



# Rules of the Show Horse Council of Victoria Inc.

**A0042915B**

**Adopted on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022**

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## PART 1—PRELIMINARY

### 1. Name

The name of the incorporated association is "Show Horse Council of Victoria Incorporated" (**the Association**).

### 2. Purposes

The purposes of the association are:

- (a) to provide increased opportunities for new and experienced show horse competitors;
- (b) to offer quality training and development opportunities for young and inexperienced horses and riders; and
- (c) do such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of these purposes.

### 3. Financial Year

The financial year of the Association is each period of 12 months ending on 30 June.

### 4. Definitions

In these Rules—

**Absolute Majority**, of the Executive Committee, means a majority of the Committee Members currently holding office and entitled to vote at the time (as distinct from a majority of Committee Members present at a Committee Meeting);

**Act** means the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic) and includes any regulations made under that Act;

**Affiliate Member** is a Member referred to in rule 14;

**Associate Member** means a Member referred to in rule 18;

**Chairperson**, of a General Meeting or Committee Meeting, means the person chairing the meeting as required under rule 51;

**Executive Committee** means the Executive Committee having management of the business of the Association;

**Committee Meeting** means a meeting of the Executive Committee held in accordance with these Rules;

**Committee Member** means a member of the Executive Committee elected or appointed under Division 3 of Part 6;

**Continuing Member** means an applicant for membership for the coming Financial Year who, at the time of the application, is a Member;

**Disciplinary Appeal Meeting** means a meeting of the Members convened under rule 27(3);

**Disciplinary Meeting** means a meeting of the Executive Committee convened for the purposes of rule 26;

**Disciplinary Subcommittee** means the subcommittee appointed under rule 24;

**Financial Year** means the 12 month period specified in rule 3;

**General Meeting** means a General Meeting of the Members convened in accordance with Part 4 and includes an annual General Meeting, a special General Meeting and a Disciplinary Appeal Meeting;

**Member** means a member of the Association admitted in accordance with these Rules;

**Member entitled to vote** means a Member who under rule 19(2) is entitled to vote at a General Meeting;

**Membership Fee** means the amount determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with rule 13(3)(b);

**National Measuring Scheme** means the National Saddle Horse Register and Measuring Scheme Regulations of the SHCA, as amended from time to time;

**Officers of the Association** means the members of the Executive Committee as set out in rule 49(2);

**Registrar** means the Registrar of Incorporated Associations;

**Rules of the SHCA** means the rules, regulations, by-laws, guidelines and other governing documents of the SHCA;

**SHCA** means the Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc. (ABN 51 590 953 920);

**Special Resolution** means a resolution that requires not less than three-quarters of the Members voting at a General Meeting, whether in person or by proxy, to vote in favour of the resolution; and

**Subcommittee** means a subcommittee appointed by the Executive Committee in accordance with rule 48(1).

## **PART 2—POWERS OF ASSOCIATION**

### **5. Powers of Association**

- (1) Subject to the Act, the Association has power to do all things incidental or conducive to achieve its purposes.
- (2) Without limiting subrule (1), the Association may—
  - (a) acquire, hold and dispose of real or personal property;
  - (b) open and operate accounts with financial institutions;
  - (c) invest its money in any security in which trust monies may lawfully be invested;
  - (d) raise and borrow money on any terms and in any manner as it thinks fit;
  - (e) secure the repayment of money raised or borrowed, or the payment of a debt or liability;
  - (f) appoint agents to transact business on its behalf;
  - (g) enter into any other contract it considers necessary or desirable.
- (3) The Association may only exercise its powers and use its income and assets (including any surplus) for its purposes.

### **6. Not for profit organisation**

- (1) The Association must not distribute any surplus, income or assets directly or indirectly to its Members.
- (2) Subrule (1) does not prevent the Association from paying a Member—
  - (a) reimbursement for expenses properly incurred by the Member;
  - (b) for goods or services provided by the Member;
  - (c) a payment made in furtherance of the Association's objects, provided it is approved by Special Resolution; or
  - (d) an honorarium to any member of the Executive Committee—  
if this is done in good faith on terms no more favourable than if the Member was not a Member.

## **PART 3—BINDING EFFECT OF THE RULES**

### **7. Binding effect of the Rules and application form**

- (1) These Rules constitute the terms of a contract between the Association and its Members.
- (2) Without limitation to rule 7(1), each Member agrees to be bound by the terms stated on any form for application for Membership, determined by the Executive Committee in accordance with rule 15(2)(c), by which that Member applied for Membership of the Association.

### **8. Rules etc. prescribed by the Executive Committee in connection with SHCV Events**

Members must comply with any rules, regulations, by-laws, guidelines or other governing documents prescribed by the Executive Committee from time to time in connection with SHCV Events.

### **9. Rules of the SHCA**

- (1) Subject to subrule (2), the Association and its Members are bound by the Rules of the SHCA, from time to time, expressed to apply to the Association (as an affiliate of the SHCA) and its Members (as Members of an affiliate of the SHCA).
- (2) Without limitation to subrule (1):
  - (a) Members must pay to the Association all fees, charges and levies prescribed from time to time by the SHCA; and
  - (b) the Association shall pay to the SHCA any fees due to that body.
- (3) The Executive Committee may determine that the Association and its Members are not bound in certain respects by the Rules of the SHCA.

### **10. Registration and measurement of horses**

- (1) Members must:
  - (a) observe the requirements of the National Measuring Scheme;
  - (b) pay to the Association all fees, charges and levies payable under the National Measuring Scheme; and
  - (c) comply with any reasonable direction or by-laws of the Executive Committee in relation to the measurement of any horse which the Member wishes to enter in an SHCV Event.
- (2) The Association shall pay to the SHCA any fees due to that body in accordance with the National Measuring Scheme.
- (3) The Executive Committee may appoint such measures and approve such measuring sites in Victoria as are necessary to fulfil:
  - (a) the requirements of the National Measuring Scheme; and
  - (b) any by-laws that the Executive Committee may pass from time to time in relation to Members' horses which are not required to comply with the National Measuring Scheme.
- (4) For the avoidance of doubt, this rule is without limitation to rules 7, 8 and 9.

