

Constitution of the Mountains Fencing Club of New South Wales

1. Name

1.1 The Name of this body shall be the Mountains Fencing Club of NSW and it shall hereafter be referred to as the "Club"

2. Objects

2.1 To promote interest in fencing.

2.2 To promote good fellowship among those interested in fencing.

2.3 To educate, train, coach and encourage members of the Club.

2.4 To do all such things and acts conducive to the furtherance of the objects and interests of the Club.

3. Membership

3.1 Any person who is interested in fencing shall be eligible for membership.

3.2 The annual membership fee shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting each year.

3.3 Persons under the age of eighteen years may not be signatories on any club accounts.

3.4 A properly constituted Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting may appoint any person as "Honorary Life Member" of the club in recognition of services rendered in promoting the interests and objects of the Club.

3.5 Any member may resign from the club and such resignation must be in writing and forwarded to the Secretary of the Club.

3.6 Upon any person ceasing to be a member of the Club for any reason whatsoever he/she shall not be entitled to the return of his membership subscription or any part thereof.

3.7 (a) The Committee may expel from the Club or otherwise punish or penalise any member whose conduct, in the opinion of the Committee is discreditable or injurious to the character or interests of the Club.
(b) Before any member is expelled or otherwise punished or penalised their conduct shall be inquired into by the Committee and the member shall be given the opportunity to defend themselves and to justify or explain their conduct. Provided that the quorum is established, and the majority of the Committee present when the matter is inquired into is of the opinion that the member has been guilty of such conduct or action as foresaid, then the Committee may expel or suspend them from membership or otherwise punish them.

(c) Should any member fail to appear at the inquiry conducted under clause 3.7(b) hereof or any adjournment thereof, the Committee may proceed in that member's absence to conduct the said inquiry and make its findings as herein before empowered.

4. General Meetings

- 4.1 The annual General Meeting of the members shall be held in the month of July each year, and any member shall be given notice in writing at least fourteen days before such meeting
- 4.2 The annual report and audited balance sheet or financial statement shall be submitted to members at the Annual General Meeting.
- 4.3 The annual General Meeting may make by-laws for proper administration of the Club. Any by-laws so made shall not be repealed, added to or amended unless and until:
 - (a) Notice of intention to propose such repeal, addition or amendment is first given in writing by a member of the Club Secretary of the Club not later than thirty days prior to the date of such an Annual General Meeting and include in the agenda for such a meeting.
 - (b) Such repeal, addition is proposed at such Annual General Meeting and is approved by not less than two thirds of the members of the Club present at such meeting and voting thereon.
- 4.4 The election of Officers and Committee for the ensuing twelve months shall take place at the Annual General Meeting together with any other business mentioned in the notice paper covering the meeting
- 4.5 A special meeting of members shall be called at the request of the President or Secretary or any two members of the committee, or a written request of five financial members of the Club. Such a meeting shall be held within thirty days of such a request and all members shall be notified in writing not less than ten days before such meeting.
- 4.6 The president of the Club shall be the Chairperson at all general meetings. Should he/she not be present then the Vice-President shall be elected to take the chair, if there is no Vice-President present then the members shall elect a member to take the chair.
- 4.7 At all meetings the Chairperson's decision on points of order shall be final.
- 4.8 The Chairperson shall have a casting vote in addition to his deliberative vote.
- 4.9 The quorum for a general meeting shall be five members present.
- 4.10 If at any meeting there be no quorum within thirty minutes of the time appointed for the meeting then the meeting shall lapse unless a majority of the members present decide to adjourn the meeting for a period not exceeding fourteen days. If there be no quorum within thirty minutes after the time appointed for such adjourned meeting then the meeting shall lapse altogether.
- 4.11 Only members shall be entitled to vote.

