



CONSTITUTION

OF

CARE LEAVERS AUSTRALIA NETWORK  
(CLAN) INCORPORATED

This Constitution of CLAN forms the structure within which this  
association operates

Adopted October 2011

In accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*

## Contents

### Part 1 - Preliminary

|   |                   |   |
|---|-------------------|---|
| 1 | Definitions ..... | 3 |
| 2 | Name .....        | 3 |
| 3 | Objects .....     | 3 |

### Part 2 - Membership

|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
| 4  | Membership generally .....                     | 5 |
| 5  | Application for membership .....               | 5 |
| 6  | Cessation of membership .....                  | 6 |
| 7  | Membership entitlements not transferable ..... | 6 |
| 8  | Resignation of membership .....                | 6 |
| 9  | Register of members .....                      | 6 |
| 10 | Fees and subscriptions .....                   | 7 |
| 11 | Members' liabilities .....                     | 7 |
| 12 | Resolution of disputes .....                   | 7 |
| 13 | Disciplining of members .....                  | 7 |
| 14 | Right of appeal of disciplined member .....    | 8 |

### Part 3 - The committee

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 15 | Powers of the committee .....                  | 9  |
| 16 | Composition and membership of committee .....  | 9  |
| 17 | Election of committee members .....            | 9  |
| 18 | Secretary .....                                | 10 |
| 19 | Treasurer .....                                | 10 |
| 20 | Casual vacancies .....                         | 10 |
| 21 | Removal of committee members .....             | 11 |
| 22 | Committee meetings and quorum .....            | 11 |
| 23 | Delegation by committee to sub-committee ..... | 12 |
| 24 | Voting and decisions .....                     | 12 |

### Part 4 - General meetings

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 25 | Annual general meetings - holding of .....                 | 13 |
| 26 | Annual general meetings - calling of and business at ..... | 13 |
| 27 | Special general meetings - calling of .....                | 13 |
| 28 | Notice .....   | 14 |
| 29 | Quorum for general meetings .....                          | 14 |
| 30 | Presiding member .....                                     | 14 |
| 31 | Adjournment .....  | 14 |
| 32 | Making of decisions .....                                  | 15 |
| 33 | Special resolutions .....                                  | 15 |
| 34 | Voting .....   | 15 |
| 35 | Proxy votes not permitted .....                            | 15 |
| 36 | Postal ballots .....                                       | 15 |

### Part 5 - Miscellaneous

|    |  |    |
|----|--|----|
| 37 | Media Communications .....                     | 16 |
| 38 | Insurance .....                                | 16 |
| 39 | Funds - source .....                           | 16 |
| 40 | Funds - management .....                       | 16 |
| 41 | Gift Fund .....                                | 16 |
| 42 | Change of name, objects and constitution ..... | 16 |
| 43 | Custody of books etc .....                     | 16 |
| 44 | Inspection of books etc .....                  | 17 |
| 45 | Service of notices .....                       | 17 |
| 46 | Financial year .....                           | 17 |

## Part 1 - Preliminary

### 1. Definitions

(1) In this constitution:

**Care Leaver** means a person who was in institutional care or other form of out-of-home care, including foster care, as a child or youth (or both) at some time during the 20th century (also known as a Forgotten Australian).

**Director-General** means the Director-General of the Department of Services, Technology and Administration

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

**secretary** means:

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

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

**the Act** means the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*.

**the Regulation** means the *Associations Incorporation Regulation 2010*.

(2) In this constitution:

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

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

### 2. Name

The name of the association shall be Care Leavers Australia Network (CLAN) Incorporated (referred to in these rules as “the association”).

### 3. Objects

The objects of the association shall be:

- (1) To assist Care Leavers (as defined in this constitution) to gain access to information and services.
- (2) To raise public awareness of the history and ongoing consequences of past treatment of Care Leavers.
- (3) To provide a network through which Care Leavers can communicate with each other and share their experiences.
- (4) To advocate and lobby all relevant governments and other institutions or organisations to provide acknowledgement, redress, and support services for Care Leavers.