## **PART 4—MEMBERS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND GRIEVANCES**

### **Division 1—Membership**

#### **11. Minimum number of Members**

The Association must have at least 5 Members.

#### **12. Who is eligible to be a Member**

Any person who supports the purposes of the Association is eligible for Membership.

#### **13. Classes of Members**

- (1) Subject to rule 14, the Executive Committee may from time to time determine there to be different classes of Members.

- (2) Subject to rule 11(3), the rights and liabilities of Members of all classes (other than Affiliate Members) are the same.
- (3) The Executive Committee may from time to time determine that Members of a particular class are subject to particular:
  - (a) rights or restrictions in relation to entrance or exclusion from SHCV Events; and
  - (b) Membership Fees.

**14. Affiliate Members**

- (1) There shall be a class of Member known as an Affiliate Member.
- (2) Only clubs, bodies, associations or organisations with the same or similar purposes as the Association are eligible to be Affiliate Members.
- (3) An Affiliate Member may nominate one of its own members as a delegate to attend any General Meeting of the Association by written notice of the delegate's name and address to the Secretary prior to the General Meeting.
- (4) Such delegate:
  - (a) is entitled to attend the General Meeting and participate in any business of the meeting;
  - (b) is not entitled to vote on any resolution at the General Meeting; and
  - (c) may be excluded by the chairperson of the General Meeting from all or part of the meeting if the chairperson considers it necessary or appropriate having regard to the confidential or sensitive nature of the business of that meeting or part of it.

**15. New Membership**

- (1) To apply to become a Member of a particular class, a person must submit a written application to a Committee Member stating that the person—
    - (a) wishes to become a Member; and
    - (b) supports the purposes of the Association; and
    - (c) agrees to comply with these Rules.
  - (2) The application must be—
    - (a) in writing;
    - (b) signed:
      - (i) if the applicant is at least 17 years of age, by the applicant;
      - (ii) otherwise, by a parent or guardian of the applicant;
    - (c) in such form as the Executive Committee from time to time decides; and
    - (d) accompanied by the applicable Membership Fee.
  - (3) As soon as practicable after an application for Membership is received, the Executive Committee must decide by resolution whether to accept or reject the application.
  - (4) The Executive Committee must notify the applicant in writing of its decision as soon as practicable after the decision is made.
  - (5) If the Executive Committee rejects the application, it must return any money accompanying the application to the applicant.
  - (6) No reason need be given for the rejection of an application.
  - (7) If an application for Membership is approved by the Executive Committee—
    - (a) the resolution to accept the Membership must be recorded in the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting; and
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- (b) the Secretary must, as soon as practicable:
  - (i) if the applicant is a Continuing Member, notify the applicant in writing of the approval for Membership; and
  - (ii) if the applicant is not a Continuing Member:
    - (A) enter the name and address of the new Member, and the date of becoming a Member, in the register of Members; and
    - (B) provide the Member with a certificate of Membership in such form as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.
- (8) A person becomes a Member and, subject to rule 17(2), is entitled to exercise his or her rights of Membership from the date, whichever is the later, on which—
  - (a) the Executive Committee approves the person's Membership; or
  - (b) the person pays the joining fee.

**16. Membership Fee payable annually and on joining**

- (1) At each annual General Meeting, the Association must determine the amount of the Membership Fee (if any) for the following Financial Year.
- (2) The Association may determine that a lower Membership Fee is payable by Associate Members.
- (3) The Association may determine that any new Member who joins after the start of a Financial Year must, for that Financial Year, pay a fee equal to—
  - (a) the full Membership Fee; or
  - (b) a pro rata Membership Fee based on the remaining part of the Financial Year; or
  - (c) a fixed amount determined from time to time by the Association.
- (4) The Membership Fee is payable within 3 months after the Financial Year in each year.
- (5) The rights of a Member (including the right to vote) who has not paid the Membership Fee by the due date are suspended until the Membership Fee is paid.

**17. General rights of Members**

- (1) A Member who is entitled to vote has the right—
  - (a) to receive notice of General Meetings and of proposed Special Resolutions in the manner and time prescribed by these Rules; and
  - (b) to submit items of business for consideration at a General Meeting; and
  - (c) to attend and be heard at General Meetings; and
  - (d) to vote at a General Meeting; and
  - (e) to have access to the minutes of General Meetings and other documents of the Association as provided under rule 81; and
  - (f) to inspect the register of Members.
- (2) A Member is entitled to vote if—
  - (a) the Member is at least 17 years of age at the time of a General Meeting;
  - (b) the Member is a Member other than an Associate Member; and
  - (c) more than 10 business days have passed since he or she became a Member of the Association; and
  - (d) the Member's Membership rights are not suspended for any reason.

**18. Associate Members**

- (1) Associate Members of the Association include—
  - (a) any Member under the age of 15 years; and



- (b) any other category of Member as determined by Special Resolution at a General Meeting.
- (2) An Associate Member must not vote but may have other rights as determined by the Executive Committee or by resolution at a General Meeting.

**19. Rights not transferable**

The rights of a Member are not transferable and end when Membership ceases.

**20. Ceasing Membership**

- (1) The Membership of a person ceases on:
  - (a) non-payment of the Membership Fee within 3 months after the Financial Year;
  - (b) resignation;
  - (c) expulsion; or
  - (d) death.
- (2) If a Member:
  - (a) does not re-apply for Membership for the coming Financial Year; or
  - (b) re-applies for Membership for the coming Financial Year but his or her application is refused,then, immediately prior to the annual General Meeting in that Financial Year, the Member ceases to be a Member.
- (3) If a person ceases to be a Member of the Association, the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, enter the date the person ceased to be a Member in the register of Members.

