



Australian Koi Association Inc

CONSTITUTION and RULES



Australian Koi Association Inc

Bankstown NSW Chapter and
Mid Northern NSW Region

CONSTITUTION and RULES
April 1987

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PART I

PRELIMINARY

Interpretation

1)

- a) In these rules, except in so far as the context or subject-matter otherwise indicates or requires:
- i) **“ordinary member” means a member of the committee who is not an office-bearer of the association, as referred to in rule 13**
 - ii) **“junior member” means a member of the association who is under the age of sixteen (16) years.**
 - iii) **“secretary” means:**
 - I) the person holding office under these rules as secretary of the association; or
 - II) where no such person holds that office, the public officer of the association;
 - iv) **“special general meeting” means a general meeting of the association other than annual general meeting;**
 - v) **“the Act” means the Associations Incorporation Act, 1984;**
 - vi) **“the Regulation” means the Associations Incorporation Regulation, 1985.**

2)

a) In these rules:

- i) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority and duty; and
- ii) reference to the exercise of a function includes, where the function is a duty, a reference to the performance of the duty.

3)

a) The provisions of the **Interpretation Act, 1987**, apply to and in respect of these rules in the same manner as those provisions would so apply if these rules were an instrument made under the Act.

PART II

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Qualifications

- 4)
- a) A person is qualified to be a member of the association if, but only if:
 - i) the person is a person referred to in section 15 (1) (a), (b) or (c) of the Act and has not ceased to be a member of the association under the Act; or
 - ii) the person is a natural person who:
 - l) has been approved for membership of the association by the committee of the association.

Cessation of Membership

- 5)
- a) A person ceases to be a member of the association if the person:
 - i) dies;
 - ii) resigns that membership;
 - iii) is expelled from the association; or
 - iv) fails to pay annual subscriptions
 - b) Members leaving the Association for any reason shall not have any claim upon or partake of any funds or assets of the Association.

Membership Entitlements Not Transferable

6)

- a) A right, privilege of obligation which a person has by reason of being a member of the association:
 - i) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person; and
 - ii) **terminates upon cessation of the person's membership.**

Register of Members

7)

- a) The public officer of the association shall establish and maintain a register of members of the association specifying the name and address of each person who is a member of the association together with the date on which the person became a member.
- b) A register of members shall be kept at the principal place of administration of the association and shall be open for inspection, free of charge, by any member of the association at any reasonable hour.

Fees, Subscriptions, etc.

8)

A member of the association shall pay to the association a joining fee of \$10 and an annual membership fee calculated in the following way:

Ordinary Members (including Member's family)	\$30.00
Pensioners (including Member's family)	\$20.00
Juniors (under 16)	\$15.00

or, where some other amount is determined by the committee, of that other amount:

- a) except as provided by paragraph (b), before 1st July in each calendar year; or
- b) where the member becomes a member on or after 1st July in any calendar year, upon becoming a member and before 1st July in each succeeding calendar year.
- c) for members joining after the first of July, annual fees shall be on a proportional scale as set by the committee.
- d) **a specific amount from each member's fee shall be set aside as a subscription to the publication of "The A.K.A. Reporter".**

Members' Liabilities

9)

The liability of a member of the association to contribute towards the payments 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 rule 8.

Disciplining of Members

10)

- a) Where the committee is of the opinion that a member of the association=
- i) has persistently refused or neglected to comply with a provision or provisions of these rules; or
 - ii) has persistently and wilfully acted in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the association,

the committee may, by resolution:

- iii) expel the member from the association; or
 - iv) suspend the member from membership of the association for a specified period.
- b) A resolution of the committee under clause (a) is of no effect unless the committee, at a meeting held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after service on the member of a notice under clause (c), confirms the resolution in accordance with this rule.
- c) Where the committee passes a resolution under clause (a), the secretary shall, as soon as practicable, cause a notice in writing to be served on the member:
- i) setting out the resolution of the committee and the grounds on which it is based;
 - ii) stating that the member may address the committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after service of the notice;

- iii) stating the date, place and time of that meeting; and
- iv) informing the member that the member may do either or both of the following:
 - i) attend and speak at that meeting;
 - ii) submit to the committee at or prior to the date of that meeting written representations relating to the resolution.
- d) At a meeting of the committee held as referred to in clause (c), the committee shall:
 - i) give to the member an opportunity to make oral representations;
 - ii) give due consideration to any written representations submitted to the committee by the member at or prior to the meeting; and
 - iii) by resolution determine whether to confirm or to revoke the resolution.
- e) Where the committee confirms a resolution under clause (d), the secretary shall, within 7 days after that confirmation, by notice in writing **inform the member of the fact and of the member's right of appeal under rule 11.**
- f) A resolution confirmed by the committee under clause (d) does not take effect:
 - i) until the expiration of the period within which the member is entitled to appeal against the resolution where the member does not exercise the right of appeal within that period; or
 - ii) where within that period the member exercises the right of appeal, unless and until the association confirms the resolution pursuant to rule 11 (d).

