only Director present; or

- (iii) a Representative of a Voting Member that is entitled to vote and is chosen by a majority of the Voting Members present.

#### **11.6 Conduct of General Meetings**

- (a) The chair:
  - (i) has charge of the general conduct of the meeting and of the procedures to be adopted;
  - (ii) may require the adoption of any procedure which in his or her opinion is necessary or desirable for proper and orderly debate or discussion or the proper and orderly casting or recording of votes; and
  - (iii) may, having regard where necessary to the Corporations Act, terminate discussion or debate on any matter whenever he or she considers it necessary or desirable for the proper conduct of the meeting.
- (b) A decision by the chair under this **clause 11.6** is final.

#### **11.7 Adjournment of General Meeting**

- (a) The chair may, with the consent of any General Meeting at which a quorum is present, and must if so directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting or any business, motion, question, resolution, debate or discussion being considered or remaining to be considered by the meeting.
- (b) The adjournment may be either to a later time at the same meeting or to an adjourned meeting at any time and place agreed by vote of the members present.
- (c) Only unfinished business is to be transacted at a meeting resumed after an adjournment.

#### **11.8 Notice of adjourned meeting**

- (a) It is not necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting unless a meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more.
- (b) In that case, at least the same period of notice as was originally required for the meeting must be given for the adjourned meeting.

#### **11.9 Questions decided by majority**

Subject to the requirements of the Corporations Act and except in the case of a Special Resolution, a resolution is carried if a simple majority of the votes cast on the resolution are in favour of it.

#### **11.10 Equality of votes**

Where an equal number of votes are cast in favour of and against the resolution, the resolution is not carried.

**11.11 Declaration of results**

- (a) At any General Meeting a resolution put to the vote of the meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is properly demanded and the demand is not withdrawn.
- (b) A declaration by the chair that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried or carried unanimously, or by a particular majority, or lost, and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meetings of the Company, is conclusive evidence of the fact.
- (c) Neither the chair nor the minutes need state, and it is not necessary to prove, the number or proportion of the votes recorded for or against the resolution.

**11.12 Poll**

- (a) If a poll is properly demanded in accordance with the Corporations Act or by the chair of the meeting, it must be taken in the manner and at the date and time directed by the chair, and the result of the poll is the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- (b) A poll demanded on the election of a chair or on a question of adjournment must be taken immediately.
- (c) A demand for a poll may be withdrawn.
- (d) A demand for a poll does not prevent the General Meeting continuing for the transaction of any business other than the question on which the poll was demanded.

**11.13 Objection to voting qualification**

- (a) An objection to the right of a person to attend or vote at a General Meeting (including an adjourned meeting):
  - (i) may not be raised except at that meeting; and
  - (ii) must be referred to the chair, whose decision is final.
- (b) A vote not disallowed under the objection is valid for all purposes.

**11.14 Chair to determine any poll dispute**

If there is a dispute about the admission or rejection of a vote, the chair must decide it and the chair's decision made is final.

**11.15 Electronic voting**

Voting by electronic communication at General Meetings may be permitted from time to time in such instances as the Directors may determine and shall be held in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Directors.

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## 12. VOTES OF MEMBERS

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### 12.1 Votes of Members

- (a) At a General Meeting, on a show of hands and on a poll, each of the Voting Members shall have the votes set out in this **clause 12.1**.
- (b) Each Voting Member State will receive one (1) vote.
- (c) No Member other than Member States shall be entitled to vote at General Meetings.