**21. Resigning as a Member**

- (1) A Member may resign by giving 1 months' notice in writing to the Secretary of his or her intention to resign, after which time the Member ceases to be a Member.
- (2) A Member is taken to have resigned if—
  - (a) the Member's annual subscription is more than 12 months in arrears; or
  - (b) where no annual subscription is payable—
    - (i) the Secretary has made a written request to the Member to confirm that he or she wishes to remain a Member; and
    - (ii) the Member has not, within 3 months after receiving that request, confirmed in writing that he or she wishes to remain a Member.

**22. Register of Members**

- (1) The Secretary must keep and maintain a register of Members that includes—
  - (a) for each current Member—
    - (i) the Member's name;
    - (ii) the address for notice last given by the Member;
    - (iii) the date of becoming a Member;
    - (iv) if the Member is an Associate Member, a note to that effect;
    - (v) any other information determined by the Executive Committee; and
  - (b) for each former Member, the date of ceasing to be a Member.
- (2) Any Member may, at a reasonable time and free of charge, inspect the register of Members.
- (3) A Member may make a copy of entries in the register of Members.

## **Division 2—Disciplinary action**

### **23. Grounds for taking disciplinary action**

The Association may take disciplinary action against a Member in accordance with this Division if it is determined that the Member—

- (a) has failed to comply with these Rules; or
- (b) refuses to support the purposes of the Association; or
- (c) has engaged in conduct prejudicial to the Association.

### **24. Disciplinary Subcommittee**

- (1) If the Executive Committee is satisfied that there are sufficient grounds for taking disciplinary action against a Member, the Executive Committee must appoint a Disciplinary Subcommittee to hear the matter and determine what action, if any, to take against the Member.
- (2) The members of the Disciplinary Subcommittee—
  - (a) may be Executive Committee Members, Members of the Association or anyone else; but
  - (b) must not be biased against, or in favour of, the Member concerned.

### **25. Notice to Member**

- (1) Before disciplinary action is taken against a Member, the Secretary must give written notice to the Member—
  - (a) stating that the Association proposes to take disciplinary action against the Member; and
  - (b) stating the grounds for the proposed disciplinary action; and
  - (c) specifying the date, place and time of the meeting at which the Disciplinary Subcommittee intends to consider the disciplinary action (the ***Disciplinary Meeting***); and
  - (d) advising the Member that he or she may do one or both of the following—
    - (i) attend the Disciplinary Meeting and address the Disciplinary Subcommittee at that meeting;
    - (ii) give a written statement to the Disciplinary Subcommittee at any time before the Disciplinary Meeting; and
  - (e) setting out the Member's appeal rights under rule 27.
- (2) The notice must be given no earlier than 28 days, and no later than 14 days, before the Disciplinary Meeting is held.

### **26. Decision of Disciplinary Subcommittee**

- (1) At the Disciplinary Meeting, the Disciplinary Subcommittee must—
  - (a) give the Member an opportunity to be heard; and
  - (b) consider any written statement submitted by the Member.
- (2) After complying with subrule (1), the Disciplinary Subcommittee may—
  - (a) take no further action against the Member; or
  - (b) reprimand the Member; or
  - (c) suspend the Membership rights of the Member for a specified period; or
  - (d) expel the Member from the Association; or
  - (e) fine the Member an amount not exceeding \$500.
- (3) The suspension of Membership rights or the expulsion of a Member by the Disciplinary Subcommittee under this rule takes effect immediately after the vote is passed.

## 27. **Appeal rights**

- (1) A person whose Membership rights have been suspended or who has been expelled from the Association under rule 26 may give notice to the effect that he or she wishes to appeal against the suspension or expulsion.
- (2) The notice must be in writing and given—
  - (a) to the Disciplinary Subcommittee immediately after the vote to suspend or expel the person is taken; or
  - (b) to the Secretary not later than 48 hours after the vote.
- (3) If a person has given notice under subrule (2), a Disciplinary Appeal Meeting must be convened by the Executive Committee as soon as practicable, but in any event not later than 21 days, after the notice is received.
- (4) Notice of the Disciplinary Appeal Meeting must be given to each Member of the Association who is entitled to vote as soon as practicable and must—
  - (a) specify the date, time and place of the meeting; and
  - (b) state—
    - (i) the name of the person against whom the disciplinary action has been taken; and
    - (ii) the grounds for taking that action; and
    - (iii) that at the Disciplinary Appeal Meeting the Members present must vote on whether the decision to suspend or expel the person should be upheld or revoked.

## 28. **Conduct of Disciplinary Appeal Meeting**

- (1) At a Disciplinary Appeal Meeting—
  - (a) no business other than the question of the appeal may be conducted; and
  - (b) the Executive Committee must state the grounds for suspending or expelling the Member and the reasons for taking that action; and
  - (c) the person whose Membership has been suspended or who has been expelled must be given an opportunity to be heard.
- (2) After complying with subrule (1), the Members present and entitled to vote at the meeting must vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the decision to suspend or expel the person should be upheld or revoked.
- (3) A Member may not vote by proxy at the meeting.
- (4) The decision is upheld if not less than three quarters of the Members voting at the meeting vote in favour of the decision.

## **Division 3—Grievance procedure**

### 29. **Application**

- (1) The grievance procedure set out in this Division applies to disputes under these Rules between—
  - (a) a Member and another Member;
  - (b) a Member and the Executive Committee;
  - (c) a Member and the Association.
- (2) A Member must not initiate a grievance procedure in relation to a matter that is the subject of a disciplinary procedure until the disciplinary procedure has been completed.

### 30. **Parties must attempt to resolve the dispute**

The parties to a dispute must attempt to resolve the dispute between themselves within 14 days of the dispute coming to the attention of each party.

