

CONSTITUTION

100 These Rules to be read in conjunction with MMPL Standing Orders and By-Laws.

NAME

101 The name of this body shall be the “**MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN POOL LEAGUE INC. (formerly the Hawthorn District Pool League)**” or “**MMPL Inc.**” being Register Number **A0040488N** and it shall hereinafter be referred to as the MMPL.

OBJECTIVES

102 The objectives of the MMPL shall be:

- (a) To promote interest in Eight-Ball,
- (b) To promote the playing of and good fellowship among those interested in Eight Ball, in the inner suburbs of Melbourne, as directed by the Executive,
- (c) To educate, train, coach and encourage players and members of the MMPL in the advancement of eight-ball in general,
- (d) To co-ordinate with other bodies for the advancement of Eight-Ball, as directed by the Executive,
- (e) With Executive approval, to affiliate with Pool Victoria Incorporated and with any other Body, Organisation or Association having a range of aims and objectives similar to the MMPL and to do all such other things as are conducive or incidental, to the attainment of the above objectives or any of them.
- (f) To make an annual award of trophies to the best Teams and Players of each division of the winter competition at a presentation night organised and subsidised by the MMPL from annual income.

103 The MMPL is a non-profit sporting association:

- (a) The sources of funds of the MMPL shall be derived from Team Registration Fees and Player Registration Fees being prescribed fees, donations and such other sources as the Executive determine.
- (b) The assets and income of the association shall be applied solely in furtherance of the above-mentioned objectives and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the MMPL except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the League.
- (c) In the event of the MMPL being dissolved, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to any association with similar purposes which is not carried on for profit or gain of its individual members.

CLUB REGISTRATION

- 104 All Clubs, upon being accepted by the Executive, will pay to the MMPL a Team Registration and a Bond, the amount being set by the Executive. The Bond will be held in trust and refunded to each Club, if desired, at the end of each year, providing said Club has not resigned or has been expelled by the Executive, in which case, such monies shall be forfeited. Refer to the Schedule of Fees, Fines and Penalties.
- (a) The Executive may expel from the MMPL or otherwise punish or penalise any Club whose conduct, in the opinion of the Executive, is discreditable or injurious to the character or interests of the MMPL.
 - (b) Club Captains, whether playing at home or away, shall be responsible for the conduct of any players or supporter associated with that Club, and shall be subject to Rule 104 (a).

MMPL MEMBERSHIP

105 A person is eligible for membership of the MMPL providing:

- (a) He/she is a Club Member.
- (b) He/she is registered with the MMPL and has paid the appropriate Registration Fee as set by the Executive Committee. Refer to the Schedule of Fees, Fines and Penalties.

106 Membership shall be open to all persons subscribing to the objectives of the MMPL and paying the prescribed fee. There shall be no entrance fees. No restrictions shall be imposed on any person by virtue of religious or political beliefs, sex, nationality or race, but the Executive Committee shall have the right to refuse membership to any person without assigning any reason therefore.

107 Only person's 18 years of age or over shall be eligible for membership to the MMPL, unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

108 All members, upon admission, shall be bound by the Constitution, Standing Orders, By-Laws and Playing Rules of the MMPL. Summer Competition players are Associate Members and are not eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting or eligible for POOL VICTORIA affiliation.

REGISTER OF MEMBERS

109 Members must register each year by completing a Members Registration and paying the appropriate fee. The number of members shall be unlimited.

- (a) All Registration_Forms must be complete with all correct details including the Member and a Club Officials signature. In signing the Registration Form members agree to abide by the MMPL Constitution, Standing Orders and By-Laws
 - (b) It is the Clubs responsibility to ensure that Registration Fees are paid and that Registration Forms are forwarded to the MMPL Executive for recording.
 - (c) If Registration Forms and fees are not paid and forwarded on time, the player(s) concerned are considered unregistered.
- 110 The Executive shall consider such application for registration and shall be at Liberty, in its full and unfettered discretion to accept or refuse, without giving any reason.

DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS

- 111 Subject to the Constitution, Standing Orders and By-Laws, if the Executive is of the opinion that a member has refused or neglected to comply with the Constitution, Standing Orders and/or the By-Laws or has been found guilty of conduct unbecoming a member or prejudicial to the interests of the MMPL, the Executive may by resolution:
- (a) Fine that member an amount not exceeding that set in the Schedule of Fees, Fines and Penalties; and/or
 - (b) Suspend that member from the MMPL for a specified period; and/or
 - (c) Expel that member from the MMPL.