### 12.2 Election of Directors

- (a) Elections for Elected Directors shall be by ballot in accordance with this **clause 12.2** at the relevant General Meeting on papers prepared by the CEO.
- (b) The ballot for an election to fill one or more Elected Director positions will be conducted in accordance with the following procedure:
  - (i) if at the close of nominations for an election to fill one or more Elected Director positions the number of eligible nominees is equal to or less than the number of positions to be filled, then those nominated shall be declared elected only if elected by the majority of Members entitled to vote.
  - (ii) If there are insufficient nominations received to fill all vacancies on the Board, or if a person is not approved by the majority of Members under clause 12.(b)(i) the positions will be deemed casual vacancies under clause 14.10.
  - (iii) if at the close of nominations for an election to fill one or more Elected Director positions there are more eligible nominees than the number of positions to be filled, voting papers shall be prepared containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order.
  - (iv) Voting shall be conducted in such manner and by such method as set out in the policies.

### 12.3 Resolutions not in General Meeting

- (a) If all Members entitled to vote sign a document containing a statement that they are in favour of a resolution in terms set out in the document, a resolution in those terms is deemed to have been passed at a General Meeting of the Company held at the time on which the document was signed by the last Member entitled to vote.
- (b) For the purposes of **clause 12.3(a)**, two or more separate documents containing statements in identical terms, each of which is signed by one or more Members entitled to vote, are deemed together to constitute one document containing a statement in those terms signed by those Members on the respective days on which they signed the separate documents.

- (c) Email or other form of visible or other electronic communication under the name of a Member is deemed to be a document in writing signed by that Member for the purpose of this clause.

## 13. **STAKEHOLDER FORUM**

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### 13.1 Power to convene Stakeholder Forums

The Directors may from time to time convene a Stakeholder Forum to proactively engage and collaborate with Members.

### 13.2 Notice of Stakeholder Forums

- (a) The Directors may determine the notice, if any, provided to Members (or categories of Members) for a proposed Stakeholder Forum, including the period and method of notice.
- (b) The notice may include the purpose and intent of a particular Stakeholder Forum, including any proposed items for discussion, in addition to the purposes outlined in **clause 13.1**.

### 13.3 Conduct of a Stakeholder Forum

- (a) The format of proceedings at a Stakeholder Forum shall be at the discretion of the Directors.
- (b) The Directors shall determine who shall chair the Stakeholder Forum, including who shall lead or facilitate particular discussion items.
- (c) There is no quorum requirement for a Stakeholder Forum.
- (d) Items for discussion which were not included in the notice issued under **clause 13.2** (if any) may, with the permission of the chair, be raised for discussion.
- (e) Directors are not bound by any resolution passed at the Stakeholder Forum.

## 14. **DIRECTORS**

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### 14.1 Number of Directors

- (a) There must be not less than seven (7) Directors and not more than nine (9) Directors.
- (b) Subject to **clause 14.1(a)**, not more than seven (7) Directors are to be elected by the Members (Elected Directors), and not more than two (2) Directors are to be appointed under **clause 14.11**.

### 14.2 Transitional provisions

- (a) The First Elected Directors are:
- Director 1 – Jim Nicholls (Terms Expires AGM 2025)

- Director 2 – Nick Chapman (Term Expires AGM 2025)
  - Director 3 – Barbara Northcott (Term Expires AGM 2025)
  - Director 4 – Claire Keating (Term Expires AGM 2026)
  - Director 5 – Patricia Habner (Term Expires AGM 2026)
  - Director 6 – Max Kewish (Term Expires AGM 2026)
  - Director 7 – Graham Keating (Term Expires AGM 2026)
  - The First Appointed Directors are:
    - Not Applicable, Currently Vacant.
- (b) The Elected Directors, as stated above, where elected to their positions under the Incorporated Association and the eligibility requirements enforced under Clause 14.3 Eligibility, do not apply.
- (c) Where a casual vacancy exists or arises from the date of this Constitution being adopted, Clause 14.3 Eligibility applies.
- (d) Clause 14.2(a) will be removed from this Constitution at the Annual General Meeting for 2026 at the conclusion of the final term for the currently elected Directors under the Incorporated Association Constitution.