### 31. **Appointment of mediator**

- (1) If the parties to a dispute are unable to resolve the dispute between themselves within the time required by rule 30, the parties must within 10 days—
  - (a) notify the Executive Committee of the dispute; and
  - (b) agree to or request the appointment of a mediator; and
  - (c) attempt in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation.
- (2) The mediator must be—
  - (a) a person chosen by agreement between the parties; or
  - (b) in the absence of agreement—
    - (i) if the dispute is between a Member and another Member—a person appointed by the Executive Committee; or
    - (ii) if the dispute is between a Member and the Executive Committee or the Association—a person appointed or employed by the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria.
- (3) A mediator appointed by the Executive Committee may be a Member or former Member of the Association but in any case must not be a person who—
  - (a) has a personal interest in the dispute; or
  - (b) is biased in favour of or against any party.

### 32. **Mediation process**

- (1) The mediator to the dispute, in conducting the mediation, must—
  - (a) give each party every opportunity to be heard; and
  - (b) allow due consideration by all parties of any written statement submitted by any party; and
  - (c) ensure that natural justice is accorded to the parties throughout the mediation process.
- (2) The mediator must not determine the dispute.

### 33. **Failure to resolve dispute by mediation**

If the mediation process does not resolve the dispute, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the Act or otherwise at law.

## **PART 5—GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

### 34. **Annual General Meetings**

- (1) The Executive Committee must convene an annual General Meeting of the Association to be held within 5 months after the end of each Financial Year.
- (2) The Executive Committee may determine the date, time and place of the annual General Meeting.
- (3) The ordinary business of the annual General Meeting is as follows—
  - (a) to confirm the minutes of the previous annual General Meeting and of any special General Meeting held since then;
  - (b) to receive and consider—
    - (i) the annual report of the Executive Committee on the activities of the Association during the preceding Financial Year; and
    - (ii) the financial statements of the Association for the preceding Financial Year submitted by the Executive Committee in accordance with Part 7 of the Act;
  - (c) to elect the Members of the Executive Committee;

- (d) to confirm or vary the amounts (if any) of the annual subscription and joining fee.
- (4) The annual General Meeting may also conduct any other business of which notice has been given in accordance with these Rules.

**35. Special General Meetings**

- (1) Any General Meeting of the Association, other than an annual General Meeting or a Disciplinary Appeal Meeting, is a special General Meeting.
- (2) The Executive Committee may convene a special General Meeting whenever it thinks fit.
- (3) No business other than that set out in the notice under rule 34 may be conducted at the meeting.

**36. Special General Meeting held at request of Members**

- (1) The Executive Committee must convene a special General Meeting if a request to do so is made in accordance with subrule (2) by at least 5% of the total number of Members.
- (2) A request for a special General Meeting must—
  - (a) be in writing; and
  - (b) state the business to be considered at the meeting and any resolutions to be proposed; and
  - (c) include the names and signatures of the Members requesting the meeting; and
  - (d) be given to the Secretary.
- (3) If the Executive Committee does not convene a special General Meeting within one month after the date on which the request is made, the Members making the request (or any of them) may convene the special General Meeting.
- (4) A special General Meeting convened by Members under subrule (3)—
  - (a) must be held within 3 months after the date on which the original request was made; and
  - (b) may only consider the business stated in that request.
- (5) The Association must reimburse all reasonable expenses incurred by the Members convening a special General Meeting under subrule (3).

**37. Notice of General Meetings**

- (1) The Secretary (or, in the case of a special General Meeting convened under rule 36(3), the Members convening the meeting) must give to each Member of the Association—
  - (a) at least 21 days' notice of a General Meeting if a Special Resolution is to be proposed at the meeting; or
  - (b) at least 14 days' notice of a General Meeting in any other case.
- (2) The notice must—
  - (a) specify the date, time and place of the meeting; and
  - (b) indicate the general nature of each item of business to be considered at the meeting; and
  - (c) if a Special Resolution is to be proposed—
    - (i) state in full the proposed resolution; and
    - (ii) state the intention to propose the resolution as a Special Resolution; and
  - (d) comply with rule 38(5).
- (3) This rule does not apply to a Disciplinary Appeal Meeting.

**38. Proxies**

- (1) A Member may appoint another Member as his or her proxy to vote and speak on his or her behalf at a General Meeting other than at a Disciplinary Appeal Meeting.

- (2) The appointment of a proxy must be in writing and signed by the Member making the appointment.
- (3) The Member appointing the proxy may give specific directions as to how the proxy is to vote on his or her behalf, otherwise the proxy may vote on behalf of the Member in any matter as he or she sees fit.
- (4) If the Executive Committee has approved a form for the appointment of a proxy, the Member may use any other form that clearly identifies the person appointed as the Member's proxy and that has been signed by the Member.
- (5) Notice of a General Meeting given to a Member under rule 37 must—
  - (a) state that the Member may appoint another Member as a proxy for the meeting; and
  - (b) include a copy of any form that the Executive Committee has approved for the appointment of a proxy.
- (6) A form appointing a proxy must be given to the Chairperson of the meeting before or at the commencement of the meeting.
- (7) A form appointing a proxy sent by post or electronically is of no effect unless it is received by the Association no later than 24 hours before the commencement of the meeting.

**39. Use of technology**

- (1) A Member not physically present at a General Meeting may be permitted to participate in the meeting by the use of technology that allows that Member and the Members present at the meeting to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, a Member participating in a General Meeting as permitted under subrule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the Member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

**40. Quorum at General Meetings**

- (1) No business may be conducted at a General Meeting unless a quorum of Members is present.
- (2) The quorum for a General Meeting is the presence (physically, by proxy or as allowed under rule 39) of 10% of the Members entitled to vote.
- (3) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a General Meeting—
  - (a) in the case of a meeting convened by, or at the request of, Members under rule 36— the meeting must be dissolved;
  - (b) in any other case—
    - (i) the meeting must be adjourned to a date not more than 21 days after the adjournment; and
    - (ii) notice of the date, time and place to which the meeting is adjourned must be given at the meeting and confirmed by written notice given to all Members as soon as practicable after the meeting.
- (4) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the time to which a General Meeting has been adjourned under subrule (3)(b), the Members present at the meeting (if not fewer than 3) may proceed with the business of the meeting as if a quorum were present.