Right of Appeal of Disciplined Member

11)

- a) A member may appeal to the association in general meeting against a resolution of the committee which is confirmed under rule 10 (d), within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served on the member, by lodging with the secretary a notice to that effect.
- b) Upon receipt of a notice from a member under clause (a), the secretary shall notify the committee which shall convene a general meeting of the association to be held within one calendar month after the date on which the secretary received the notice.
- c) At a general meeting of the association convened under clause (b):
 - i) the committee and the member shall be given the opportunity to state their respective cases orally or in writing, or both; and
 - ii) the members present shall vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- d) If at the general meeting the association passes a special resolution in favour of the confirmation of the resolution, the resolution is confirmed.

PART III

THE COMMITTEE

Powers, etc. of Committee

12)

- a) The committee shall be called the committee of management of the association and, subject to the Act, the Regulation and these rules and to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting=
 - i) shall control and manage the affairs of the association;
 - ii) may exercise all such functions as may be exercised by the association other than those functions that are required by these rules to be exercised by a general meeting of members of the association; and
 - iii) 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.

Constitution and Membership

13)

- a) Subject in the case of the first members of the committee to section 21 of the Act, the committee shall consist of:
 - i) the office-bearers of the association; and
 - ii) 3 ordinary members, each of whom shall be elected at the annual general meeting of the association pursuant to rule 12.

- b) The office-bearers of the association shall be:
 - i) the president
 - ii) the vice-president
 - iii) the treasurer
 - iv) the secretary

- c) Each member of the committee shall, to these rules, hold office until the conclusion of the annual general meeting following the date of the **member's election, but is eligible for re-election.**

- d) 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 shall hold office, to these rules, until the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of the appointment.

Election of Members

14)

- a) If insufficient nominations are received to fill all vacancies on the **committee, the candidates' nominations shall be deemed to be elected** and further nominations shall be received at the annual general meeting.

- b) If insufficient further nominations are received, any vacant positions remaining on the committee shall be deemed to be casual vacancies.

- c) If the number of nominations received is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, the persons nominated shall be deemed to be elected.

- d) If the number of nominations received exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, a ballot shall be held.

- e) The ballot for the election of office-bearers and ordinary members of the committee shall be conducted at the annual general meeting in such usual and proper manner as the committee may direct.
- f) A nomination of a candidate for election under this clause is not valid if that candidate has been nominated for election to and has been duly elected to another office at the same election.

Secretary

15)

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

Treasurer

16)

- a) It is the duty of the treasurer of the association to ensure that=
 - i) all money due to the association is collected and received and that all payments authorised by the association are made; and
 - ii) 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.

Casual Vacancies

17)

- a) For the purpose of these rules, a casual vacancy in the office of a member of the committee occurs if the member:
 - i) dies;
 - ii) ceases to be a member of the association;
 - iii) becomes an insolvent under administration within the meaning of the Companies (New South Wales) Code;
 - iv) resigns office by notice in writing giving to the secretary;
 - v) is removed from office under rule 18;
 - vi) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the law relating to mental health; or
 - vii) is absent without the consent of the committee from all meetings of the committee held during a period of 6 months.

Removal of Member

18)

- a) 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.
- b) Where a member of the committee to whom a proposed resolution referred to in clause (a) 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 they 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.

Meetings and Quorum

19)

- a) The committee shall meet at least 6 times in each period of 12 months at such place and time as the committee may determine.
- b) Additional meetings of the committee may be convened by the President or by any member of the committee.
- c) Any 3 members of the committee constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the committee.
- d) No business shall 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 stands adjourned to the same place and at the same hour of the same day in the following week.
- e) If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.
- f) At a meeting of the committee:
 - i) **the president or, in the president's absence, the vice-president** shall preside; or
 - ii) 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 shall preside.

Delegation by Committee to Sub-Committee

20)

- a) The Committee may, 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:
 - i) this power of delegation; and
 - ii) a function which is a duty imposed on the committee by the Act or by any other law.
- b) A function the exercise of which has been delegated to a sub-committee under this rule may, while the delegation remains unrevoked, be exercised from time to time by the sub-committee.
- c) Notwithstanding any delegation under this rule, the committee may continue to exercise any function delegated.
- d) Any act or thing done or suffered by a sub-committee acting in the exercise of a delegation under this rule has the same force and effect as it would have if it had been done or suffered by the Committee.
- e) The committee may, revoke wholly or in part any delegation under this rule.
- f) A sub-committee may meet and adjourn as it thinks proper.