### 14.3 Eligibility

- (a) For the period from the date of this Constitution, not applicable to the currently elected directors, a person that:
- (i) is an employee of the Company or Member State
  - (ii) holds an Official Position with a Member State, or
  - (iii) was a Director of the Company and **clause 14.9** applies; or
  - (iv) was CEO of the Company at any time within the period beginning three years prior to the date of his/her proposed appointment or election as a Director,
- (each a disqualifying position) may not hold office as a Director.
- (b) A Director that accepts a disqualifying position must notify the other Directors of this fact immediately and is deemed to have vacated office as a Director.
- (c) A person elected or appointed as a Director at the time of holding a disqualifying position must resign from that disqualifying position within 30 days.
- (d) No person shall be eligible to stand for an Elected Director position if, during the proposed term of office, they would be in breach of **clause 14.9**.

- (e) The Directors may determine position or role descriptions or necessary qualifications for Director positions.
- (f) The Directors and Nominations Committee must use reasonable endeavours to ensure no one gender constitutes more than 60% of the total number of Directors.

#### **14.4 Nominations Committee**

- (a) A Nominations Committee shall be formed, the role of which shall include the task of identifying candidates to fill Director vacancies (including casual vacancies) and assess all nominees for Director vacancies. The Nominations Committee has the power to determine that a nomination is unsuitable for further consideration by the Company, the Directors or the Members (as applicable) but only if this decision is unanimous.
- (b) The Nominations Committee shall comprise three persons, all appointed by the Directors including an independent chair, a Member representative and a Director or Director representative. The complete and specific duties, functions and rules of the Nominations Committee are defined in the Nominations Committee terms of reference.
- (c) The Nominations Committee must utilise a skills matrix as part of its assessment of nominees for Director vacancies.
- (d) When assessing nominees for Director vacancies, the Nominations Committee must comply with **clause 14.3(f)**.

#### **14.5 Nomination for election**

- (a) At least 45 days prior to the proposed date of the Annual General Meeting, at which a resolution or resolutions will be proposed to fill a vacancy in an Elected Director position, the CEO will request from Members nominations (that comply with this **clause 14.5**) for elections to positions falling vacant, that must be received no later than 28 days prior to the AGM.
- (b) Any Member, Director or Committee may nominate a person to fill a vacancy in an Elected Director position that is to be the subject of an election at the next AGM.
- (c) A nomination must:
  - (i) be in the form required by the Directors; and
  - (ii) signed by the nominator and nominee.

#### **14.6 Term of office of Directors generally**

Subject to **clauses 14.2, 14.8, 14.9** and **14.10**, an Elected Director will hold office for a term of three (3) years.

#### **14.7 Office held until end of meeting**

A retiring Elected Director holds office until the end of the meeting at which that Elected Director retires but, subject to the requirement of this Constitution, including **clause 14.9**, is eligible for re-election.



**14.8 Elected Director elected at General Meeting**

- (a) At a General Meeting:
  - (i) at which an Elected Director retires; or
  - (ii) at the commencement of which there is a vacancy in the office of an Elected Director,there will be a vote of the Members conducted in accordance with **clause 12.2** to fill the vacancy by electing someone to that office.
- (b) Subject to **clauses 14.8(c), 14.9** and **14.12**, an Elected Director elected under this **clause 14.8** takes office at the end of the meeting at which they are elected for a period of three years.
- (c) An Elected Director elected under **clause 14.8(a)(ii)** is elected for the remainder of the term of office for the position that they are filling.

**14.9 Maximum consecutive years in office for Directors**

- (a) Subject to **clause 14.9(d)**, a Director must not serve more than ten consecutive years as a Director, including where one or more of the years is as an Appointed Director.
- (b) For the purpose of **clause 14.9(a)**, where service:
  - (i) by a person as a Director under this Constitution is for a period less than three years:
    - (A) if the service is less than one year, it will be treated as one full year;
    - (B) if the service is between one year and two years, it will be treated as two full years;
    - (C) if the service is between two years and three years, it will be treated as three full years; and
  - (ii) by a person as a Director takes place immediately before the adoption of this Constitution, the number of consecutive years of service by that person before the adoption of this Constitution will be treated as service towards **clause 14.9(a)**, rounded up to the nearest full year.
- (c) A Director who has served the maximum number of years in accordance with **clause 14.9(a)** shall not be eligible to be a Director for three years following the completion of their maximum term.
- (d) A Director may serve as a Director for a maximum of 12 years if they are the Chair or an ISF representative in what is or must be their second last or last consecutive term.