**41. Adjournment of General Meeting**

- (1) The Chairperson of a General Meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of a majority of Members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting to another time at the same place or at another place.
- (2) Without limiting subrule (1), a meeting may be adjourned—
  - (a) if there is insufficient time to deal with the business at hand; or
  - (b) to give the Members more time to consider an item of business.

- (3) No business may be conducted on the resumption of an adjourned meeting other than the business that remained unfinished when the meeting was adjourned.
- (4) Notice of the adjournment of a meeting under this rule is not required unless the meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, in which case notice of the meeting must be given in accordance with rule 37.

#### 42. **Voting at General Meetings**

- (1) On any question arising at a General Meeting—
  - (a) subject to subrule (3), each Member who is entitled to vote has one vote; and
  - (b) Members may vote personally or by proxy; and
  - (c) except in the case of a Special Resolution, the question must be decided on a majority of votes.
- (2) If votes are divided equally on a question, the Chairperson of the meeting has a second or casting vote.
- (3) If the question is whether or not to confirm the minutes of a previous meeting, only Members who were present at that meeting may vote.
- (4) This rule does not apply to a vote at a Disciplinary Appeal Meeting conducted under rule 28.

#### 43. **Special Resolutions**

A Special Resolution is passed if not less than three quarters of the Members voting at a General Meeting (whether in person or by proxy) vote in favour of the resolution.

#### 44. **Circular resolutions**

- (1) Subject to clause 46(2), the Executive Committee may put a resolution to the Members to pass without a General Meeting being held (a **circular resolution**).
- (2) Circular resolutions cannot be used:
  - (a) for a resolution to remove an auditor, appoint a member of the Executive Committee or remove a member of the Executive Committee;
  - (b) for passing a Special Resolution;
  - (c) where the Act or these rules requires a meeting to be held; or
  - (d) to determine the distribution of surplus assets on the winding up of the Association (as set out in clause 82).
- (3) A circular resolution is passed if all the Members entitled to vote on the resolution sign or agree to the circular resolution, in the manner set out in clause 46(5) or clause 46(6).
- (4) Members may sign:
  - (a) a single document setting out the circular resolution and containing a statement that they agree to the resolution; or
  - (b) separate copies of that document, as long as the wording is the same in each copy.
- (5) The Association may send a circular resolution by email to Members and Members may agree by sending a reply email to that effect, including the text of the resolution in their reply.

#### 45. **Determining whether resolution carried**

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Chairperson of a General Meeting may, on the basis of a show of hands, declare that a resolution has been—
  - (a) carried; or
  - (b) carried unanimously; or
  - (c) carried by a particular majority; or
  - (d) lost—and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting is conclusive proof of that fact.

- (2) If a poll (where votes are cast in writing) is demanded by three or more Members on any question—
  - (a) the poll must be taken at the meeting in the manner determined by the Chairperson of the meeting; and
  - (b) the Chairperson must declare the result of the resolution on the basis of the poll.
- (3) A poll demanded on the election of the Chairperson or on a question of an adjournment must be taken immediately.
- (4) A poll demanded on any other question must be taken before the close of the meeting at a time determined by the Chairperson.

#### 46. **Minutes of General Meeting**

- (1) The Executive Committee must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each General Meeting.
- (2) The minutes must record the business considered at the meeting, any resolution on which a vote is taken and the result of the vote.
- (3) In addition, the minutes of each annual General Meeting must include—
  - (a) the names of the Members attending the meeting; and
  - (b) proxy forms given to the Chairperson of the meeting under rule 38(6); and
  - (c) the financial statements submitted to the Members in accordance with rule 34(3)(b)(ii); and
  - (d) the certificate signed by two Committee Members certifying that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Association; and
  - (e) any audited accounts and auditor's report or report of a review accompanying the financial statements that are required under the Act.

## **PART 6—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Division 1—Powers of Executive Committee**

#### 47. **Role and powers**

- (1) The business of the Association must be managed by or under the direction of the Executive Committee.
- (2) The Executive Committee may exercise all the powers of the Association except those powers that these Rules or the Act require to be exercised by the Members at a General Meeting.
- (3) Without limiting rule 47(2), the Executive Committee may—
  - (a) appoint and remove staff; and
  - (b) establish subcommittees consisting of Members with terms of reference it considers appropriate.
- (4) All decisions of the Executive Committee are, subject to these Rules and the Rules of the SHCA, final and binding on all Members.

#### 48. **Delegation**

- (1) The Executive Committee may delegate to a member of the Executive Committee, a Subcommittee, any of its powers and functions other than—
  - (a) this power of delegation; or
  - (b) a duty imposed on the Executive Committee by the Act or any other law.
- (2) The delegation must be in writing and may be subject to the conditions and limitations the Executive Committee considers appropriate.
- (3) The Executive Committee may, in writing, revoke a delegation wholly or in part.



- (4) Each Subcommittee will be comprised as determined by the Executive Committee, provided that each Subcommittee must have at least one member who is also a Committee Member.
- (5) For the avoidance of doubt, a Subcommittee is not required to be chaired by a Committee Member.
- (6) Each Subcommittee must report to the Executive Committee as determined by the Executive Committee and must act within the scope of its authority at all times.

## **Division 2—Composition of Executive Committee and duties of Members**

### **49. Composition of Executive Committee**

- (1) The Executive Committee consists of—
  - (a) the Officers of the Association; and
  - (b) no less than 1 and no more than 3 ordinary members (if any) elected under rule 58, each of whom must be elected at every second annual General Meeting.
- (2) The Officers of the Association consist of—
  - (a) a President;
  - (b) a Vice-President;
  - (c) a Secretary; and
  - (d) a Treasurer.
- (3) For the avoidance of doubt, a Committee Member may act as more than one of the Officers of the Association.

