

# Constitution of the Rooty Hill Chess Club

## 1. NAME

The Rooty Hill Chess Club

## 2. OBJECTIVES

- I. To encourage, promote, maintain the playing of Chess in Western Sydney
  - a. encouraging the teaching and playing of chess,
  - b. promoting and conducting chess matches, competitions, and tournaments,
  - c. awarding prizes, titles, and awards,
  - d. affiliating with the New South Wales Chess Association and, as is necessary, affiliating or co-operating with other chess, sporting, or social organizations, whether inside or outside New South Wales,
- II. The Rooty Hill Chess Club shall not be carried on for the purpose of profit or gain for its individual members. The Rooty Hill Chess Club is prohibited from making any distribution, whether in money, property or otherwise to its members. Nothing hereinbefore contained shall be interpreted to prohibit normal business transactions entered into by the Rooty Hill Chess Club with individual members, provided such members declare their interest and take no part in any decision of the Rooty Hill Chess Club to enter into such transactions.

## 3. MEMBERSHIP

- I. **Members:** Any person may become a member by payment of a fee as determined by the preceding Annual General Meeting and by providing the details required on the prescribed application form. A member shall cease to be a member if his/her membership fee is more than one month in arrears. The Council of the Rooty Hill Chess Club shall have the right to refuse the application of any person who has been suspended, expelled, or misbehaved at any tournament and has been reported by the Arbiter.
- II. **Life Members:** No more than two (2) Life Members may be elected, on the recommendation of the Council, by a two-thirds (2/3) majority at an Annual General Meeting. Life Members are not required to pay any membership fee
- III. **Members Liabilities:** The members of the Rooty Hill Chess Club shall have no liability to contribute towards the payment of debts and liabilities of the Rooty Hill Chess Club or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Rooty Hill Chess Club except to the amount of any unpaid membership fees.

## 4. MANAGEMENT

- I. The business and affairs of the Rooty Hill Chess Club and the custody and control of its funds shall be managed by the Council; shall be elected annually by the general body of members.
- II. The Council shall consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster, Assistant Webmaster and Equipment Officers.
- III. An Executive Committee comprising the President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall carry out the routine business of the Rooty Hill Chess Club between meetings of the Council and shall be responsible to the full Council.
- IV. A quorum for a Council meeting shall be Five (5).
- V. The Council shall have the power to make and rescind By-laws of the Rooty Hill Chess Club. Such By-laws are subject to ratification by the next Annual General Meeting.
- VI. Any casual vacancy in the membership of Council shall be filled by Council appointment.
- VII. Each member of the Council shall, subject to this Constitution, hold office until the Annual General Meeting following the date of the membership election or appointment, but is eligible for re-election.

## 5. GENERAL MEETINGS

- I. **The Annual General Meeting** shall be held as soon as practicable after the end of June each year, at such time and place as may be prescribed by the Council. At least fourteen (14) days written notice of all meetings shall be given to each member of the Rooty Hill Chess Club entitled to attend such meetings and vote.
- II. **Extraordinary General Meeting:** All General Meetings other than the Annual General Meeting shall be called Extraordinary General Meetings, and may be called by the Council on giving not less than fourteen (14) days written notice to each member entitled to attend such meetings and vote. An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be held by the Council on the requisition of twenty (20) members. On receipt of such requisition, the meeting must be held within twenty-eight (28) days. At least fourteen (14) days written notice of such meeting shall be given to each member entitled to attend and vote.
- III. **Quorum:** At an Annual General Meeting or an Extraordinary General Meeting, 6 members or Ten (10) per cent of the membership shall form a quorum, whichever is the less.
- IV. **Business:** The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be as follows:
  - a. to confirm the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting,
  - b. to receive and consider the reports of the Council,

- c. to receive and consider the Statement of Affairs and Statement of Receipts and Expenditure,
  - d. to ratify any By-laws made by Council since the last Annual General Meeting,
  - e. to elect the Council for the ensuing year,
  - f. to determine the annual membership fees,
  - g. to deal with any business of which due notice has been given. (All business to be dealt with at the Annual General Meeting shall be handed to the Secretary at least twenty-eight (28) days prior to the date of such meeting.)
- V. **Voting:** Upon any question arising at a General meeting of the Rooty Hill Chess Club a member has one vote only unless determined in the By-laws as having no vote. All votes shall be given personally or by proxy.
- VI. **Proxy Voting:** Each member is entitled to appoint another member as proxy by giving notice to the Secretary no later than twenty four (24) hours before the time of a meeting at which the member is entitled to vote. The notice appointing the proxy shall be on the approved form, fully completed and signed. No member may hold more than five (5) proxies. Members holding proxies must personally attend the meeting to cast them. Proxy votes may only be cast in respect of motions which have been properly placed on the notice paper of the meeting.

## 6. FINANCE

- I. The funds of the Rooty Hill Chess Club shall be derived from the fees of members, donations, grants, and such other sources approved by the Rooty Hill Chess Club.
  - II. The Treasurer has the right to receive all monies paid to the Rooty Hill Chess Club and such monies shall be paid into an account in a bank in the name of the Rooty Hill Chess Club.
  - III. No payment shall be made without the consent of the Executive Committee. Cheques shall be signed by any two members of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall keep correct account and books showing the financial affairs of the Rooty Hill Chess Club and the particulars usually shown in books of account of a like nature and showing in particular the following:
    - a. all sums of money received and expended by the Council and the matters in respect of which the receipt and expenditure took place.
    - b. all sales and purchase of equipment, and
    - c. the assets and liabilities of the Rooty Hill Chess Club.
- IV. The Treasurer shall prepare, and present to the Annual General Meeting a Statement of Affairs and Income and Expenditure Statement.

## **7. ALTERATION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

The Constitution shall not be altered, repealed in part or whole, or added to, except by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes cast at an Annual General Meeting of members, providing that the notice of proposed alteration, repeal, or addition shall have been given in the notice of the meeting. By-laws can be altered by the Executive by a simple majority. However, Clause 2, Clause 7 or Clause 8 of the Constitution shall not be altered except by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of votes cast at a General Meeting of members.

## **8. DISSOLUTION**

- I. The Rooty Hill Chess Club can only be dissolved by a three-quarters (3/4) majority of votes cast at an Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting providing notice of Dissolution Motion and reasons shall have been given in the notice of the General Meeting
- II. In the case of a Dissolution Motion passing, the remaining funds of the club shall be allocated to the parent club the Rooty Hill Chess Club is based in.

## **11. GENERAL**

- I. Except as otherwise provided by this Constitution, the Secretary shall keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all records, books, and other documents relating to the affairs of the Rooty Hill Chess Club.
- II. The records, books, and other documents of the Rooty Hill Chess Club shall be open for inspection, free of charge, to any member of the Rooty Hill Chess Club at any reasonable hour.
- III. The decision of the Council on the construction or interpretation of this Constitution and By-laws or on any matter arising there from shall be conclusive and binding on all members of the Rooty Hill Chess Club unless and until varied or reversed at a General Meeting.