



FOOTBALL  
**ST GEORGE**

# CONSTITUTION

St George Football Association trading as  
Football St George (“Association”)

**#WEARESTGEORGE**

# CONTENTS PAGE

1	NAME OF ASSOCIATION .....	4
2	DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION .....	4
3	OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION .....	6
4	POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION .....	7
5	MEMBERS .....	8
6	AFFILIATION .....	8
7	REGISTER OF MEMBERS .....	10
8	EFFECT OF MEMBERSHIP .....	10
9	DISCONTINUANCE OF MEMBERSHIP .....	11
10	DELEGATE .....	12
11	DISCIPLINE .....	13
12	SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES .....	13
13	POWERS OF THE BOARD .....	13
14	COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD .....	13
15	ELECTED DIRECTORS .....	14
16	APPOINTED DIRECTORS .....	15
17	VACANCIES ON THE BOARD .....	16
18	MEETING OF THE BOARD .....	17
19	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR .....	19
20	DELEGATIONS .....	20
21	EXECUTION OF DOCUMENT .....	21
22	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) .....	21
23	SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS .....	21
24	NOTICE OF MEETING DELEGATES .....	21
25	BUSINESS .....	22
26	NOTICE OF MOTION .....	22
27	PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS .....	22
28	VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS .....	24
29	STRATEGIC FORUM OF ASSOCIATION .....	24
30	GRIEVANCES .....	25
31	MEDIATION .....	25
32	RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS .....	26
33	AUDITOR .....	27
34	INCOME .....	27
35	WINDING UP .....	28
36	DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY ON WINDING UP .....	29
37	ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION .....	29

<b>38</b>	<b>REGULATIONS</b> .....	<b>29</b>
<b>39</b>	<b>STATUS AND COMPLIANCE OF ASSOCIATION</b> .....	<b>30</b>
<b>40</b>	<b>ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION</b> .....	<b>30</b>
<b>41</b>	<b>STATUS AND COMPLIANCE OF CLUBS</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>42</b>	<b>NOTICE</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>43</b>	<b>PATRONS</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>44</b>	<b>INDEMNITY</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>45</b>	<b>HONORARIA</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>46</b>	<b>ASSOCIATION COLOURS</b> .....	<b>33</b>
	<b>SCHEDULE 1 – LIST OF AFFILIATED CLUBS</b> .....	<b>34</b>
	<b>SCHEDULE 2 – AFFILIATION HISTORY NOTES</b> .....	<b>35</b>
	<b>SCHEDULE 3 - LIST OF LIFE MEMBERS</b> .....	<b>36</b>
	<b>SCHEDULE 4 - CONSTITUTION REVISION HISTORY</b> .....	<b>37</b>

ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION ACT 2009 (NSW)  
CONSTITUTION  
of  
ST GEORGE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**1 NAME OF ASSOCIATION**

The name of the Association is St George Football Association Incorporated, trading as Football St George ("**Association**").

**2 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

**2.1 Definitions**

In this Constitution unless the contrary intention appears:

**Act** means the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW)*.

**Affiliate Member** means:

- (a) an individual who is a referee, coach or other official who is associated with, or recognised by, the Association but who is not an Individual Member; or
- (b) a non-sporting body who the Association allows to apply for membership and may allow to enter teams into Association competitions on such terms as it deems necessary or appropriate.

**Annual General Meeting** means the annual general meeting of the Association held in accordance with **clause 22**.

**Association** means St George Football Association Incorporated, trading as Football St George.

**Board** means the body consisting of the Directors.

**By-Laws** means any By-Laws made by the Board under **clause 37**.

**Club** means a Football club which is a Member or is otherwise affiliated with the Association.

**Constitution** means this Constitution of the Association.

**Corporations Act** means the Corporations Act 2001 of the Federal Parliament.

**Delegate** means a person, or the persons appointed from time to time to act as President, Vice President, or Secretary for and on behalf of a Club and to represent the Club at General Meetings and subject to **article 10**.

**Director** means a member of the Board and includes any person acting in that capacity from time to time appointed in accordance with this Constitution.