### **50. General Duties**

- (1) As soon as practicable after being elected or appointed to the Executive Committee, each Committee Member must become familiar with these Rules and the Act.
- (2) The Executive Committee is collectively responsible for ensuring that the Association complies with the Act and that individual Members of the Executive Committee comply with these Rules.
- (3) Executive Committee Members must exercise their powers and discharge their duties with reasonable care and diligence.
- (4) Executive Committee Members must exercise their powers and discharge their duties—
  - (a) in good faith in the best interests of the Association; and
  - (b) for a proper purpose.
- (5) Executive Committee Members and former Committee Members must not make improper use of—
  - (a) their position; or
  - (b) information acquired by virtue of holding their position—  
so as to gain an advantage for themselves or any other person or to cause detriment to the Association.
- (6) In addition to any duties imposed by these Rules, a Committee Member must perform any other duties imposed from time to time by resolution at a General Meeting.

### **51. President and Vice-President**

- (1) Subject to subrule (2), the President or, in the President's absence, the Vice-President is the Chairperson for any General Meetings and for any Committee Meetings.
- (2) If the President and the Vice-President are both absent, or are unable to preside, the Chairperson of the meeting must be—
  - (a) in the case of a General Meeting—a Member elected by the other Members present; or

- (b) in the case of a Committee Meeting—a Committee Member elected by the other Committee Members present.

**52. Secretary**

- (1) The Secretary must perform any duty or function required under the Act to be performed by the secretary of an incorporated association.
- (2) The Secretary must—
  - (a) maintain the register of Members in accordance with rule 18; and
  - (b) keep custody of the common seal (if any) of the Association and, except for the financial records referred to in rule 76(3), all books, documents and securities of the Association in accordance with rules 78 and 81; and
  - (c) subject to the Act and these Rules, provide Members with access to the register of Members, the minutes of General Meetings and other books and documents; and
  - (d) perform any other duty or function imposed on the Secretary by these Rules.
- (3) The Secretary must give to the Registrar notice of his or her appointment within 14 days after the appointment.

**53. Treasurer**

- (1) The Treasurer must—
  - (a) receive all moneys paid to or received by the Association and issue receipts for those moneys in the name of the Association; and
  - (b) ensure that all moneys received are paid into the account of the Association within 5 working days after receipt; and
  - (c) make any payments authorised by the Executive Committee or by a General Meeting of the Association from the Association's funds; and
  - (d) ensure cheques are signed by at least 2 Committee Members.
- (2) The Treasurer must—
  - (a) ensure that the financial records of the Association are kept in accordance with the Act; and
  - (b) coordinate the preparation of the financial statements of the Association and their certification by the Executive Committee prior to their submission to the annual General Meeting of the Association.
- (3) The Treasurer must ensure that at least one other Committee Member has access to the accounts and financial records of the Association.

**Division 3—Election of Executive Committee Members and tenure of office**

**54. Who is eligible to be an Executive Committee Member**

A Member is eligible to be elected or appointed as a Committee Member if the Member—

- (a) is 18 years or over; and
- (b) is entitled to vote at a General Meeting.

**55. Positions to be declared vacant**

- (1) This rule applies to—
  - (a) the first annual General Meeting of the Association after its incorporation; or
  - (b) any subsequent second annual General Meeting of the Association, after the annual report and financial statements of the Association have been received.
- (2) At every second annual General Meeting, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare all positions on the Executive Committee vacant and hold elections for those positions in accordance with rules 56 to 60.

**56. Nominations**

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election to the Executive Committee must be:
  - (a) made in writing in the form set out in Appendix 2 or such other form as the Executive Committee from time to time determines, signed by 2 Members entitled to vote at the General Meeting at which Committee Members are to be elected, and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination); and
  - (b) delivered to the Secretary not less than 2 days before the date fixed for the holding of the relevant annual General Meeting.
- (2) A Member who is nominated for a position and fails to be elected to that position may be nominated for any other position for which an election is yet to be held.

**57. Election of Officers of the Association and delegate to the SHCA**

- (1) The Officers of the Association and a delegate to the SHCA must be elected by and from the Members of the Executive Committee at a Committee Meeting immediately following the annual General Meeting at which the Executive Committee was elected.
- (2) Elections for the Officers of the Association and the delegate to the SHCA must be:
  - (a) held in the order of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Officer and delegate to the SHCA; and
  - (b) by verbal nomination and by a majority of votes on a show of hands by members of the Executive Committee other than the nominee.
- (3) If only one member is nominated for the position, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare the member elected to the position.
- (4) If more than one member is nominated, a ballot must be held in accordance with rule 60.
- (5) On his or her election, the new President may take over as Chairperson of the meeting.

**58. Restrictions on the President's participation in SHCV Events**

- (1) The President must not have any personal or financial interest in the outcome of an SHCV Event.
- (2) Without limitation to rule 58(1), the President must not:
  - (a) own or control, directly or indirectly, any share in a horse competing at an SHCV Event;
  - (b) ride a horse competing at an SHCV Event;
  - (c) lead a horse competing at an SHCV Event;
  - (d) instruct a horse competing at an SHCV Event; or
  - (e) be involved in any way in competing at an SHCV Event.

**59. Election of ordinary Members**

- (1) At every second annual General Meeting, the Members must by resolution decide the number of ordinary members of the Executive Committee (if any) it wishes to hold office for the next two years.
- (2) A single election may be held to fill all of those positions.
- (3) If the number of Members nominated for the position of ordinary Committee Member is less than or equal to the number to be elected, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare each of those Members to be elected to the position.
- (4) If the number of Members nominated exceeds the number to be elected, a ballot must be held in accordance with rule 60.