CLEARANCES

- 112 Clearance Form and new Registration Card/Form, together with the clearance fee, must be forwarded to the Executive for approval, prior to the player participating.
- 113 If a clearance has not been obtained:
- (a) The Club has played an unregistered player and will be penalised as per Rule 310 of the MMPL By-Laws.
 - (b) If a member falsifies his need for a clearance and participates, then that member will be disqualified for a minimum of twelve (12) calendar months and the Club concerned will be penalised as per Rule 310 of the MMPL By-Laws.
 - (c) If a clearance is denied or unobtainable (i.e. Club disbanded) to the player by his current Club, the player MUST either by telephone or letter, contact the Executive and the case will then rest with the Executive Committee.
- 114 No member will be granted more than one (1) clearance per season with the MMPL. Clearances will NOT be granted to persons who:

- (a) Are under suspension or owe any monies to their own Club or an associated Body.
- (b) Are undesirable to the MMPL Executive.

MMPL SEAL

115 The common seal must not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the Executive and the affixing of the common seal must be attested by the signatures either of two members of the Executive or of one member of the Executive and of the Public Officer of the MMPL.



UNAUTHORISED USE OF NAME

116 Individual members, other than the Executive, regardless of their status within the MMPL, must not make negotiations involving the MMPL, without prior approval of the Executive.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

117 The Annual General Meeting of the members shall be held no later than the 31 December in each calendar year and shall be at a time, date and venue nominated by the Executive.

118 Any member, the quorum being five (5) financial members, may attend the Annual General Meeting.

- (a) That member has the right to nominate, second or vote on put motions and to cast a vote toward the election of office bearers for the forthcoming year, provided that he/she is not currently under suspension, disqualified or non-financial.
- (b) Members shall not be eligible to vote by proxy at the Annual General Meeting.

119 The meeting shall be provided with the Treasurer's Annual Report and financial statements. Audited financial statements shall be provided within 30 days of a motion requesting such is carried at the Annual General Meeting or Special/Extraordinary Meeting.

120 The election of Officers and Committee members for the ensuing twelve (12) months shall take place at the Annual General Meeting, together with any other business mentioned in the notice convening the meeting.

121 The Annual General Meeting may make and/or alter Constitutional laws and Standing Orders as necessary for the proper administration of the MMPL.

OTHER MEETINGS

122 No minutes shall be read at Special, Extraordinary or Emergency Meetings and no business other than that for which the meeting has been called shall be discussed.

123 All meetings shall adopt the general procedures for running a meeting as set out in the Constitution and the Standing Orders.

ALTERATION TO CONSTITUTION AND PURPOSES

124 This Constitution and purposes of the MMPL shall not be added to, altered, repealed or rescinded except by special resolution at the Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting convened for that purpose.

125 No motion for an alteration or addition shall be submitted to a vote for the MMPL, unless notice thereof, together with the proposed alteration or addition in writing, signed by the proposer and seconder has been handed to the MMPL Secretary at least twenty one (21) days prior to the Annual General Meeting or the Special Meeting at which the alteration or addition is proposed to be made.

(a) Each motion must be complete in itself and motions must not be ambiguous or contradictory.

(b) Notice of intention to propose additions to, repeal, or amend Constitutional laws must be included in the written notice of the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting not later than twenty one (21) days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting and included in the agenda for such meeting.

126 Any proposed alteration, addition or amendment shall be carried by at least a three-quarters majority of those present at the meeting and entitled to vote.

GENERAL MEETINGS

127 General Meetings including Delegates Meetings will be held at least four (4) times annually or as otherwise directed by the Executive, and as specified in the agenda, shall be at a time, date and venue nominated by the Executive.

(a) The convening of such General Meeting shall be by written notice, at least fourteen (14) days prior to such meeting or if a special resolution has been proposed, at least 21 days. Notification of said meeting is to be placed in a prominent position on Club notice boards, for the information of all registered members.

