

# CONSTITUTION

Revised – February 2012

*MID WEST PIGEON FEDERATION.*

**CONSTITUTION:**

***NAME***

- 1 The Association shall be called "MID WEST PIGEON FEDERATION," and hereafter referred to as the Association.

**2. *OBJECTS.***

The objects of the Association shall be:

- 1) The encouragement of breeding, training and racing of the working homing pigeon.
- 2) The organizing, controlling and regulating of the sport of pigeon racing and training in the State of New South Wales.
- 3) The breeding and training of homing pigeons for the purposes of national defence.
- 4) The organising and promoting of such tests and competitions as may be deemed necessary from time to time to achieve these objects.
- 5) To ensure that the birds are sent in charge of fully qualified conveyers that they may be fed, watered and have every attention during the journey and at race points.
- 6) To make such arrangements that the conveyer shall have full information as to the state of the weather between **home** and the race points, and to ensure that every reasonable precaution has been taken to provide a fair race with fair returns.
- 7) To have a uniform system of race marking, setting and opening of clocks, checking on race marks and the compiling of race reports. This rule shall include electronic timing- see ETS Race By-law 41 and the EBSS rules and conditions.
- 8) The protection of birds and owners by the adoption of such measures as may from time to time; be deemed necessary or advisable for the protection of the birds or the members of associated clubs in their relation as owners or fliers of homing pigeons.
- 9) Mediate disputes that may arise, whether between clubs and their members, or between members of clubs, or between clubs or their members and the Association, on appeal being made by any party or parties to such dispute.
- 10) The acquisition by any lawful means of property or funds for the purpose of carrying out the aforesaid objects or other objects of the Association for the time being. Including, such special object or objects as shall be determined on by the Association, whether such acquisition shall be by subscription, gift, devise or bequest of real or personal property, or the sale of goods or other real personal property or by the purchase, exchange or such other means as may be approved of, by the Association.
- 11) To borrow or raise money by the issue of debentures or debenture stocks, bonds, mortgages or any other securities founded or based upon all or any of the property of the Association, or without any such security, and upon such terms as to priority or otherwise as the Association shall think fit.
- 12) To manage, let/lease, sell, hire, exchange or otherwise deal with the property of the Association in such a manner and upon such terms as may be considered expedient or desirable.

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- 13) To invest the monies of the Association not immediately required in such a manner as may from time to time be determined.
- 14) From time to time contribute to, or subscribe to any charitable, benevolent or useful object of a public character.
- 15) To draw, accept, make, endorse, discount and negotiate bills of exchange or promissory notes.
- 16) The income and property of the MWPF Inc., whensoever's derived, shall be applied solely towards the objects of the MWPF Inc., and no portions thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the MWPF Inc., provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of an allowance to any officials or servants of the MWPF Inc., in return for services actually rendered to the MWPF Inc., or prevent the free gift to the members of the publications of the MWPF Inc., or the giving of privileges to or the payments of the expenses of representatives attending meetings on behalf of the MWPF Inc., or to prevent the bona fide issuing of certificates of merit or the giving of prizes or contributions for prizes by the MWPF Inc., to the members of the MWPF Inc.
- 17) To promote pigeon racing by advertising the social, sporting and competitive aspects of the sport. In part this advertising to be carried out through the television and/or radio media.
- 18) Generally to do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the foregoing objects or any of them.

***MEMBERSHIP***

4. 1) The Association shall consist of the members of all associated homing clubs, that is to say, such homing clubs in the State of **New South Wales** as shall join the Association with the sanction of the Committee of Management of the Association, and the proper officers of which shall have duly subscribed to these rules in manner herein after provided, and shall pursuant to these rules have paid to the Association the annual subscription payable by members of such clubs respectively.
- 2) No homing club wishing to join the Association as an Associated Club, shall be admitted to membership unless approved by a majority of the Committee of Management.
- 3) Life members may be elected by the Annual Meeting of the Association.  
A notice proposing Life Membership will only be accepted from:
  - (a) MWPF Clubs or
  - (b) The Committee of Management.The notice proposing Life Membership must address the criteria contained in the document MWPF guidelines for Life Membership.
- 5) Members wishing to change clubs after payment of capitation fees must apply in writing to the Management Committee for approval, submitting reasons for such application.  
Approval will only be given in exceptional circumstances.