- (5) To seek funds from all sources whether government or private for all the aims and objects set out above.
- (6) To document Care Leaver history and personal stories through a National Orphanage Museum.
- (7) To exercise all the powers conferred upon an incorporated association in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* and under any legislation substituted for such legislation thereafter.

## **Part 2 - Membership**

### ***4. Membership generally***

- (1) A person is eligible to be a member of the association if:
  - (a) the person is a natural person, and
  - (b) the person has been approved for membership of the association in accordance with clause 5.
- (2) A person is taken to be a member of the association if:
  - (a) the person is a natural person, and
  - (b) the person was a member of the unincorporated body immediately before the registration of the association.
- (3) Membership is open to all individuals and organisations who accept the objects and rules of the association.

### ***5. Application for membership***

- (1) An application for membership of the association must be lodged with the secretary of the association.
- (2) As soon as practicable after receiving an application for membership, the secretary must refer the application to the committee which is to determine whether to approve or to reject the nomination. The Committee may refuse to admit into membership any persons who do not satisfy the Committee that they are likely to promote the aims and objectives of CLAN. The Committee is not required to supply reasons for accepting or rejecting an application for membership.
- (3) Members shall pay such fees as are determined by the association at a general meeting from time to time. Members are categorised as:
  - (a) A 'Care Leaver' means a person who was in institutional care or other form of out-of-home care, including foster care, as a child or youth (or both) at some time during the 20th century (also known as a Forgotten Australian).
  - (b) A 'Friend of Clan' means a person who is sympathetic to and supportive of the aims and objectives of the association.
  - (c) A 'Researcher' means a person who is conducting research which will benefit the aims and objectives of the association and its members.
  - (d) 'Government Departments and Past Providers' means an organisation or a representative of an organisation which or who have, prior to incorporation of the association, been providers of care for State wards (including foster children) and Home children.
  - (e) 'Funded Groups' means an organisation or a representative of an organisation which is sympathetic to and supportive of the aims and objectives of the association.
- (4) As soon as practicable after the committee makes that determination, the secretary must:
  - (a) notify the applicant, in writing, that the committee approved or rejected the application (whichever is applicable), and

- (b) if the committee approved the application and the applicant has not already paid, request the applicant to pay (within the period of 28 days after receipt by the applicant of the notification) the sum payable under this constitution by a member as annual subscription in accordance with clause 10.
- (5) The secretary must, on payment by the applicant of the amount relevant to the member category referred to in subclause (3) within the period referred to in that provision, enter or cause to be entered the applicant's name in the register of members and, on the name being so entered, the applicant becomes a member of the association.

## ***6. Cessation of membership***

A person ceases to be a member of the association if the person:

- (a) dies, or
- (b) resigns membership, or
- (c) is expelled from the association, or
- (d) fails to pay the annual membership fee under clause 10 within 3 months after the fee is due.

## ***7. Membership entitlements not transferable***

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

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

## ***8. Resignation of membership***

- (1) A member of the association may resign from membership of the association by first giving to the secretary written notice of at least one month (or such other period as the committee may determine) of the member's intention to resign and, on the expiration of the period of notice, the member ceases to be a member.
- (2) If a member of the association ceases to be a member under subclause (1), and in every other case where a member ceases to hold membership, the secretary must make an appropriate entry in the register of members recording the date on which the member ceased to be a member.

## ***9. Register of members***

- (1) The public officer of the association must establish and maintain a register of members of the association specifying the name and postal or residential address of each person who is a member of the association together with the date on which the person became a member.
- (2) The register of members must be kept in New South Wales:
  - (a) at the main premises of the association, or
  - (b) if the association has no premises, at the association's official address.
- (3) The register is confidential to the association and shall not be disclosed, provided or sold in any form to any person, company, government agency or other entity without the consent of the Committee of the association.

- (4) A member shall not make available to any person, organisation, company or other entity:
  - (a) any information relating to the membership of another member; or
  - (b) any information disclosed to the association by a member whether in correspondence, at association meetings or otherwise, except:
    - (c) with the written consent of that member; or
    - (d) if required by law to disclose such information.