#### 14.10 Casual vacancy in ranks of Elected Directors

- (a) The Directors may at any time appoint a person to fill a casual vacancy (as defined in **clause 14.13**) in the rank of the Elected Directors.
- (b) A person appointed under **clause 14.10(a)** holds office for the remainder of the vacating Director's term and, subject to this Constitution, they may offer themselves for re-election.

#### 14.11 Appointed Directors

- (a) In addition to the Elected Directors, the Directors may themselves appoint up to two persons to be Directors because of their special business acumen and/or technical skills. These persons will be known as the "Appointed Directors".
- (b) Subject to **clauses 14.9** and **14.12**, an Appointed Director holds office for a term determined by the Directors not to exceed three years and the appointment will be on such other terms as the Directors determine.
- (c) A person may only serve six consecutive years as an Appointed Director but, subject to the other requirements of this Constitution, in particular **clause 14.9**, are otherwise eligible to be elected to an Elected Director position.
- (d) Subject to this Constitution, the Directors may at any time appoint a person to fill a casual vacancy (as defined in **clause 14.13**) in the rank of the Appointed Directors on whatever terms the Directors decide.

#### 14.12 Removal of Director

- (a) A Director may be removed by the Members in accordance with the Corporations Act.
- (b) Unless otherwise resolved at a General Meeting, a Director removed in accordance with **clause 14.12(a)** cannot be re-appointed as a Director within three years of their removal.

#### 14.13 Vacation of office

The office of a Director becomes vacant when the Corporations Act says it does and also if the Director:

- (a) dies;
- (b) is removed in accordance with **clause 14.12**;
- (c) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under a law relating to mental health;
- (d) resigns from office by notice in writing to the Company;
- (e) accepts appointment to, or becomes the holder of, a disqualifying position as set out in **clause 14.3** and does not resign from that position within 30 days;

- (f) is absent at three consecutive Directors' meetings without leave of absence from the Directors; or
- (g) is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with the Company and fails to declare the nature of the interest as required by the Act.

#### **14.14 Alternate Director**

A Director cannot appoint an alternate.

### **15. POWERS AND DUTIES OF DIRECTORS**

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#### **15.1 Directors to manage the Company**

The Directors are to manage the Company's business and may exercise those of the Company's powers that are not required, by the Corporations Act or by this Constitution, to be exercised by the Company in General Meeting.

In particular, the Board as the controlling authority of Croquet Australia shall be responsible for acting on all national issues in accordance with the objects of Croquet Australia and shall operate for the collective and mutual benefit of Croquet Australia and the sport of Croquet throughout Australia and shall:

- (a) govern the sport of Croquet in Australia in accordance with the objects of Croquet Australia;
- (b) determine major strategic directions of Croquet Australia;
- (c) review Croquet Australia's performance in achieving its pre-determined aims, objectives and policies; and
- (d) manage international responsibilities.

#### **15.2 Specific powers of Directors**

Without limiting **clause 15.1**, the Directors may exercise all the Company's powers to borrow or raise money, to charge any property or business or give any other security for a debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any other person.

#### **15.3 Time, etc**

Subject to the Corporations Act, where this Constitution requires that something be done by a particular time, or within a particular period, or that an event is to occur or a circumstance is to change on or by a particular date, the Directors may at their absolute discretion extend that time, period or date as they think fit.

#### **15.4 Appointment of an attorney**

The Directors may appoint any person to be the Company's attorney for the purposes, with the powers, authorities and discretions, for the period and subject to the conditions they think fit.