***SUBSCRIPTION TO THE RULES***

5. All clubs joining the Association shall be required to subscribe to these rules by resolution, and a certified copy of such resolution, signed by the chairperson and secretary of the club, must be forwarded to the General Secretary of the Association before the club shall be entitled to join or the members to enjoy the benefits of membership of the Association.

***ENTRANCE FEES***

6. All clubs joining the Association shall pay an entrance fee, the amount of which shall be fixed from time to time by the Committee of Management.

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**SUBSCRIPTION**

7. 1) The annual subscription of the Association shall be determined annually of which amount \$1 shall be allocated to the Transport Fund until otherwise decided by the Committee of Management.
- 2) The subscriptions shall be paid by the associated clubs respectively, according to number of club members and each club shall pay an additional subscription for each club member joining after the first day in any financial year and prior to competing in any club or Association race.
- 3) Any associated club which shall be in arrears with regard to subscriptions at the end of any financial year shall, if the Association so decide, be deemed to have ceased to belong to the Association, but shall nevertheless remain liable for any subscription in arrears. The subscription of each member of an associated club shall be a debt due to the Association by the member and their club, jointly and severally, and recoverable accordingly.

**FINANCIAL YEAR**

8. The financial year of the Association shall be the period from 1<sup>st</sup> of December through to 30<sup>th</sup> of November of the following year. Annual subscriptions shall be payable no later than the 28<sup>th</sup> February of each year.  
Only in extreme circumstances will late payment be accepted.

**TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

9. 1) The Committee of Management of the Association may in its absolute discretion endorse, refuse to endorse or otherwise rule upon all disqualifications or suspensions by associated clubs or members of such clubs. Notice in writing of any such disqualifications or suspension shall be given by the associated club involved to the General Secretary of the Association within fourteen days from the date of such disqualifications or suspension.
- 2) The Committee of Management by a majority of its members present in person may in its absolute discretion resolve not to admit to membership any applicant for membership of the Association and may by such majority of its members so present resolve to expel from membership of the Association any member deemed guilty of any one or more of the following:
  - a) Conduct detrimental to the Association.
  - b) Breach of the rules and regulations of the Association or any of them;
  - c) Wilful refusal or neglect to carry out any lawful direction or ruling of the Committee in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Association or any of them;
  - d) Failure to pay annual subscription or other dues lawfully imposed by the Association in accordance with these rules and regulations or any of them;
  - e) Conduct contrary to the best interest of the Association; and
  - f) Bringing into this country pigeon eggs laid in a foreign country or pigeons bred in a foreign country while an act of parliament forbids such imports into Australia.
- 3) 1. Any member found guilty of administering performance enhancing drugs to their birds or being an accomplice to administering performance enhancing drugs to racing pigeons for the purpose of gaining an advantage over his/her competitors will be disqualified from competing in ALL RACES that are conducted under the auspices of the MWPF Inc. committee for a period of time which is to be determined by the MWPF Inc. Management Committee.
2. The MWPF Inc. committee reserve the right to have member's birds tested for all performance drugs and in particular anabolic steroids, Beta-Agonists, Cortico Steroids.
3. Routine tests will be conducted and any members refusing to have his/her birds tested will be in breach of this rule and will be automatically disqualified from racing until such time as his/her birds have been proven to be free of any performance enhancing substances.
4. In the case of a clearly positive result all costs shall be borne by the offender. If the result is negative all charges in respect of the testing will be borne by the MWPF Inc.
5. Medical treatment may not used as justification should the result prove positive.
6. Once the test has been finalized and the result established, a copy of the result shall be forwarded to the member/s in question and another copy to be placed in the hands of the MWPF Inc. General Secretary.

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### **OUTLINE OF HOW SAMPLE MAY BE TAKEN.**

1. Sample to be taken by a minimum of two MWPF nominated officials in the presence of the owner or his nominee.
2. Only the authorized test kit supplied by Racing Analytical Services Limited may be used.
3. The instructions given with the testing equipment must be followed to the letter.
4. Samples for testing are to be sent by first class post to Racing Analytical Services Limited, 400 Epsom Road Flemington, Victoria 3031 Australia.