**60. Ballot**

- (1) If a ballot is required for the election for a position, the Chairperson of the meeting must appoint a Member to act as returning officer to conduct the ballot.
- (2) The returning officer must not be a Member nominated for the position.
- (3) Before the ballot is taken, each candidate may make a short speech in support of his or her election.
- (4) The election must be by secret ballot.
- (5) The returning officer must give a blank piece of paper to—
  - (a) each Member present in person; and
  - (b) each proxy appointed by a Member.
- (6) If the ballot is for a single position, the voter must write on the ballot paper the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote.
- (7) If the ballot is for more than one position—
  - (a) the voter must write on the ballot paper the name of each candidate for whom they wish to vote;
  - (b) the voter must not write the names of more candidates than the number to be elected.
- (8) Ballot papers that do not comply with subrule (7)(b) are not to be counted.
- (9) Each ballot paper on which the name of a candidate has been written counts as one vote for that candidate.
- (10) The returning officer must declare elected the candidate or, in the case of an election for more than one position, the candidates who received the most votes.
- (11) If the returning officer is unable to declare the result of an election under subrule (10) because 2 or more candidates received the same number of votes, the returning officer must—
  - (a) conduct a further election for the position in accordance with subrules (4) to (10) to decide which of those candidates is to be elected; or
  - (b) with the agreement of those candidates, decide by lot which of them is to be elected.

**61. Term of office**

- (1) Subject to subrule (3) and rule 62, a Committee Member holds office until the positions of the Executive Committee are declared vacant at every second annual General Meeting.
- (2) A Committee Member may be re-elected.
- (3) A General Meeting of the Association may—
  - (a) by Special Resolution remove a Committee Member from office; and
  - (b) elect an eligible Member to fill the vacant position in accordance with this Division.
- (4) A Member who is the subject of a proposed Special Resolution under subrule (3)(a) may make representations in writing to the Secretary or President of the Association (not exceeding a reasonable length) and may request that the representations be provided to the Members.
- (5) The Secretary or the President may give a copy of the representations to each Member of the Association or, if they are not so given, the Member may require that they be read out at the meeting at which the Special Resolution is to be proposed.

**62. Vacation of office**

- (1) A Committee Member may resign from the Executive Committee by written notice addressed to the Executive Committee.
- (2) A person ceases to be a Committee Member if he or she—
  - (a) ceases to be a Member of the Association; or

- (b) fails to attend 3 consecutive Committee Meetings (other than special or urgent Committee Meetings) without leave of absence under rule 73; or
- (c) otherwise ceases to be a Committee Member by operation of section 78 of the Act.

**63. Filling casual vacancies**

- (1) The Executive Committee may appoint an eligible Member to fill a position on the Executive Committee that—
  - (a) has become vacant under rule 62; or
  - (b) was not filled by election at the last annual General Meeting.
- (2) If the position of Secretary becomes vacant, the Executive Committee must appoint a Member to the position within 14 days after the vacancy arises.
- (3) Rule 61 applies to any Committee Member appointed by the Executive Committee under subrule (1) or (2).
- (4) The Executive Committee may continue to act despite any vacancy in its Membership.

**Division 4—Meetings of Executive Committee**

**64. Meetings of Executive Committee**

- (1) The Executive Committee must meet at least 6 times in each year at the dates, times and places determined by the Executive Committee.
- (2) The date, time and place of the first Committee Meeting must be determined by the members of the Executive Committee as soon as practicable after the annual General Meeting of the Association at which the members of the Executive Committee were elected.
- (3) Special Committee Meetings may be convened by the President or by any 4 Members of the Executive Committee.

**65. Notice of meetings**

- (1) Notice of each Committee Meeting must be given to each Committee Member no later than 7 days before the date of the meeting.
- (2) Notice may be given of more than one Committee Meeting at the same time.
- (3) The notice must state the date, time and place of the meeting.
- (4) If a special Committee Meeting is convened, the notice must include the general nature of the business to be conducted.
- (5) The only business that may be conducted at the meeting is the business for which the meeting is convened.

**66. Urgent meetings**

- (1) In cases of urgency, a meeting can be held without notice being given in accordance with rule 65 provided that as much notice as practicable is given to each Committee Member by the quickest means practicable.
- (2) Any resolution made at the meeting must be passed by an Absolute Majority.
- (3) The only business that may be conducted at an urgent meeting is the business for which the meeting is convened.

**67. Procedure and order of business**

- (1) The procedure to be followed at a meeting of an Executive Committee must be determined from time to time by the Executive Committee.
- (2) The order of business may be determined by the members present at the meeting.

**68. Use of technology**

- (1) A Committee Member who is not physically present at a Committee Meeting may participate in the meeting by the use of technology that allows that Executive Committee Member and the

Executive Committee Members present at the meeting to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.

- (2) For the purposes of this Part, a Committee Member participating in a Committee Meeting as permitted under subrule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

**69. Quorum**

- (1) No business may be conducted at a Committee Meeting unless a quorum is present.
- (2) The quorum for a Committee Meeting is the presence (in person or as allowed under rule 68) of a majority of the Executive Committee Members holding office.
- (3) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a Committee Meeting—
  - (a) in the case of a special meeting—the meeting lapses;
  - (b) in any other case—the meeting must be adjourned to a date no later than 14 days after the adjournment and notice of the time, date and place to which the meeting is adjourned must be given in accordance with rule 65.

**70. Voting**

- (1) On any question arising at a Committee Meeting, each Committee Member present at the meeting has one vote.
- (2) A motion is carried if a majority of Committee Members present at the meeting vote in favour of the motion.
- (3) Subrule (2) does not apply to any motion or question which is required by these Rules to be passed by an Absolute Majority of the Executive Committee.
- (4) If votes are divided equally on a question, the Chairperson of the meeting has a second or casting vote.
- (5) Voting by proxy is not permitted.

**71. Conflict of interest**

- (1) A Committee Member who has a material personal interest in a matter being considered at a Committee Meeting must disclose the nature and extent of that interest to the Executive Committee.
- (2) The Member—
  - (a) must not be present while the matter is being considered at the meeting; and
  - (b) must not vote on the matter.
- (3) This rule does not apply to a material personal interest—
  - (a) that exists only because the Member belongs to a class of persons for whose benefit the Association is established; or
  - (b) that the Member has in common with all, or a substantial proportion of, the Members of the Association.