### **10. Fees and subscriptions**

A member of the association must, on admission to membership, pay to the association an annual membership fee relevant to the various membership categories described in clause 5(3) as determined by the committee. In cases of genuine hardship, application can be made to the committee for the fees to be waived.

### **11. Members' liabilities**

The liability of a member of the association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the association is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the association as required by clause 10.

### **12. Resolution of disputes**

- (1) In the event of a dispute raising between members (in their capacity as members) or between a member(s) and the association or a member(s) and the Committee, the following procedure shall apply.
- (2) Each side of the dispute shall nominate a representative who is not directly involved in the dispute. Those representatives shall then attempt to settle the dispute by negotiation.
- (3) Should the nominated representatives be unable to resolve the dispute within 14 days (or such other period as they may agree upon) the dispute shall be referred to a person mutually agreed upon for mediation.
- (4) In the event that no person can be agreed upon to mediate the dispute it shall be referred to a community justice centre for mediation under the *Community Justice Centres Act 1983*. Any charges or fees are to be shared equally by the two parties.
- (5) If a dispute is not resolved by mediation within 3 months of the referral to a community justice centre, the dispute is to be referred to arbitration.
- (6) The *Commercial Arbitration Act 1984* applies to any such dispute referred to arbitration.

### **13. Disciplining of members**

- (1) A complaint may be made to the committee by any person that a member of the association:
  - (a) has refused or neglected to comply with a provision or provisions of this constitution, or
  - (b) has wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the association.
- (2) The committee may refuse to deal with a complaint if it considers the complaint to be trivial or vexatious in nature.
- (3) If the committee decides to deal with the complaint, the committee:

- (a) must cause notice of the complaint to be served on the member concerned, and
  - (b) must give the member at least 14 days from the time the notice is served within which to make submissions to the committee in connection with the complaint, and
  - (c) must take into consideration any submissions made by the member in connection with the complaint.
- (4) The committee may, by resolution, expel the member from the association or suspend the member from membership of the association if, after considering the complaint and any submissions made in connection with the complaint, it is satisfied that the facts alleged in the complaint have been proved and the expulsion or suspension is warranted in the circumstances.
- (5) If the committee expels or suspends a member, the secretary must, within 7 days after the action is taken, cause written notice to be given to the member of the action taken, of the reasons given by the committee for having taken that action and of the member's right of appeal under clause 14.
- (6) The expulsion or suspension does not take effect:
- (a) until the expiration of the period within which the member is entitled to appeal against the resolution concerned, or
  - (b) if within that period the member exercises the right of appeal, unless and until the association confirms the resolution under clause 14, whichever is the later.

#### ***14. Right of appeal of disciplined member***

- (1) A member who is disciplined under clause 13 may appeal against a decision expelling or otherwise disciplining him/her by notifying the Secretary in writing within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served that s/he wishes the decision to be reviewed at a general meeting of the association.
- (2) The notice may, but need not, be accompanied by a statement of the grounds on which the member intends to rely for the purposes of the appeal.
- (3) On receipt of a notice from a member under subclause (1), the secretary must notify the committee which is to convene a general meeting of the association to be held within 28 days after the date on which the secretary received the notice.
- (4) At the general meeting convened under subclause (3):
- (a) no business other than the question of the appeal is to be transacted, and
  - (b) the committee and the member must be given the opportunity to state their respective cases orally or in writing, or both, and
  - (c) the members present are to vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- (5) The appeal is to be determined by a simple majority of votes cast by the members of the association.



## **Part 3 - The committee**

### ***15. Powers of the committee***

Subject to the Act, the Regulation and this constitution and to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting, the committee:

- (a) is to control and manage the affairs of the association, and
- (b) may exercise all such functions as may be exercised by the association, other than those functions that are required by this constitution to be exercised by a general meeting of members of the association, and
- (c) has power to perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to the committee to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the association.