### **PROCEDURE FOR USE.**

1. Ensure all components of the test kit are present before starting the test procedure.
  2. Be careful not to contaminate any parts of the kit once the procedure is started.  
The gloves provided must be worn throughout the sampling procedure to ensure no contamination can occur from contact with human hands. This will also protect you from contact with the test material.
  3. Using the scoop, collect the sample and place it inside the sample bottle and screw the cap down firmly until the tamper proof seal is engaged.
  4. Apply the self adhesive seal to the sample bottle by placing the seal over the centre of the cap then presses the seal down the sides of the bottle.
  5. Place the sample bottle inside the Bio-Hazard bag and seal the bag by folding the top of the bag and then place the seal over the fold and down the front and back of the bag.
  6. The owner of the birds or his nominee will be required to sign across the seal and the seal shall remain in place until the test kit is opened by an authorized person at the testing laboratory.
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- 4) No resolution to expel a member in accordance with subparagraph 2 hereof shall be carried unless the member involved has had the opportunity of stating their case to the Committee of Management.
  - 5) Every member of the Association who shall be expelled from the Association shall forthwith upon the passing of the resolution for expulsion, surrender and lose membership and all rights and privileges of the Association and no such expelled member shall have any claim whatsoever upon the Committee of Management, members or officers of the Association.
  - 6) All disqualifications or suspensions endorsed by the Committee of Management of the Association pursuant to these rules and regulations shall be notified in writing to all associated clubs by the General Secretary of the Association and shall be observed and acted upon in all things by such associated clubs.
  - 7) The Committee of Management shall have power to summon before it any member of any associated club to give evidence and/or to produce documents in any matter before the Committee of Management in accordance with these rules and regulations.  
The form of inquiry or proceedings conducted by the Committee of Management and the manner in which evidence or statements are given to absolute and unfettered discretion of the Committee of Management.
  - 8) The decision of the Committee of Management upon any question of admission to membership and expulsion from membership of the Association shall be final and conclusive.

### ***INFRINGEMENT OF RULES***

10. Should any member of the Association commit a breach of the rules of the Association and any of them or of the Racing By-Laws of the Association or any of them, the Committee of Management may notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 9 punish the offender by a term of suspension of membership of the Association or by such other form of penalty as the Management Committee in its absolute discretion shall think fit.
  - a) ***Non-payment of Subscription or Dues***  
Should any member of the Association fail to pay his or her subscription or other dues or any part thereof when the same shall be due and payable the Committee of Management may notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 9 suspend such member

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until such time as all arrears of subscription and dues shall be paid and during the period of such suspension such member shall not be entitled to the rights and privileges of the Association or any of them.

*b) Non-collection of Reported Stray Pigeon*

Members must make contact with persons reporting pigeons registered in their name within 24 hours of contact by the Ring Secretary. The reported pigeon(s) must then be collected within 7 days, after which the Ring Secretary must be notified of the collection.

Failure to comply with the above will result in a fine of \$50 and further nominations of pigeons in races shall be prohibited until the above procedure has been complied with, and the fine is paid to the General Secretary.

Further infringements may result in possible suspension or termination of Membership.

**APPEALS BY CLUB MEMBERS**

11. The Committee of Management, may at its absolute discretion, hear and decide upon the appeal of any club member against their club's decision provided that notice of such appeal and the grounds thereof be sent in writing to the General Secretary of the Association within fourteen days of the member receiving notice of the decision of their club, and provided also that such appeal be accompanied by a deposit of \$5.00, and in the event of the appeal not being upheld the fee lodged with such appeal shall be forfeited by the member or members or club appealing. Nothing in this rule shall derogate from the powers of the Association with regard to the settlement of disputes, as provided in Rule 3 (9) of these rules and regulations.

**OFFICERS**

12. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, General Secretary and or Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected annually by the Committee of Management, but shall be eligible for re-election.
- a) The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall be elected by all financial members of the MWPF Inc, during the election/s for the Five Man Committee, who is up for re-election.
- b) AUDITOR - Immediately after the Annual General Meeting, the Committee of Management shall appoint an Auditor. The person so appointed is not to be a financial member of the Association and must be suitably qualified. The Auditor is to hold office until the next Annual General Meeting and is eligible for re-appointment.