Voting and Decisions

21)

- a) Questions arising at a meeting of the committee or of any sub-committee appointed by the committee shall be determined by a majority of the votes of members of the committee or sub-committee present at the meeting.
- b) 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.
- c) Subject to rule 19 (e), the committee may act notwithstanding any vacancy on the committee.
- d) 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 notwithstanding any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the appointment or qualification of any member of the committee or sub-committee.

PART IV

GENERAL MEETINGS

Annual General Meeting—Holding of

22)

- a) With the exception of the first annual general meeting of the association, the association shall, at least once in each calendar year and within the period of 6 months after the expiration of each financial year of the association, convene an annual general meeting of its members.
- b) The association shall hold its first annual general meeting:
 - i) within the period of 18 months after its incorporation under the Act; and
 - ii) within the period of 2 months after the expiration of the first financial year of the association.
- c) Clauses (a) and (b) have effect subject to any extension or permission granted by the Commission under section 26 (3) of the Act.

Annual General Meetings—Calling of and Business at

23)

- a) The annual general meeting of the association shall, subject to the Act and to rule 22, be convened on such date and at such place and time as the committee thinks fit.
- b) In addition to any other business which may be transacted at an annual general meeting, the business of an annual general meeting shall be:

- i) to confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since that meeting;
 - ii) to receive from the committee reports upon the activities of the association during the last preceding financial year;
 - iii) to elect office-bearers of the association and ordinary members of the committee; and
 - iv) to receive and consider the statement which is required to be submitted to members pursuant to section 26 (6) of the Act.
- c) An annual meeting shall be specified as such in the notice convening it.

Special General Meetings—Calling of

24)

- a) The committee may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- b) The committee shall, on the requisition in writing of not less than 5 per cent of the total number of members, convene a special general meeting of the association.
- c) A requisition of members for a meeting—general
 - i) shall state the purpose or purposes of the meeting;
 - ii) shall be signed by the members making the requisitions;
 - iii) shall be lodged with the secretary; and
 - iv) may consist of several documents in a similar form, each signed by one or more of the members making the requisition.
- d) If the committee fails to convene a special general meeting to be held within 2 months after the 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.

- e) A special general meeting convened by a member or members as referred to in clause (4) shall be convened as nearly as is practicable in the same manner as general meetings are convened by the committee.

Notice

25)

- a) Except where the nature of the Business proposed to be dealt with at a General Meeting requires a special resolution of the Association, the Secretary shall, at least 14 days before the date fixed for the holding of the General Meeting, cause to send by pre-paid post to each member at **the member's address appearing in the register of members, a Notice** specifying the place, date and time of the meeting and the nature of the Business proposed to be transacted at the meeting.
- b) Where the nature of the Business proposed to be dealt with at a General Meeting requires a special resolution of the Association, the Secretary shall, at least 21 days before the date fixed for the holding of the General Meeting, cause notice to be sent to each member in the manner provided in clause (a) specifying, in addition to the matter required under clause (a), the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution.
- c) No Business other than that specified in the Notice convening a General Meeting shall be transacted at the Meeting except, in the case of an Annual General Meeting, Business which may be transacted pursuant to rule 25 (b).
- d) A member desiring to bring any Business before a General Meeting may give notice in writing of that Business to the Secretary who shall include that Business in the next notice calling a General Meeting given after receipt of the notice from the member.

Procedure

26)

- a) No item of business shall be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members entitled under these rules to vote is present during the time the meeting is considering that item.
- b) Five members present in person (being members entitled under these rules to vote at a general meeting) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.
- c) If within half an hour after the appointed time for the commencement of a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting if convened upon the requisition of members shall be dissolved and in any other case shall stand adjourned to the same day in the following week at the time and (unless another place is specified at the time of the adjournment by the person presiding at the meeting or communicated by written notice to members given before the day to which the meeting is adjourned) at the same place.
- d) If at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour after the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the members present (being not less than 3) shall constitute a quorum.

Presiding Member

27)

- a) **The president or, in the president's absence, the vice-president**, shall preside as chairperson at each general meeting of the association.
- b) If the president and the vice-president are absent from a general meeting or unwilling to act, the members present shall elect one of their number to preside as chairperson at the meeting.

Adjournment

28)

- a) 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 shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting at which the adjournment took place.