### 15.5 Provisions in a power of attorney

A power of attorney granted under **clause 15.4** may contain any provisions for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with the attorney that the Directors think fit and may also authorise the attorney to delegate (including by way of appointment of a substitute attorney) all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions of the attorney.

### 15.6 Delegation of powers

- (a) Without limiting **clause 18.4** the Directors may, by resolution or by power of attorney or writing under seal, delegate any of their powers to the CEO or any employee of the Company or any other person as they think fit.
- (b) Any delegation by the Directors of their powers:
  - (i) must specify the powers delegated, any restrictions on, and conditions attaching to, the exercise of those powers and the period during which that delegation is to be in force;
  - (ii) may be either general or limited in any way provided in the terms of the delegation;
  - (iii) need not be to a specified person but may be to any person holding, occupying or performing the duties of a specified office or position; and
  - (iv) may include the power to delegate.
- (c) If exercising a power depends on a person's opinion, belief or state of mind, then that power may be exercised by the delegate on the delegate's opinion, belief or state of mind about that matter.
- (d) Any power exercised by a delegate is as effective as if it had been exercised by the Directors.

### 15.7 Code of Conduct and Board Charter

The Directors must:

- (a) adopt a code of conduct for Directors and a Board charter; and
- (b) periodically review the code of conduct and Board charter in light of the general principles of good corporate governance.

### 15.8 Strategic Plan

The Directors must develop and adopt a strategic plan as revised from time to time.

## 16. PROCEEDINGS OF DIRECTORS

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**16.1 Directors meetings**

- (a) Subject to **clause 16.1(b)** the Directors may meet together for conducting business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit.
- (b) The Directors must meet at least six times in each calendar year.

**16.2 Questions decided by majority**

A question arising at a Directors' meeting is to be decided by a majority of votes of the Directors present in person and entitled to vote. Each Director present has one vote on a matter arising for decision by Directors.

**16.3 Chair's casting vote**

The chair of the meeting will not have a casting vote.

**16.4 Quorum**

Five (5) Directors present in person and or via technology as determined by the Directors constitutes a quorum.

**16.5 Effect of vacancy**

- (a) The continuing Directors may act despite a vacancy in their number.
- (b) However, if the number of Directors is reduced below the number required for a quorum, the remaining Directors may act only for the purpose of filling the vacancies to the extent necessary to bring their number up to that required for a quorum or to convene a General Meeting.

**16.6 Convening meetings**

- (a) A Director may, and the CEO on the request of a Director must, convene a Directors' meeting.
- (b) Notice of a meeting of Directors must be given individually to each Director (except a Director on leave of absence approved by the Directors). Notice of a meeting of Directors may be given in person, or by post or by telephone or electronic means.
- (c) A Director may waive notice of a meeting of Directors by giving notice to that effect to the Company in person or by post or by telephone or electronic means.
- (d) A person who attends a meeting of Directors waives any objection that person may have in relation to a failure to give notice of the meeting.
- (e) The non-receipt of a notice of a meeting of the Directors or the accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to a person entitled to receive notice does not invalidate anything done (including the passing of a resolution) at a meeting of Directors.

## 16.7 Election of Chairperson

- (a) The Directors must, at the first Directors' meeting after the AGM, annually elect one of their number to be the Chairperson by a majority vote.
- (b) The Director elected to be Chairperson under **clause 16.7(a)** will, subject to remaining a Director, remain Chairperson for one year from the date of their election until the first Directors' meeting after the following AGM and shall chair any meeting of Directors.
- (c) Despite **clause 16.7(b)**, if:
  - (i) there is no person elected as Chairperson; or
  - (ii) the Chairperson is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting; or
  - (iii) the Chairperson is unwilling to act,the Directors present may elect one of their number to be chair of the meeting.
- (d) A Director elected as Chairperson may be re-elected as Chairperson in following years, so long as he or she remains a Director.