5. Committee

- 5.1 The business and affairs of the Club shall be under the management and control of the committee provided however, that except in the case

- of extreme urgency the committee shall not take any action contrary to the decisions made at the general meeting.
- 5.2 The committee may, subject to the decisions made at general meetings exercise all the powers of the Club and do all such acts and things as may be done by the Club or which it considers necessary or expedient to carry out the objects of the Club.
- 5.3 The committee shall consist of:
The President, a Senior Vice-President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Armourer (herein call the office bearers), and any such members of the Club elected at the Annual General Meeting or otherwise provided herein.
- 5.4 All members of the Committee must be financial members of the Club.
- 5.5 Should any vacancy occur in the committee or office bearers of the Club other than the normal course of elections, the Committee shall fill such vacancies from the financial members of the Club and such members duly elected shall hold office for the non-expired portion of the predecessor's term.
- 5.6 The Committee shall meet as often as be required to conduct the business of the Club. The President or the Secretary or any member of the Committee shall have the power to call a meeting of the Committee. The President of the club shall take the chair at all Committee meetings. Should the President not be present then a Vice-President shall be elected to the chair and if there be no Vice-President the Committee shall select one of its member to take the chair.
- 5.7 The Chairperson at all Committee meetings shall have a casting vote in addition to a deliberative vote.
- 5.8 (a) All notices of Committee meetings shall be in writing and sent to members of the Committee at least seven days before the date of such a meeting.
(b) The accidental omission to give any member, or the non-receipt by any member of any notice required by this Constitution shall not invalidate or affect any proceedings at such a meeting.
- 5.9 The Committee shall have the power to delegate any of its power to a subcommittee to deal with any particular matter or matters upon such terms as the Committee may see fit. The President and Secretary shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees.
- 5.10 All acts or decisions done or made by any meeting of the Committee or any member thereof shall, notwithstanding that it be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of such member or any members of the Committee, be as valid and effective as if they had all been appointed, unless it is proved that the appointment was made in fraud or bad faith.
- 5.11 The quorum for the Committee meetings shall be three members present in person.

6. Election of Committee

- 6.1 Nomination for each candidate for election as office-bearer or Committee member shall be proposed and seconded respectively by two members at the Annual General Meeting. The election shall be by

ballot of members present and voting thereon. No ballot shall be required when the number of candidates nominated for each office does not exceed the number of vacancies and they shall be declared duly elected.

7. Duties of the Committee

- 7.1 The Secretary shall carry out his/her duties under the direction of the Committee and keep a true record of all minutes of all meetings, attend to correspondences, issue notices of meetings, keep records and carry out such duties as the Committee may from time to time direct.
- 7.2 The Treasurer shall receive all moneys payable to the Club and give receipts for the same. All moneys so received shall be paid into the banking account of the club. The Treasurer shall present at each General Meeting a balance of the finances of the club and shall keep proper books of account of all moneys received and disbursed, and generally perform all such duties as are directed by the Committee from time to time.
- 7.3 The armourer shall be responsible for the maintenance of Club owned equipment and responsible for purchase of all new equipment under the direction of the committee.

8. Finances

- 8.1 The financial year shall be from 1 July to 30 June.
- 8.2 All moneys of the Club shall be paid into the account of the Club at such bank as the committee may from time to time direct.
- 8.3 No moneys shall be drawn from the Club's account save by cheque signed by the bank signatories authorised by the Committee. No cheque shall be signed or money withdrawn unless such withdrawal has been approved by the Committee, of in the case of emergence, by the President and Secretary.
- 8.4 The books and accounts of the club shall be audited annually by an auditor who is not a member of the Committee, appointed by the Committee.
- 8.5 The property assets and income of the Club, wherever derived shall be applied towards the promotion of the objects of the Club, and no portion thereof shall be paid either directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise by profit to members generally of the Club. Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer or servants of the Club or any member in return for services actually rendered, nor prevent the payment of interest on money borrowed from any member of the Club.
- 8.6 Should the Club for any reason whatsoever cease to function any member of or person holding any Club moneys or property shall forthwith pay the same to the trustees in this event, the assets remaining after any debts and liabilities have been paid shall be made over to another non-profit fencing organisation.

9. Trustees

9.1 Unless otherwise determined the members of the Committee of the Club for the time being shall be deemed to be Trustees of the Club, to hold any property real or personal belonging to the Club.

10. Amendments to Constitution

10.1 This shall be the only Constitution of the Mountains Fencing Club of NSW and shall come into force forthwith and shall not be altered, varied or repealed unless two thirds of financial members present at the Annual General Meeting or at a meeting specially convened for that purpose are in favour of such alteration, variation, addition or repeal.