**CHAIRPERSON, GENERAL SECRETARY AND TREASURER**

13. Any member of the Association shall be eligible for election as Chairperson, General Secretary or Treasurer of the Association providing the nomination is accompanied by the nominee's consent in writing to be handed to the General Secretary or the Acting General Secretary one month previous to the election taking place. The General Secretary and Treasurer, shall be allowed a voice in all Association business, but shall not be entitled to vote on any questions. They shall be ex-officio members of the Committee of Management and may be elected to other Committees.

**SEALHOLDER**

There shall be a Common Seal of the Association, and such Seal shall be kept in the custody of the General Secretary. The said General Secretary shall be the person authorized to use such Common Seal only under the direction of the Committee of Management.

**OFFICER'S DUTIES**

18. 1) The Chairperson shall preside and keep order at all meetings of the Association members and Committees. Every member shall pay strict obedience to the presiding officer and shall

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uphold the dignity of the chair. Any member who in the opinion of a meeting of the Committee of Management of this Association is considered guilty of a breach of this rule may be dealt with as though guilty of misconduct.

- 2) The Vice-Chairperson shall act in the place of the Chairperson when necessary and assist him/her whenever called upon by him/her to do so.
- 3) The Treasurer or General Secretary of the Association shall receive all monies and shall give the General Secretary a receipt for same. All such monies received by the said Treasurer or General Secretary shall be paid into the General account of the Association in such bank or banks as the Committee of Management shall decide, and no monies shall be withdrawn from such account without the signature of the Chairperson or the Treasurer and the General Secretary. The Treasurer or General Secretary shall pay all expenses contracted by the Association out of the said general account after the accounts have been endorsed by the Chairperson and approved by the Committee of Management. The Treasurer shall produce to the Chairperson and/or General Secretary of the meeting of the Committee of Management all books, accounts, vouchers and Association papers in his or her possession whenever called upon to do so. He/she shall produce no later than 3 weeks before the Annual General Meeting of the members of the Association a properly audited statement of receipts and Expenditure for the Financial Year and a Balance Sheet setting out the assets and liabilities of the Association.
- 4) The Assistant Secretary's duties are to assist the General Secretary as required, and to attend Hampering nights to assist the Treasurer.
- 5) The General Secretary shall keep correctly such books as he/she may be instructed by the Association or as may be required for the fulfilment of his /her duties and in particular, race record registration and receipt books and all usual and proper books of account and a register containing the names and addresses of the members of the Association, and shall at the expiration of term of office or sooner, if required by the Committee of Management, hand to the successor all Association books, vouchers, papers, correspondence, etc., in his/her possession. The General Secretary shall receive all monies paid to the Association and shall pay the same to the Treasurer, obtaining receipt for same. He/she shall make arrangements subject to the approval of the Association for all meetings of the Association Management Committee delegates or sub-committees. He/she shall make arrangements for the carrying out of all races under the auspices of the Association and shall determine their result; only airline distances shall be recognized in Association races when a record is claimed. He/she shall conduct all the correspondence of the Association.
- 6) The General Secretary (or an officer so nominated by the Management Committee) shall determine the results of all races flown under the auspices of the Association. Should there be any issue arising from the race results, the General Secretary shall provide all information to the Management Committee for review and decision.
- 7) The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Association annually, and shall give a proper certificate in writing, of the result of such audits.

Any question regarding the accuracy of the figures in the balance sheet must be sent in to the Treasurer seven days prior to the Annual General meeting in order that they may be looked into an explanation given to the members at the time the balance sheet is under discussion.

### MEETINGS

19. 1) **Annual Meeting** - The Annual General Meeting shall be held on the last weekend of November in each year

Receipt of Motions for the Annual General Meeting each year shall close at last mail, 1<sup>st</sup> November of the preceding year to allow notification to members (refer rule 20).

The Chairperson, Treasurer, Auditor's reports shall be presented. The newly elected Committee of Management shall subsequently appoint the officers for the ensuing year.

- 2) **Special Meetings** - A Special General Meeting may be called by the General Secretary at any time, and shall be called within three days by the General Secretary on receiving a written requisition for that purpose stating the specific object/s for which the meeting is required, signed by not fewer than three members of the Committee of Management.

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***ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION***

20. No alteration or variation of or addition to the MWPF Inc. Constitution and/or the By-Laws of the Association shall be made, except by a majority of the financial members present at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting of the members of the Association called for the purpose.