DELEGATES MEETINGS

- 128 The quorum for any meeting of the Executive shall be three (3) members of the Executive Committee. The Committee of a Delegates Meeting shall consist of the Executive and one (1) member from each Club.
- 129 All meetings will commence at the time notified by the Executive, a roll call of attendant Clubs shall be taken and apologies noted. A quorum of at least thirty percent (30%) of all Clubs must be present at a Delegates Meeting.
- (a) Club Delegates, by two-thirds (2/3rds) majority can direct the Executive to hold a Delegates Meeting on a date specified.
- 130 Each Club will have two (2) representatives of which, only one (1) need attend MMPL meetings. One is to be the Club Delegate, the other will be known as the Proxy Delegate. If the Delegate is unable to attend, then the Proxy must attend, on which occasion or until necessary, he/she will be known as the Delegate for that Club.
- (a) If the Proxy does attend a meeting, he/she shall be the silent assistant to his/her Delegate, unless otherwise directed through the Chair.
- (b) In the absence of the Delegate or the Proxy, due to resignation or other, a replacement must be nominated by the Club and attend as required.
- 131 The Delegate or Proxy cannot be a member of the Executive Committee.
- 132 Only the Executive and the Delegates have the power to make motions and statements and to vote on any matter/issue.
- 133 Any member of the MMPL may attend any Delegates Meeting but may only listen to the operations and procedures of the meeting unless otherwise directed through the Chair. The member may be asked to leave the meeting, at any time, by the Chair.
- 134 Financial statements must be presented by the Treasurer at all Delegates meetings.
- 135 The meeting will conclude with general business, where each Delegate will have the opportunity to raise matters relating to their Clubs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 136 The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Statistician, and the Treasurer, who must be financial members.
- 137 The Executive Committee has the power to:
- (a) Manage the affairs of the MMPL,
- (b) Make By-Laws for the management of their own proceedings and management of the MMPL but be consistent with the Constitution,

- (c) Interpret and implement the Constitution, Standing Orders and By-Laws in the best interests of the MMPL rules,
- (d) Impose fines and/or reprimand, suspend or disqualify any Club and/or members of the MMPL,
- (e) Employ or engage such servants or agents as it thinks fit and may determine their remuneration,
- (f) Confirm minutes of the Annual General Meeting or Special Meetings as may occur,
- (g) Arrange the grading of teams and/or players,
- (h) Arrange matters in connection with tournaments,
- (i) To fix it's own meeting dates. Additional meetings shall be called by the President, Vice-President or Secretary when they consider it necessary.

ELECTIONS

138 Nominations for all vacant positions of the Executive Committee shall be called for at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations shall be submitted and seconded in the usual manner and the vote taken individually by the show of hands, written ballot or such method as the Chairman deems fit.

139 To be eligible to hold a position, vote or nominate at the Annual General Meeting a person must either:

- (a) Have been a financial member (registered) in the current season,
- (b) Have held an Executive or Committee position in that year, or
- (c) Be a Life Member of the MMPL.

140 Officers of the MMPL shall hold office for twelve (12) months and be eligible for re-election. Any officer may nominate for a position on the Executive other than the position he/she holds.

- (a) Upon such nomination being received, the Secretary shall call for nominations for the position, which the officer holds.
- (b) Such nomination shall be made at the Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting.
- (c) If the officer is unsuccessful in an election for the position other than that which he/she holds, he shall be deemed to have been nominated (unless he/she decline to do so) for the position, which he/she currently holds.
- (d) An election for the position other than that which the officer holds shall be held at the Annual General Meeting prior to an election for the position he/she currently holds.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

- 141 The President shall be the Senior Executive Officer and he will lead and co-ordinate the overall activities of the MMPL in accordance with the Constitution, Standing Orders, By-Laws and Playing Rules.
- (a) He shall be the Public Officer in accordance with the Association Incorporation Act 1981, and keep the Common Seal.
- 142 He/she shall represent the MMPL at all public functions and sign all public statements, issued in the name of the MMPL.
- 143 He/she shall preside at all MMPL functions and be responsible for seeing that:
- (a) Meetings are correctly convened,
- (b) The business of the meeting(s) is conducted according to the agenda and in an orderly fashion,
- (c) Minutes are read and confirmed,
- (d) Motions and amendments are clearly stated,
- (e) All points of view are given a fair and proper hearing.

VICE PRESIDENT

- 144 Is a Senior Executive Officer. He/she shall act as Chairman in all absences of the President and at such times, exercise the powers of the President. Act as President at any meeting, if for any reason the President has to vacate the Chair.