Making of Decisions

29)

- a) A question arising at a general meeting of the association shall be determined on a show of hands and, unless before or on the declaration of the show of hands a poll is demanded, 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.
- b) At a general meeting of the association, a poll may be demanded by the chairperson or by not less than 3 members present in person or by proxy at the meeting.
- c) Where a poll is demanded at a general meeting, the poll shall be taken:
 - i) immediately in the case of a poll which relates to the election of the chairperson of the meeting or to the question of an adjournment; or
 - ii) in any other case, in such manner and at such time before the close of the meeting as the chairperson directs,

and the resolution of the poll on the matter shall be deemed to be the resolution of the meeting on that matter.

Special Resolution

30)

- a) A resolution of the association is a special resolution if:
 - i) it is passed by a majority which comprises not less than seventy-five per cent (75%) of such members of the association as, being entitled under these rules so to do, vote in person or by proxy at a general meeting of which not less than one calendar month's **written notice** specifying the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution was given in accordance with these rules; or
 - ii) where it is made to appear to the Commission that it is not possible or practicable for the resolution to be passed in the manner specified in paragraph (a), the resolution is passed in a manner specified by the Commission.

Voting

31)

- a) Upon any question arising at a general meeting of the Association a member has one vote only.
- b) All votes shall be given personally or by proxy but no member may hold more than 5 proxies.
- c) 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 casting vote.
- d) A member or proxy is not entitled to vote at any general meeting of the association unless all money due and payable by the member or proxy to the association has been paid, other than the amount of the annual subscription payable in respect of the then current year.

Appointment of Proxies

32)

- a) Each member shall be entitled to appoint another member as proxy by notice given to the secretary no later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting in respect of which the proxy is appointed.
- b) The notice appointing the proxy shall be in the form set out in Appendix 1 to these rules.

PART V

MISCELLANEOUS

Insurance

33)

- a) The association shall effect and maintain insurance pursuant to section 44 of the Act.
- b) In addition to the insurance required under clause (a), the association may effect and maintain other insurance.

Funds—Source

34)

- a) The funds of the association shall be derived from entrance fees and annual subscription of members, donations and, subject to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting, such other sources as the committee determines.
- b) All money received by the association shall be deposited as soon as **practicable and without deduction to the credit of the association's bank** account.
- c) The association shall, as soon as practicable after receiving any money, issue an appropriate receipt.

Funds—Management

35)

- a) Subject to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting, the funds of the association shall be used in pursuance of the objects of the association in such manner as the committee determines.
- b) All cheques, drafts, bills or exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments shall 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.

Alteration of Objects and Rules

36)

- a) The statement of objects and these rules may be altered, rescinded or added to only by a special resolution of the association.

Common Seal

37)

- a) The common seal of the association shall be kept in the custody of the public officer.
- b) The common seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the committee and the affixing of the common seal shall be attested by the signatures either of 2 members of the committee or of 1 member of the committee and of the public officer or secretary.

Custody of Books, etc.

38)

- a) Except as otherwise provided by these rules, the public officer shall keep in his or her custody or under his or her control all records, books and other documents relating to the association.

Inspection of Books, etc.

39)

- a) The records, books and other documents of the association shall be open to inspection, free of charge, by a member of the association at any reasonable hour.

Service of Notices

40)

- a) For the purpose of these rules, a notice may be served by or on behalf of the association upon any member personally or by sending by post to **the member at the member's address** in the register of members.
- b) Where a document is sent to a person by properly addressing, prepaying and posting to the person a letter containing the document, the document shall, unless the contrary is proved, be deemed for the purposes of these rules to have been served on the person at the time at which the letter would have been delivered in the ordinary course of post.

Surplus Property

41)

- a) If upon the 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 or distributed amongst the members of the Association but shall be given or transferred to some institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Association and shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Association by virtue of this clause or to one or more charitable institutions such institution or institutions to be determined by the members at or before the time of dissolution and in default thereof by any judge of the Supreme Court as may have acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

- b) The incorporated association so nominated shall be one which fulfils the requirements specified in section 53 (2) (a) - (c) of the Act.

Not-for-profit Organisation

42)

The Association shall be a non-profit making organisation.

APPENDIX

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I, (full name) _____

of (address) _____

being a member of the Australian Koi Association Inc. hereby appoint

(full name of proxy) _____

of (address) _____

being a member of that incorporated association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the general meeting of the association (annual general meeting or special general meeting, as the case may be) to be held on the _____ day of _____ 20_____ and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of / against (delete as appropriate) the resolution (insert details if desired).

Signature of member appointing proxy _____

Date _____

NOTE: A proxy vote may not be given to a person who is not a member of the association.