Twenty-one clear days' notice of such meetings shall be given to all members, stating the time and place of holding same and specifying the alterations, variations or additions to the Constitution and/or By-Laws proposed to be brought forward.

a) Notice of motion proposing the rescinding alteration, variation or addition to the Constitution and/or By-Laws of the Association shall only be accepted from:

- 1). Associated clubs of the Association which have discussed and approved the proposal(s) by a majority of members attending an official club meeting at which a quorum was present; or
- 2). The Committee of Management itself. Such alteration(s) shall be registered with the Dept of Fair Trading NSW as required by the Act.

***ROUTINE OF BUSINESS AT MEETINGS***

21. The following shall be the course of business at meetings of the Association and its committees:

- a) Minutes to be read and confirmed
- b) Business arising out of minutes
- c) Correspondence
- d) Reports from committees
- e) Adjourned motions and business
- f) Motions of which notice has been given
- g) Breaches of rules and regulations
- h) General business.

Minutes read, passed and confirmed.

***THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT***

22. 1) All financial members of the Association, with the exception of the presiding Chairperson (see part 7), shall be eligible to vote for the election of members to the Committee of Management and shall be entitled to one vote for the electorate candidate of their choice. Members will be deemed to belong to one of five electorates and will only be invited to vote in the years that their electorate requires a replacement member.
- 2) Nominations for election to the Committee of Management shall be in writing and signed by the nominee and two other members of the said electorate.
- 3) Nominations shall be received by the General Secretary up to two calendar months prior to the date of each Annual General Meeting.
- 4) A Returning Officer shall be appointed for each election by the Committee of Management. The duties of the Returning Officer shall be to obtain all ballot papers from the General Secretary and to count and record all votes cast by members.
- 5) In the event of two candidates receiving the same number of votes in a given electorate, the Chairperson of the Association shall cast his/her vote to determine the outcome for the said electorate.

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- 8) It shall not be compulsory for all members of the Association to cast a vote, and the returning officer shall take into account only the votes received in accordance with the rules outlined above.
- 9) At the Annual General Meeting (or other specially conducted General Meeting of members), the Returning Officer shall deliver into the hands of the Chairperson of the Committee of Management, a return of all votes cast and the Chairperson shall announce the results of the election and shall declare the successful nominees elected as members of the Committee of Management.
- 10) Subject to these rules, the management of the business of the Association shall be vested in the Committee of Management who may in addition to the powers and authorities by these rules or otherwise expressly conferred upon them, exercise all such powers of the Association and do all such things which may be exercised and done by the Association and are not hereby directed or required to be exercised and done by the Association in General Meeting, but no rule or regulation made by the Association in General Meeting shall invalidate any prior contract entered into by the Committee of Management which would have been valid if such rule or regulation had not been made.
- 11) The Committee of Management may meet together for the dispatch of business at such times and from time to time as the committee or the Chairperson thereof shall think fit, and may adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings and proceedings as they may think fit. Until otherwise determined four members of the committee shall form a quorum.
- 12) Only members present in person shall vote at meetings of Committee of Management.
- 13) Until otherwise determined by a Special General Meeting of members, the number of electorates represented by members of the Committee of Management shall be six. These electorates shall be titled Cowra, Grenfell, Bathurst ,Orange ,Parkes and Dubbo.
- 14) At the Annual General Meeting held each year after 2011, those members of the Committee of Management longest in office shall retire progressively from office. In this way, subject to their being no other vacancies brought about by other means, two new members shall be elected each year, with only one member required every third year.
- 15) All retiring members of the Committee of Management shall, following retirement from office, be eligible for re-election, regardless of how many terms of three years in office, the member has held.
- 16) No member of the Committee of Management shall hold office for a term exceeding three years, provided however, that a member of the Committee of Management shall hold office until the Annual General Meeting, notwithstanding that the Annual General Meeting shall be held after such member shall have completed three years in office.
- 17) The Committee of Management shall have power at any time, and from time to time, to appoint any other person as a member of the Committee of Management to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the Committee so that the total number of members of Committee at any time shall not exceed the maximum number fixed. Any member so appointed shall be a member of the electorate from which the vacancy arose, and may hold office for the year in which he/she was appointed and shall retire at the end of that year, but is eligible to nominate for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting. Such member may nominate for one more consecutive three-year term after completion of their first full term in office.
- 19) The Chairperson, and in the Chairperson's absence the Vice-Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Committee of Management.
- 20) Votes of members of the Committee of Management shall be by show of hands unless deemed otherwise by the Chairperson.
- 21) All decisions of the Committee of Management shall be carried by a simple majority.
- 22) The Secretary and Treasurer and any other officer of the Association except for the presiding Chairperson, may be appointed as a member of the Committee of Management.
- 23) The Committee of Management may in its sole discretion and at any time invite any person(s) to attend meetings of the Committee of Management. Such persons may by invitation be heard, but unless a member of the committee, shall not be entitled to vote.
- 24) Minutes of all meetings of the Committee of Management and of the Annual General Meeting and of any Special General Meeting shall be recorded at the meeting by the