## 16.8 Circulating resolutions

- (a) The Directors may pass a resolution without a Directors' meeting being held if notice in writing of the resolution is given to all Directors and a majority of the Directors entitled to vote on the resolution (not being less than the number required for a quorum at a meeting of Directors) sign a document containing a statement that they are in favour of the resolution set out in the document.
- (b) Separate copies of the document may be used for signing by the Directors if the wording of the resolution and statement is identical in each copy. An email or document produced by electronic means under the name of a Director with the Director's authority is taken to be a document signed by the Director for the purposes of **clause 16.8(a)** and is taken to be signed when received by the Company in legible form.
- (c) The resolution is passed when the last Director signs.

## 16.9 Validity of acts of Directors

Everything done at a Directors' meeting or a Committee meeting, or by a person acting as a Director, is valid even if it is discovered later that there was some defect in the appointment, election or qualification of any of them or that any of them was disqualified or had vacated office.

## 16.10 Directors' Interests

- (a) A Director shall declare to the Directors any material personal interest or related party transaction, as defined by the Corporations Act, as soon as practicable after that Director becomes aware of their interest in the matter.

- (b) Directors must complete an annual statement of interest which must be updated from time to time to satisfy the requirements in **clause 16.10(a)**.
- (c) Where a Director declares a material personal interest or in the event of a related party transaction, that Director is ineligible to receive the Directors' meeting papers related to the matter, and must absent himself or herself from discussion of such matter and shall not be entitled to vote in respect of such matter unless otherwise determined by the Directors.
- (d) In the event of any uncertainty in this regard, the issue shall immediately be determined by a vote of the Directors or, if this is not possible, the matter shall be adjourned or deferred to the next meeting.
- (e) The CEO shall maintain a register of declared interests.

#### **16.11 Minutes**

The Directors must cause minutes of meetings to be made and kept in accordance with the Corporations Act.

### **17. VIRTUAL MEETINGS OF THE COMPANY**

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#### **17.1 Virtual Meeting**

- (a) A General Meeting or a Directors' Meeting may be held by means of a Virtual Meeting, provided that:
  - (i) the number of Members or Directors (as applicable) participating is not less than a quorum required for a General Meeting or Directors' Meeting (as applicable); and
  - (ii) the meeting is convened and held in accordance with the Corporations Act.
- (b) All provisions of this Constitution relating to a meeting apply to a Virtual Meeting in so far as they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this **clause 17**.

#### **17.2 Conduct of Virtual Meeting**

The following provisions apply to a Virtual Meeting of the Company:

- (a) all persons participating in the meeting must be linked by telephone, audio-visual or other instantaneous means for the purpose of the meeting;
- (b) each of the persons taking part in the meeting must be able to hear and be heard by each of the other persons taking part at the commencement of the meeting and each person so taking part is deemed for the purposes of this Constitution to be present at the meeting;
- (c) at the commencement of the meeting each person must be distinguishable to the chair;

- (d) a person may not leave a Virtual Meeting by disconnecting his or her telephone, audio-visual or other communication equipment unless that person has previously notified the chair;
- (e) a person may conclusively be presumed to have been present and to have formed part of a quorum at all times during a Virtual Meeting unless that person has previously notified the chair of leaving the meeting; and
- (f) a minute of proceedings of a Virtual Meeting is sufficient evidence of the proceedings and of the observance of all necessary formalities if the minute is certified to be a correct minute by the chair.

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## **18. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

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### **18.1 Appointment of a CEO**

The Directors may appoint a CEO and review their performance in accordance with a CEO performance review process adopted by the Board.

### **18.2 Powers, duties and authorities of a CEO**

- (a) The CEO holds office on the terms and conditions (including as to remuneration) and with the powers, duties and authorities, delegated to them by the Directors.
- (b) The exercise of those powers and authorities, and the performance of those duties, by the CEO are subject at all times to the control of the Directors.