### ***16. Composition and membership of committee***

- (1) The committee is to consist of:
  - (a) the office-bearers of the association, and
  - (b) at least 1 and not more than 4 ordinary committee members, each of whom is to be elected at the annual general meeting of the association under clause 17.
- (2) The office-bearers of the association are as follows:
  - (a) the president,
  - (b) the vice-president,
  - (c) the treasurer,
  - (d) the secretary.
- (3) A committee member may hold up to 2 offices (other than both the president and vice-president offices).
- (4) Each member of the committee is, subject to this constitution, to hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the member's election, but is eligible for re-election.

### ***17. Election of committee members***

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election as office-bearers of the association or as ordinary committee members:
  - (a) must be made in writing, signed by 2 members of the association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of the nomination), and
  - (b) must be delivered to the secretary of the association at least 7 days before the date fixed for the holding of the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.
- (2) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the committee, further nominations are to be received at the annual general meeting. Where a single nomination is received for a single position at the annual general meeting, that

candidate must receive a vote of half plus one of those members present and entitled to vote.

- (3) If insufficient further nominations are received, any vacant positions remaining on the committee are taken to be casual vacancies.
- (4) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot is to be held.
- (5) The ballot for the election of office-bearers and ordinary committee members of the committee is to be conducted at the annual general meeting in such usual and proper manner as the committee may direct. Candidates will be elected by a simple majority of votes.
- (6) A person nominated as a candidate for election as an office-bearer or as an ordinary committee member of the association must be a member of the association.

### **18. Secretary**

- (1) The secretary of the association must, as soon as practicable after being appointed as secretary, lodge notice with the association of his or her address.
- (2) It is the duty of the secretary to keep minutes of:
  - (a) all appointments of office-bearers and members of the committee, and
  - (b) the names of members of the committee present at a committee meeting or a general meeting, and
  - (c) all proceedings at committee meetings and general meetings.
- (3) Minutes of proceedings at a meeting must be signed by the chairperson of the meeting or by the chairperson of the next succeeding meeting.

### **19. Treasurer**

It is the duty of the treasurer of the association to ensure:

- (a) that all money due to the association is collected and received and that all payments authorised by the association are made, and
- (b) that correct books and accounts are kept showing the financial affairs of the association, including full details of all receipts and expenditure connected with the activities of the association.

### **20. Casual vacancies**

- (1) In the event of a casual vacancy occurring in the membership of the committee, the committee may appoint a member of the association to fill the vacancy and the member so appointed is to hold office, subject to this constitution, until the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of the appointment.
- (2) A casual vacancy in the office of a member of the committee occurs if the member:
  - (a) dies, or
  - (b) ceases to be a member of the association, or
  - (c) becomes an insolvent under administration within the meaning of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth, or
  - (d) resigns office by notice in writing given to the secretary, or

- (e) is removed from office under clause 21, or
- (f) becomes a mentally incapacitated person, or
- (g) is absent without the consent of the committee from 3 consecutive meetings of the committee, or
- (h) is convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty for which the maximum penalty on conviction is imprisonment for not less than 3 months, or
- (i) is prohibited from being a director of a company under Part 2D.6 (Disqualification from managing corporations) of the *Corporations Act 2001* of the Commonwealth.

## **21. Removal of committee members**

- (1) The association in general meeting may by resolution remove any member of the committee from the office of member before the expiration of the member's term of office and may by resolution appoint another person to hold office until the expiration of the term of office of the member so removed.
- (2) If a member of the committee to whom a proposed resolution referred to in subclause (1) relates makes representations in writing to the secretary or president (not exceeding a reasonable length) and requests that the representations be notified to the members of the association, the secretary or the president may send a copy of the representations to each member of the association or, if the representations are not so sent, the member is entitled to require that the representations be read out at the meeting at which the resolution is considered.

