

## GENERAL BUSINESS –

1. CONSTITUTION - Changes to the new Constitution had been circulated in two editions of the ABPA Magazine and the ABPA Website.

Below are the suggested Amendments and Additions discussed and put forward and agreed on by the ABPA committee on the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2021 following the AGM on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021, for which the committee had invited comment and feedback from all ABPA members.

### **3 Application for membership**

- (1) An application by a person for membership of the association:
  - (a) must be made in writing (including by email or other electronic means, if the committee so determines) in the form determined by the committee, and
  - (b) must be lodged (including by electronic means, if the committee so determines) with the Membership Secretary of the association.

### **7 Register of members**

- (1) The Membership Secretary must establish and maintain a register of members of the association (whether in written or electronic form) specifying the name and postal, residential or email address of each person who is a member of the association together with the date on which the person became a member.
- (2) An electronic copy of the register of members must be kept at the association's official address

### **14. Composition and membership of committee**

- (1) The committee is to consist of:
  - (a) the office-bearers of the association, and
  - (b) at least 3 ordinary committee members,
  - (c) 1 representative from each state nominated by their state Bush Poetry Association. In the absence of a state association, the representative may be nominated at the annual general meeting or otherwise appointed by the ABPA committee

**Note.** Section 28 of the Act contains further requirements concerning eligibility for membership and composition of the committee.

- (2) The minimum number of committee members is to be 7 and not exceed 12
- (3) The office-bearers of the association are as follows:
  - (a) the president,
  - (b) the vice-president,

- (c) the treasurer/membership secretary
  - (d) the secretary.
- (4) A committee member may hold up to 2 offices (other than both the offices of president and vice-president).
- (5) There is no maximum number of consecutive terms for which a committee member may hold office.

**Note.** Schedule 1 to the Act provides that an association's constitution is to address the maximum number of consecutive terms of office of any office-bearers on the committee.

- (6) Each member of the committee is, subject to this constitution, to hold office until immediately before the election of committee members at the annual general meeting next following the date of the member's election, and is eligible for re-election.

## **25 Annual general meetings - holding of**

- (1) The association must hold its first annual general meeting within 18 months after its registration under the Act.
- (2) The association must hold its annual general meetings:
  - (a) within 6 months after the close of the association's financial year, or
- (3) (b) ANY ANNUAL General Meetings of the Association may be held at 2 or more venues using any technology approved by the committee that gives each of the committee's members a reasonable opportunity to participate.

## **47 Financial year**

The financial year of the association is:

- (a) the period of time commencing on the date of incorporation of the association and ending on the following 30 June, and
- (b) each period of 12 months after the expiration of the previous financial year of the association, commencing on 1 July and ending on the following 30 June.

each period of 12 months after the expiration of the previous financial year of association, commencing on 1 December and ending the following 30<sup>th</sup> November.