

RAE Association (Vic) Inc.

Background and briefing on proposed changes to the Constitution.

Membership Categories

Background

The Constitution of the RAE Association has been in existence since the establishment of the Association in 2014. It is reviewed regularly to ensure that it meets the needs of the Association and its members.

Currently the membership categories are referred to in various locations within the Constitution which can cause confusion. To remove any chances of misunderstanding it is proposed to locate all membership categories within one area of the Constitution and rename the membership categories.

Proposed Changes to Constitution.

Division 1 – Rule 8 Who is eligible to be a member

Introduce a new Sub Rule under ***Eligibility for membership*** (Division 1 – Rule 8 (2) (a)) to clearly define an Ordinary Member by referencing “definitions” and incorporate a further new sub-Rule (Division 1 – Rule 8 (2) (b)) listing all the membership categories available.

This would also involve the transferring of the membership categories listed under Division 1 Rule – Rule 14 “Associate and Honorary members” to this new Sub Rule (Division 1 – Rule 8 (2) (b))

Division 1 Rule – Rule 14 would then be left vacant

Amalgamation of Honorary Life Membership

Current

There is the availability to award Honorary Life Membership under two (2) categories.

- a. Honorary Life Membership for an outstanding contribution to the Association and designated as “Honorary Life Membership”
- b. Honorary Life Membership for an outstanding contribution through either substantial financial contribution or donation of memorabilia can be granted Honorary Life Membership and designated “Complimentary Honorary Life Membership”

Proposed

The wording and definitions of the qualifications for Honorary Life and Complimentary Life Membership are very similar, and the proposed resolution will be to amalgamate the two (2) current Life Membership categories into one which will then be known as “Honorary Life Member”

Current.

Concessional Life Membership – Division 1 – Rule 12 (6)

This membership category is detailed under “Annual Subscriptions and fee on joining”

Proposed

That the membership category of Concessional Life Membership be transferred to the new Rule – Division 1 – Rule 8 (2) (b) “Classes of membership” and renamed “Over 65 Concessional Member”

Division 1 Rule 12 (6) to be deleted.

EXISTING RULES:

8 Who is eligible to be a member

Any person who supports the purposes of the Association is eligible for membership.

14 Associate and honorary members

- (1) Associate members of the Association include—
 - (a) any members under the age of 15 years; or
 - (b) any members who satisfy the Committee of their interest in the RAE; or
 - (c) any other category of member as determined by special resolution at a general meeting.
- (2) An associate member must not vote but may have other rights as determined by the Committee or by resolution at a general meeting.
- (3) Honorary Membership (honorary members retain full voting rights)
 - (a) a member who has made a significant contribution to the Association either by way of a substantial financial donation or memorabilia may be awarded complementary life membership with no further subscriptions payable. They will receive a letter from the Association confirming this status
 - (b) Members over the age of eighty (80) years will be granted an honorary life membership of the Association with no subscriptions payable. They will receive a letter from the Association confirming this status.
 - (c) A member who has made an outstanding contribution to the Association will be granted Honorary Life Membership together with a framed certificate.

In the cases of serials (a) and (c) a nomination outlining the facts and recommending the granting of the status is to be submitted to the committee for consideration on a case-by-case basis

Proposed new rule 8:

8 Eligibility for membership

- (1) Any person who supports the aims of the Association is eligible to apply for membership.
- (2) Classes of membership
 - a) **Ordinary Member:** any person who fits the description of “Sapper” as defined in part 1 section 4 “definitions” of this constitution.
 - b) **Over 65 Concessional Member:** members who have reached the age of 65 years (prior to the 1st January) may elect to pay a one-off subscription equal to ten times (10) the annual rate of an ordinary member as set out in Rule 12 (1) which will entitle them to a concessional life membership with no further subscriptions necessary. They will receive a letter from the Association confirming this status.

- c) **Over 80 Complimentary Member:** members over the age of 80 years will be granted a complimentary life membership, with no subscriptions payable. They will receive a letter from the Association confirming this status.
- d) **Honorary Life Member:** A member who has made a significant contribution to the Association either by way of a substantial financial donation, memorabilia or service contribution may be awarded Honorary Life Membership together with a framed certificate, and no further subscriptions payable.

Nomination for Honorary Life Membership, outlining the facts and recommending the granting of the status, is to be submitted to the Committee for consideration on a case-by-case basis.

(All of the above membership categories have full voting rights)

- e) **Associate member:** Associate members of the Association include—
 - (i) any members under the age of 15 years; or
 - (ii) any members who are not Sappers but satisfy the Committee of their interest in the RAE; or
 - (iii) any other category of member as determined by special resolution at a general meeting.

An associate member must not vote but may have other rights as determined by the Committee or by resolution at a general meeting.

Proposed rule 14: This rule has been deleted.