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- Secretary and shall at the end of the meeting at which they are recorded be read by the Secretary to members and such additions and alterations as may be necessary made thereto and approved and in evidence of such approval signed by the Chairperson of that meeting.
- 26) Within a period of fourteen (14) days after each meeting referred to in Sub Rule (26) hereof, the Secretary shall cause a copy of that meeting's minutes to be posted/mailed to each of the clubs in the Association.
- 27) The acceptance by a 75% majority of members present at the Special General Meeting, and subsequent implementation of this amended rule, shall require the elected Committee of Management to retire immediately, and be replaced by a new Committee elected as soon as possible and in accordance with the above. In the brief interim period whilst the elections being called and run, as per the rules of the Association, the General Secretary shall co-ordinate the management of the affairs of the Association.
- 28) Any currently elected member of the MWPF Committee of Management, shall be eligible to be re-elected to stand as candidate for their nominated electorate, and hence stand for re-election to the new Committee of Management, regardless of previous terms on the old Committee.
- 29) Each Representative of the Management Committee must call a meeting with his/her electorate members each year prior to the drafting of the MWPF Inc. race program. Once all Management Committee members have fulfilled their obligation to the electorate with respect to the race program, the Management Committee will draft the race program for the following year.

***OVER-RIDING POWERS OF GENERAL MEMBERS***

23. 1) Notwithstanding any powers to the contrary vested by this Constitution in the Committee of Management, 10% in total of all the general members of the Association from time to time may in writing petition the Committee of Management to call a Special General Meeting of members of the Association. A petition shall specify the grounds upon which a Special General Meeting is required and shall set forth all resolutions proposed to be put to the Special General Meeting. The Committee of Management shall within seven (7) days from the receipt of a petition call a special General Meeting of all members of the Association.
- 2) A resolution carried by 75% of general members of the Association present in person at a Special General Meeting called pursuant to this rule shall over-ride any resolution or decision of the Committee of Management to contrary effect and the general members may by a majority of 75% of their total number at any time vote to remove from office any one or more of the members of the Committee of Management and upon the passing of such resolution such member(s) shall forthwith cease to hold office as members of the Committee of Management and a casual vacancy shall be declared and filled in accordance with these rules. In the event that the whole of the Committee of Management shall be dismissed from Office or resign, an election to replace all members of the management committee shall be held in accordance of these rules and the Secretary for the time being shall have all powers given by these rules to conduct the election to appoint the Returning Officer and to call a special general meeting of members for the purpose of declaring the results of the election and all other powers necessary to lead to valid appointment of new committee of management

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***AFFILIATION OF OTHER ASSOCIATIONS AND CLUBS***

24. 1) The Association may grant affiliation with the Association to any homing pigeon club in the metropolitan area or country.
- 2) All applicants for affiliation shall be accompanied by a full list of its officers and members and club rules.
- 3) The current affiliation fee must be paid on joining. Such application shall be submitted to and approved by the Association and thereafter the club shall be registered as an affiliated club.
- 4) Members of affiliated clubs using the conveyers shall pay a fee to be determined at each annual meeting and clubs not using the conveyer shall pay a fee to be determined likewise.
- 5) Such affiliation shall continue so long as the club is financial and otherwise complies with these rules.
- 6) Each affiliated club shall forthwith upon their election, register with the General Secretary of the Association, the names and addresses of its executive officers.

***INTERPRETATION OF RULES AND REGULATIONS***

25. The Committee of Management shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of these rules and regulations and the decision of the Committee of Management upon any question or interpretation or upon any matter affecting the Association and not provided for by these rules and regulations shall be final and conclusive.

***DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY ON DISSOLUTION OR WINDING UP OF THE ASSOCIATION***

26. If upon the final winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association, but shall be paid to or distributed amongst such one or more charitable institutions in Australia as the Committee of Management shall think fit. BUT this rule shall have no application in the case of a winding-up or a dissolution for the purpose of re-forming or re-constructing the Association or altering its constitution, or which is brought about by any other club or association of clubs having similar objects, nor shall this rule or anything contained or implied therein operate to prevent the sale by the Association of all or any part of its property or undertaking, nor the disposal of its surplus assets in the ordinary way of business and without the intention of distributing the proceeds of such sale or such surplus assets as the case may be among the members of the Association in contravention of the foregoing provisions of this rule.

***HEADINGS AND MARGINAL NOTES***

27. Marginal notes and headings, where they occur, shall not be deemed to form part of the Constitution and By-Laws, nor shall they be construed as such.

***WHEN RULES COME INTO FORCE***

28. These rules shall come into force forthwith.

***REPEAL OF PREVIOUS CONSTITUTION AND RULES***

29. From the date of the registration of this Constitution and these By-Laws, all previously registered constitutions and rules shall be repealed.

***STANDING ORDERS***

30. 1) Every member when about to speak shall rise and address the Chair respectfully, and to conduct him or herself in a respectable manner towards the Chair. No member shall be allowed to interrupt the speaker, except through the Chairperson, and in explanation of a point of order.
- 2) No member shall be allowed to speak more than once on any subject, no longer than five minutes, except with the consent of the meeting. Any member who has spoken on a motion

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shall not be in order in speaking on any amendment except the mover of the motion, who shall be called on by the Chairperson to reply after the debate has closed, and no member shall speak afterwards on the same subjects.

- 3) Not more than two members shall speak in succession, either for or against any motion or amendment, and if, at the conclusion of the second speaker's remarks, no member rises to speak on the other side, the question shall be put to the meeting after the mover has replied.
- 4) The time for discussing any matter shall not exceed twenty (20) minutes, unless an extension of time has been agreed, upon by a two-thirds majority of the members present, and the time for such extensions must be stated.
- 5) On any member rising to a point of order during the debate, the speaker shall resume his/her seat, and the person so rising shall state his/her point concisely, when the Chairperson shall rule thereon, the Chairperson's ruling being final, unless challenged by a formal motion submitted to the meeting.
- 6) Should any member disagree with the ruling of the Chair, he/she will at once challenge the same, and on this action being taken, the Chairperson shall vacate the Chair, and the question put to the meeting without discussion; it shall require a two-thirds majority to have the rulings disagreed with.
- 7) The Chairperson may speak for or against any motion or amendment. In the event of the votes on any subject being equal, he/she shall have a casting vote only, but not otherwise. The Chairperson shall decide on all points of order.
- 8) All notices of motion shall be in writing, and shall take precedence of all other new business.
- 9) On the adoption of any amendment, such amendment shall become the motion.
- 10) No motion or amendment shall be entertained or discussed until it has been seconded, and one amendment only shall be before the meeting at one time. Should a member desire to move a further amendment he/she shall give notice of and indicate it before the vote is taken on the original motion.
- 11) A motion or amendment becomes the property of the meeting and can only be withdrawn by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.
- 12) Minutes shall be rescinded by a two-thirds majority of the members present. Minutes of a special meeting shall only be rescinded by a special meeting, of which members have been duly notified. Decision/s arrived at by a ballot shall only be rescinded by ballot.
  - a) In the event of a motion to rescind a rule or a minute being defeated the said rule or minute will remain effective for at least twelve (12) calendar months.
  - b) A minute shall remain effective until its purpose has been fulfilled or for longer than twelve (12) calendar months.
- 13) The standing orders may be suspended in the following manner only:

By two-thirds of the members present at any meeting being in favour of said suspension, and the time of such suspension must be stated.

***CODE OF PRACTICE***

31. There shall be a MWPF Inc. Code of Practice and each member of the Association shall comply with the Code of Practice. Infringements of the Code of Practice shall be dealt with by the Management Committee, for adjudication as required.

**32. Racing Rules**

There shall be a MWPF Inc set of racing rules which will outline procedures and practices to used as Association guidelines for each electorate.