### **18.3 Suspension and removal of a CEO**

Subject to the terms and conditions of the appointment, the Directors may suspend or remove the CEO from that office.

### **18.4 Delegation by Directors to a CEO**

The Directors may delegate to the CEO the power (subject to such reservations on the power as are decided by the Directors) to conduct the day-to-day management and control of the business and affairs of the Company. The delegation will include the power and responsibility to:

- (a) develop business plans, budgets, strategies, policies, processes and codes of conduct for consideration by the Directors and to implement them to the extent approved by the Directors;
- (b) manage the financial and other reporting mechanisms of the Company;
- (c) approve and incur expenditure subject to specified expenditure limits;
- (d) sub-delegate his or her powers and responsibilities to employees or internal management committees of the Company; and
- (e) any other powers and responsibilities which the Directors consider appropriate to delegate to the CEO.



**18.5 CEO to attend meetings**

The CEO is entitled, subject to a determination otherwise by the Directors, to attend all meetings of the Company, all meeting of the Directors and any Committees and may speak on any matter, but does not have a vote.

**19. COMPANY SECRETARY**

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**19.1 Appointment of a Company Secretary**

There must be at least one Company Secretary who is to be appointed by the Directors.

**19.2 Suspension and removal of a Company Secretary**

The Directors may suspend or remove a Company Secretary from that office.

**19.3 Powers, duties and authorities of a Company Secretary**

A Company Secretary holds office on the terms and conditions (including as to remuneration) and with the powers, duties and authorities, delegated to them by the Directors.

**20. COMMITTEES**

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**20.1 Committees**

The Directors may delegate any of their powers to Committees consisting of those persons they think fit (including Directors, individuals and consultants), and may vary or revoke any delegation.

**20.2 Powers delegated to Committees**

- (a) A Committee must exercise the powers delegated to it according to the terms of the delegation and any directions of the Directors.
- (b) Powers delegated to and exercised by a Committee are taken to have been exercised by the Directors.

**20.3 Committee meetings**

Unless otherwise determined by the Directors, committee meetings are governed by the provisions of this Constitution dealing with Directors' meetings, as far as they are capable of application.

**20.4 FARM Committee**

- (a) A FARM Committee must be established by the Directors.
- (b) The composition, duties and functions of the FARM Committee shall be defined in the FARM Committee terms of reference.

## 21. POLICIES

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### 21.1 Making and amending Policies

- (a) In addition to policies made under **clause 7.2**, the Directors may from time to time make policies:
  - (i) that are required to be made under this Constitution; and
  - (ii) that, in their opinion, are necessary or desirable for the control, administration and management of the Company's affairs and may amend, repeal and replace those policies.
- (b) The Policies referred to in **clauses 7.2** and **21.1(a)** will take effect 7 days after the service of the Policy on the Member and shall be in force and effect on that date.

### 21.2 Effect of Policies

A Policy:

- (a) is subject to this Constitution;
- (b) must be consistent with this Constitution;
- (c) when in force, is binding on all Members and has the same effect as a provision in this Constitution; and
- (d) may be overruled if a resolution to that effect is passed by the Members at a General Meeting.
- (e) All by-laws, regulations and policies of Croquet Australia in force at the date of the approval of this Constitution such by-laws, regulations and policies are not inconsistent with, or have been replaced by this Constitution, shall be deemed to be Policies under this Clause.

## 22. INSPECTION OF RECORDS

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A Member does not have the right to inspect any document of the Company (including registers kept by the Company) except as required by law. The Directors will develop a policy that will Member States, upon reasonable written request, to inspect the register of Members kept by Croquet Australia, but will not permit a member to copy information from the register of Members.

## 23. ACCOUNTS

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### 23.1 Accounting Records

The Directors will cause proper accounting and other records to be kept and will distribute copies of financial statements as required by the Corporations Act.