## **22. Committee meetings and quorum**

- (1) The committee must meet at least 4 times in each period of 12 months at such place and time as the committee may determine. Meetings may be conducted via teleconferencing.
- (2) Additional meetings of the committee may be convened by the president or by any member of the committee.
- (3) Oral or written notice of a meeting of the committee must be given by the secretary to each member of the committee at least 48 hours (or such other period as may be unanimously agreed on by the members of the committee) before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting.
- (4) Notice of a meeting given under subclause (3) must specify the general nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting and no business other than that business is to be transacted at the meeting, except business which the committee members present at the meeting unanimously agree to treat as urgent business.
- (5) The quorum for meetings of the Committee shall be one half the number of committee members elected at the previous annual general meeting and if that number results in a fraction, that fraction shall be taken to the next higher number.
- (6) No business is to be transacted by the committee unless a quorum is present and if, within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting is to be dissolved.
- (7) At a meeting of the committee:
  - (a) the president or, in the president's absence, the vice-president is to preside, or

- (b) if the president and the vice-president are absent or unwilling to act, such one of the remaining members of the committee as may be chosen by the members present at the meeting is to preside.

### **23. Delegation by committee to sub-committee**

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

### **24. Voting and decisions**

- (1) Questions arising at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee are to be determined by a majority of the votes of members of the committee or sub-committee present at the meeting.
- (2) Each member present at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee (including the person presiding at the meeting) is entitled to one vote but, in the event of an equality of votes on any question, the person presiding may exercise a second or casting vote.
- (3) Subject to clause 22 (5), the committee may act despite any vacancy on the committee.
- (4) Any act or thing done or suffered, or purporting to have been done or suffered, by the committee or by a sub-committee appointed by the committee, is valid and effectual despite any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the appointment or qualification of any member of the committee or sub-committee.

## **Part 4 - General meetings**

### ***25. Annual general meetings - holding of***

- (1) The association must hold its first annual general meeting within 18 months after its registration under the Act.
- (2) The association must hold its annual general meetings:
  - (a) within 6 months after the close of the association's financial year, or
  - (b) within such later time as may be allowed by the Director-General or prescribed by the Regulation.

### ***26. Annual general meetings - calling of and business at***

- (1) The annual general meeting of the association is, subject to the Act and to clause 25, to be convened on such date and at such place and time as the committee thinks fit.
- (2) In addition to any other business which may be transacted at an annual general meeting, the business of an annual general meeting is to include the following:
  - (a) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since that meeting,
  - (b) to receive from the committee reports on the activities of the association during the last preceding financial year,
  - (c) to elect office-bearers of the association and ordinary committee members,
  - (d) to receive and consider any financial statement or report required to be submitted to members under the Act.
- (3) An annual general meeting must be specified as such in the notice convening it.

### ***27. Special general meetings - calling of***

- (1) The committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- (2) The committee must, on the requisition in writing of at least 5 per cent of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- (3) A requisition of members for a special general meeting:
  - (a) must state the purpose or purposes of the meeting, and
  - (b) must be signed by the members making the requisition, and
  - (c) must be lodged with the secretary, and
  - (d) may consist of several documents in a similar form, each signed by one or more of the members making the requisition.
- (4) If the committee fails to convene a special general meeting to be held within 1 month after that date on which a requisition of members for the meeting is lodged with the secretary, any one or more of the members who made the requisition may convene a special general meeting to be held not later than 3 months after that date.
- (5) A special general meeting convened by a member or members as referred to in subclause (4) must be convened as nearly as is practicable in the same manner as general meetings are convened by the committee.

## **28. Notice**

- (1) Except if the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary must, at least 14 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, give a notice to each member specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.
- (2) If the nature of the business proposed to be dealt with at a general meeting requires a special resolution of the association, the secretary must, at least 21 days before the date fixed for the holding of the general meeting, cause notice to be given to each member specifying, in addition to the matter required under subclause (1), the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.
- (3) No business other than that specified in the notice convening a general meeting is to be transacted at the meeting except, in the case of an annual general meeting, business which may be transacted under clause 26 (2).
- (4) A member desiring to bring any business before a general meeting may give notice in writing of that business to the secretary who must include that business in the next notice calling a general meeting given after receipt of the notice from the member.

## **29. Quorum for general meetings**

- (1) No item of business is to be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members entitled under this constitution to vote is present during the time the meeting is considering that item.
- (2) Ten members present (being members entitled under this constitution to vote at a general meeting) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.
- (3) If within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting is to be dissolved.

