

Below are the suggested Amendments and Additions discussed and put forward by the ABPA committee, for which the committee invites comment and feedback from all ABPA members. All correspondence is to be forwarded to the President@abpa.org.au by the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

### **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) The register of members must be kept in New South Wales at the association's official address of the ABPA Public Officer

### **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 ABPA committee may nominate a representative

each of whom is to be elected at the annual general meeting of the association under clause 15.

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

- (2) The total number of committee members is to be 12.
- (3) The office-bearers of the association are as follows:
  - (a) the president,
  - (b) the vice-president,
  - (c) the treasurer,
  - (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
  - (b) within any later time that may be allowed or prescribed under section 37 (2) (b) of the Act. **General Meetings of the Association may be held to coincide with large gatherings of poets or as determined by the previous general meeting.**

## 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 on the following 30<sup>th</sup> November**

### Notes.

1. Schedule 1 to the Act provides that an association's constitution is to address the association's financial year.
2. Clause 19 of the Regulation contains a substitute clause 47 for certain associations incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1984*.