**23.2 Auditor**

A properly qualified auditor(s) shall be appointed by the Directors and the remuneration of such auditor(s) fixed and duties regulated in accordance with the Corporations Act.

**24. SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS**

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**24.1 Document includes notice**

In this **clause 24**, document includes a notice.

**24.2 Methods of service on a Member**

The Company may give a document to a Member:

- (a) personally;
- (b) by sending it by post to the address for the Member in the Register or an alternative address nominated by the Member; or
- (c) by sending it to an email other electronic address nominated by the Member.

**24.3 Methods of service on the Company**

A Member may give a document to the Company:

- (a) by delivering it to the Registered Office;
- (b) by sending it by post to the Registered Office; or
- (c) by sending it to an email other electronic address nominated by the Company.

**24.4 Post**

A document sent by post if sent to an address:

- (a) in Australia, may be sent by ordinary post; and
- (b) outside Australia, or sent from an address outside Australia, must be sent by airmail,

and in either case is taken to have been received on the fourth business day after the date of its posting.

**24.5 Electronic transmission**

If a document is sent by email other electronic transmission, delivery of the document is taken to:

- (a) be effected by properly addressing and transmitting the email other electronic transmission; and
- (b) have been delivered on the business day following its transmission.

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## 25. INDEMNITY

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### 25.1 Indemnity of officers

- (a) This **clause 25** applies to every person who is or has been:
- (i) a Director, CEO or Company Secretary of the Company; and
  - (ii) to any other officers, employees, former officers or former employees of the Company or of its related bodies corporate as the Directors in each case determine.

Each person referred to in this paragraph (a) is referred to as an "Indemnified Officer" for the purposes of the rest of **clause 25**.

- (b) The Company will indemnify each Indemnified Officer out of the property of the Company against:
- (i) every liability (except a liability for legal costs) that the Indemnified Officer incurs as an Officer of the Company or of a related body corporate of the Company; and
  - (ii) all legal costs incurred in defending or resisting (or otherwise in connection with) proceedings, whether civil or criminal or of an administrative or investigatory nature, in which the Indemnified Officer becomes involved as an officer of the Company or of a related body corporate of the Company,
- unless:
- (iii) the Company is forbidden by statute to indemnify the person against the liability or legal costs; or
  - (iv) an indemnity by the Company of the person against the liability or legal costs would, if given, be made void by statute.

### 25.2 Insurance

The Company may pay or agree to pay, whether directly or through an interposed entity, a premium for a contract insuring an Indemnified Officer against liability that the Indemnified Officer incurs as an officer of the Company or of a related body corporate of the Company including a liability for legal costs, unless:

- (a) the Company is forbidden by statute to pay or agree to pay the premium; or
- (b) the contract would, if the Company paid the premium, be made void by statute.

### 25.3 Deed

The Company may enter into a deed with any Indemnified Officer or a deed poll to give effect to the rights conferred by **clause 25.1** on the terms the Directors think fit (as long as they are consistent with **clause 25**).

**26. WINDING UP**

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**26.1 Contributions of Members on winding up**

- (a) Each Voting Member may be required to contribute to the Company's property if the Company is wound up whilst they are a Member or within one year after their membership ceases.
- (b) The contribution is for:
  - (i) payment of the Company's debts and liabilities contracted before their membership ceased;
  - (ii) the costs of winding up; and
  - (iii) adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves,and the amount is not to exceed \$1.00.
- (c) No other Member shall be required to contribute to the Company's property if the Company is wound up.

**26.2 Excess property on winding up**

- (a) If on the winding up or dissolution of the Company, and after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property remains, that property must be given or transferred to another body or bodies:
  - (i) having objects similar to those of the Company; and
  - (ii) whose constitution prohibits (or each of whose constitutions prohibit) the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed under this Constitution.
- (b) That body is, or those bodies are, to be determined by the Voting Members at or before the time of dissolution or, failing that determination, by a judge who has or acquires jurisdiction in the matter.