## **30. Presiding member**

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

## **31. Adjournment**

- (1) The chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of the majority of members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and place to place, but no business is to be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place.
- (2) If a general meeting is adjourned for 14 days or more, the secretary must give written or oral notice of the adjourned meeting to each member of the association stating the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.
- (3) Except as provided in subclauses (1) and (2), notice of an adjournment of a general meeting or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned meeting is not required to be given.

### **32. Making of decisions**

- (1) A question arising at a general meeting of the association is to be determined by either:
  - (a) a show of hands, or
  - (b) if on the motion of the chairperson or if 5 or more members present at the meeting decide that the question should be determined by a written ballot—a written ballot.
- (2) If the question is to be determined by a show of hands, a declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has, on a show of hands, been carried or carried unanimously or carried by a particular majority or lost, or an entry to that effect in the minute book of the association, is evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against that resolution.
- (3) If the question is to be determined by a written ballot, the ballot is to be conducted in accordance with the directions of the chairperson.

### **33. Special resolutions**

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

### **34. Voting**

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

### **35. Proxy votes not permitted**

Proxy voting must not be undertaken at or in respect of a general meeting.

### **36. Postal ballots**

- (1) The committee may decide to hold a postal ballot to determine any issue or proposal (other than an appeal under clause 14).
- (2) A postal ballot is to be conducted in accordance with Schedule 3 to the Regulation.

## **Part 5 - Miscellaneous**

### **37. Media Communications**

No member of CLAN may communicate in any way with the media as a representative of CLAN without prior consent of the Committee. This shall not inhibit nor operate to prevent any member being able to communicate with the media as an individual person and not as a representative of CLAN.

### **38. Insurance**

The association may effect and maintain insurance.

### **39. Funds – source**

- (1) The funds of the association shall be derived from membership fees, donations, grants and such other sources as may be approved by the association.
- (2) All money received by the association must be deposited as soon as practicable and without deduction to the credit of the association's bank or other authorised deposit-taking institution account.

### **40. Funds – management**

- (1) Subject to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting, the funds of the association are to be used in pursuance of the objects of the association in such manner as the committee determines.
- (2) All cheques, electronic funds transfer, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by any 2 members of the committee or employees of the association, being members or employees authorised to do so by the committee.
- (3) Major or unusual expenditures shall be authorised in advance by the Committee or a general meeting.

### **41. Gift Fund**

- (1) If the Gift Fund is wound up or if the endorsement (if any) of the association as a deductible gift recipient is revoked, any surplus assets of the Gift Fund remaining after the payment of liabilities attributable to it, shall be transferred to a fund, authority or institution to which income tax deductible gifts can be made.
- (2) In the event of the association being wound up or its incorporation cancelled, any surplus assets remaining after the payment of the association's liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation in Australia which is a public benefit institution for the purposes of any Commonwealth Taxation Act.

### **42. Change of name, objects and constitution**

An application to the Director-General for registration of a change in the association's name, objects or constitution in accordance with section 10 of the Act is to be made by the public officer or a committee member.

### **43. Custody of books etc**

Except as otherwise provided by this constitution, the public officer must ensure all records, books and other documents relating to the association are stored in an orderly and secure manner.



#### **44. Inspection of books etc**

- (1) The following documents must be open to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the association at any reasonable hour:
  - (a) records, books and other financial documents of the association, excluding the register of members which is to be kept confidential,
  - (b) this constitution,
  - (c) minutes of all committee meetings and general meetings of the association.
- (2) A member of the association may obtain a copy of any of the documents referred to in subclause (1) on payment of a fee of not more than \$1 for each page copied.

#### **45. Service of notices**

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

#### **45. Financial year**

The financial year of the association is:

- (a) the period of time commencing on the date of incorporation of the association and ending on the following 30 June, and
- (b) each period of 12 months after the expiration of the previous financial year of the association, commencing on 1 July and ending on the following 30 June.