SECRETARY

- 145 Is an Executive Officer, shall be responsible for all official correspondence, and his/her duties shall include:
- (a) Summoning of meetings and advising each Club of the dates and venues of all MMPL meetings,
- (b) Preparation of the agenda,
- (c) Recording and safekeeping of the minutes of all MMPL meetings,
- (d) Responsible for the Register of Clubs and Members and of suspended or expelled Members/Clubs, and
- (e) Responsible for the review and update of the By-Laws on behalf of the Executive annually.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

- 146 Is an Executive Officer. His/her duties are to assist the Secretary as required or directed and shall act as Secretary in all absences of the Secretary.

TREASURER

147 Is an Executive Officer and shall receive all monies payable to the MMPL and give receipts (if required) for same.

- (a) All monies so received shall be paid into the bank account of the MMPL, at least once a week.
- (b) The Treasurer shall present at each Committee Meeting the financial statements of the MMPL and shall keep proper books of accounts of all monies received and disbursed.
- (c) Responsible for the maintenance and safekeeping of all accounting records, securities and investments.
- (d) Present to the Annual General Meeting the Treasurer's Annual Report and financial statements.

148 No monies shall be drawn from the MMPL Bank Account except by the designated two (2) signatories. No cheque shall be signed or money withdrawn unless such withdrawal has been approved by the Executive, or in the case of urgency, by the President, Secretary or Treasurer.

STATISTICIAN

149 Can be an Executive Officer or a person appointed by the Executive as per 138 (e), and his/her duties shall include:

- (a) Maintenance of the Register of Clubs and Members as per Rule 109, including Club/Member suspensions and expulsions,
- (b) The accurate recording and filing of copies of playing results in relation to the MMPL winter and summer competitions including fees outstanding and penalties,
- (c) Be responsible for the official playing statistics and progressive games tally, including the production of statistics as required by the Executive,
- (d) Production of the annual playing fixture, and as required, a printed copy to be supplied to all Clubs,
- (e) Issue at completion of matches the 'Ladder' to each Club, and
- (f) Be responsible for the annual trophy winners of the MMPL as determined by the said formula.

DELEGATES

150 Each Club must elect a responsible Delegate and a Proxy who will form part of the MMPL Committee.

151 Their main duties shall be:

- (a) To receive and distribute notices from the MMPL to the Members of their Clubs, and
- (b) To attend MMPL meetings as required. Clubs not represented by a Delegate will miss vital information relating to the fixtures, the playing rules, the ladder, fees and fines/penalties, finals qualifications, fixtures and

venues, presentation night details, notice of Special Meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

152 The MMPL is not responsible for information that is not passed on to Clubs and/or members after advice has been relayed to Delegates.

LIFE MEMBERS

153 Any registered member of the MMPL may nominate, in writing, for the consideration of the Executive Committee, any person who has rendered outstanding service and is deemed a fit and proper person to be granted Life Membership of the MMPL.

- (a) The recommendation of Life Membership shall be based upon the services rendered to the MMPL by the member nominated.
- (b) A Special Meeting to discuss Life Membership will be convened, at which the Executive will decide if a Life Membership is to be awarded. No more than two (2) Life Memberships can be awarded in any one year.
- (c) Life Members will be presented with a badge and plaque.
- (d) A Life Member will pay no annual registration fee but must complete a registration card/form annually.
- (e) A Life Member may attend any Executive Meeting or Delegates Meeting but does not have any Executive voting power in relation to the decisions made in relation to the affairs of the MMPL.

CASUAL VACANCIES

154 Casual vacancies shall occur on the Executive Committee when an officer ceases to be a registered member of the MMPL, resigns from Office by notice in writing, has been removed from Office by resolution at a Special or Extraordinary Meeting of members or becomes an insolvent under administration within the meaning of the Corporations Law.

- (a) The Executive shall decide whether such casual vacancy shall remain vacant until the next Annual General Meeting, or whether an election shall be called to fill the vacancy at a Special or Extraordinary Meeting.

BETTING

155 Betting on games held by the MMPL, in competition, will not be condoned.

DEBTS

156 Debts, either individual or Club, owed to the MMPL, shall be recovered as the Executive Committee deems fit.

- (a) Subject to the discretion of the Executive, if a Club and/or a Member owes any monies to the MMPL at the end of the year, then that Club/Member is not eligible to register the following year, until such time as all such monies are paid or some arrangement entered into with the Executive. In other words, they are suspended.

INSPECTION OF RECORDS

157 All accounts, books, minutes of meetings and other relevant documents of the MMPL shall be available for inspection by registered members on written request.

WINDING UP

158 In the event of the winding up or cancellation of the incorporation of Association of the MMPL, all assets must be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

Rule 159 to 199 held for future use.