**72. Minutes of meeting**

- (1) The Executive Committee must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each Committee Meeting.
- (2) The minutes must record the following—
  - (a) the names of the Members in attendance at the meeting;
  - (b) the business considered at the meeting;
  - (c) any resolution on which a vote is taken and the result of the vote;
  - (d) any material personal interest disclosed under rule 71.

**73. Leave of absence**

- (1) The Executive Committee may grant a Committee Member leave of absence from Committee Meetings for a period not exceeding 3 months.
- (2) The Executive Committee must not grant leave of absence retrospectively unless it is satisfied that it was not feasible for the Executive Committee Member to seek the leave in advance.

**PART 7—FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**74. Source of funds**

The funds of the Association may be derived from Membership Fees, donations, fund-raising activities, grants, fines and penalties, refunds from the SHCA, interest and any other sources approved by the Executive Committee from time to time.

**75. Management of funds**

- (1) The Association must open an account with a financial institution from which all expenditure of the Association is made and into which all of the Association's revenue is deposited.
- (2) Subject to any restrictions imposed by a General Meeting of the Association, the Executive Committee may approve expenditure on behalf of the Association.
- (3) The Executive Committee may authorise the Treasurer to expend funds on behalf of the Association (including by electronic funds transfer) up to a specified limit without requiring approval from the Executive Committee for each item on which the funds are expended.
- (4) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by the Treasurer and one other Committee Member authorised to do so by resolution of the Executive Committee.
- (5) All funds of the Association must be deposited into the financial account of the Association no later than 5 working days after receipt.
- (6) With the approval of the Executive Committee, the Treasurer may maintain a cash float provided that all money paid from or paid into the float is accurately recorded at the time of the transaction.

**76. Financial records**

- (1) The Association must keep financial records that—
  - (a) correctly record and explain its transactions, financial position and performance; and
  - (b) enable financial statements to be prepared as required by the Act.
- (2) The Association must retain the financial records for 7 years after the transactions covered by the records are completed.
- (3) The Treasurer must keep in his or her custody, or under his or her control—
  - (a) the financial records for the current Financial Year; and
  - (b) any other financial records as authorised by the Executive Committee.

**77. Financial statements**

- (1) For each Financial Year, the Executive Committee must ensure that the requirements under the Act relating to the financial statements of the Association are met.
- (2) Without limiting subrule (1), those requirements include—
  - (a) the preparation of the financial statements;
  - (b) if required, the review or auditing of the financial statements;
  - (c) the certification of the financial statements by the Executive Committee;

- (d) the submission of the financial statements to the annual General Meeting of the Association;
- (e) the lodgement with the Registrar of the financial statements and accompanying reports, certificates, statements and fee.

## **PART 8—GENERAL MATTERS**

### **78. Common seal**

- (1) The Association may have a common seal.
- (2) If the Association has a common seal—
  - (a) the name of the Association must appear in legible characters on the common seal;
  - (b) a document may only be sealed with the common seal by the authority of the Executive Committee and the sealing must be witnessed by the signatures of two Committee Members;
  - (c) the common seal must be kept in the custody of the Secretary.

### **79. Registered address**

The registered address of the Association is—

- (a) the address determined from time to time by resolution of the Executive Committee; or
- (b) if the Executive Committee has not determined an address to be the registered address—the postal address of the Secretary.

### **80. Notice requirements**

- (1) Any notice required to be given to a Member or a Committee Member under these Rules may be given—
  - (a) by handing the notice to the Member personally; or
  - (b) by sending it by post to the Member at the address recorded for the Member on the register of Members; or
  - (c) by email or facsimile transmission.
- (2) Subrule (1) does not apply to notice given under rule 66.
- (3) Any notice required to be given to the Association or the Executive Committee may be given—
  - (a) by handing the notice to a member of the Executive Committee; or
  - (b) by sending the notice by post to the registered address; or
  - (c) by leaving the notice at the registered address; or
  - (d) if the Executive Committee determines that it is appropriate in the circumstances—
    - (i) by email to the email address of the Association or the Secretary; or
    - (ii) by facsimile transmission to the facsimile number of the Association.

### **81. Custody and inspection of books and records**

- (1) Members may on request inspect free of charge—
  - (a) the register of Members;
  - (b) the minutes of General Meetings;
  - (c) subject to subrule (2), the financial records, books, securities and any other relevant document of the Association, including minutes of Committee Meetings.
- (2) The Executive Committee may refuse to permit a Member to inspect records of the Association that relate to confidential, personal, employment, commercial or legal matters or where to do so may be prejudicial to the interests of the Association.



- (3) The Executive Committee must on request make copies of these rules available to Members and applicants for Membership free of charge.
- (4) Subject to subrule (2), a Member may make a copy of any of the other records of the Association referred to in this rule and the Association may charge a reasonable fee for provision of a copy of such a record.
- (5) For purposes of this rule—

**relevant documents** means the records and other documents, however compiled, recorded or stored, that relate to the incorporation and management of the Association and includes the following—

  - (a) its Membership records;
  - (b) its financial statements;
  - (c) its financial records;
  - (d) records and documents relating to transactions, dealings, business or property of the Association.

82. **Winding up and cancellation**

- (1) The Association may be wound up voluntarily by Special Resolution.
- (2) In the event of the winding up or the cancellation of the incorporation of the Association, the surplus assets of the Association must not be distributed to any Members or former Members of the Association.
- (3) Subject to the Act and any court order made under section 133 of the Act, the surplus assets must be given to a body that has similar purposes to the Association and which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual Members.
- (4) The body to which the surplus assets are to be given must be decided by Special Resolution.

83. **Alteration of Rules**

These Rules may only be altered by Special Resolution of a General Meeting of the Association.