**Executive Director** means the Executive Director of the Association for the time being appointed under this Constitution. Where the Association does not have an Executive Director, the Association Secretary or Public Officer will, subject to confirmation by the Board, assume the functions of the Executive Director under this Constitution.

**FIFA** means the International Federation for Football being the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA).

**Financial Year** means the period of 12 months commencing on 1 October and ending on 30 September each year.

**Football** means the sport and game of football governed by the rules of the FIFA and the Association from time to time.

**General Meeting means** the Annual General Meeting or any Special General Meeting of the Association.

**Incapacitated** means unable to fulfil duties as required by this Constitution or the Act, including being able to:

- (a) understand the information relevant to the decisions that will have to be made in the role of Director;
- (b) retain that information to the extent necessary to make those decisions;
- (c) use or weigh that information as part of the decision making process; or
- (d) communicate the decisions in some way.

**Incorporation** means an entity which is subject to the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act (2009) or the Corporations Act (2001).

**Individual Member** means a registered, financial member of a Club or a natural person who is otherwise recognised by the Association as an Individual Member.

**Intellectual Property** means all rights subsisting in copyright, business names, names, trademarks (or signs), logos, designs, equipment including computer software, images (including photographs, videos, or films) or service marks relating to the Association or any activity of or conducted, promoted, or administered by the Association in the Region.

**Internal Resolution Process** means the dispute or grievance resolution process established by the Association, the SSO and NSO.

**Life Member** means an individual appointed as a Life Member of the Association under **clause 5.2**.

**Member** means a member for the time being of the Association under **clause 5**.

**Meeting of Delegates** means a meeting of eligible Delegates from each Club.

**NSO** means the National Sporting Organisation for Football being Football Australia Limited.

**Objects** means the objects of the Association in **clause 3**.

**Public Officer** means the person appointed to be the public officer of the Association in accordance with the Act.

**Region** means the geographical area of the St George District for which the Association is responsible and as recognised by the SSO.

**Register** means a register of Members kept and maintained in accordance with **clause 7**.

**Regulations** means any Regulations made by the Board under **article** Error! Reference source not found..

**Seal** means the common seal of the Association (if any).

**Special General Meeting (SGM)** means a special general meeting of the Association held in accordance with **clause 23**.

**Special Resolution** means a special resolution defined in the Act.

**Sport** means the game of Football governed by the rules of the FIFA.

**SSO** means the State Sporting Organisation being Football NSW Limited.

## **2.2 Interpretation**

In this Constitution:

- (a) a reference to a function includes a reference to a power, authority, and duty;
- (b) a reference to the exercise of a function includes, where the function is a power, authority or duty, a reference to the exercise of the power or authority of the performance of the duty;
- (c) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (d) words importing any gender include the other genders;
- (e) references to persons include corporations and bodies politic;
- (f) references to a person include the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of that person;
- (g) a reference to a statute, ordinance, code, or other law includes regulations and other statutory instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments, or replacements of any of them (whether of the same or any legislative authority having jurisdiction); and
- (h) a reference to "writing" shall unless the contrary intention appears, be construed as including references to printing, lithography, photography, and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form, including messages sent by electronic mail.

## **2.3 Severance**

If any provision of this Constitution or any phrase contained in it is invalid or unenforceable, the phrase or provision is to be read down if possible, so as to be valid and enforceable, and otherwise shall be severed to the extent of the invalidity or unenforceability, without affecting the remaining provisions of this Constitution.

## **2.4 The Act**

Except where the contrary intention appears, in this Constitution, an expression that deals with a matter under the Act has the same meaning as that provision of the Act. Model rules under the Act are expressly displaced by this Constitution.

# **3 OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

The Association is established solely for the Objects. The Objects of the Association are to:

- (a) participate as a member of SSO so Football can be conducted, encouraged, promoted, advanced, and administered in the Region and New South Wales;
- (b) conduct, encourage, promote, advance, and administer grassroots Football throughout the Region;
- (c) ensure the maintenance and enhancement of the Association, the SSO, the NSO, the Members and football, along with its standards, quality, and reputation for the benefit of the Members and football;
- (d) at all times promote mutual trust and confidence between the Association, the SSO, the NSO and the Members in pursuit of these Objects;
- (e) at all times act on behalf of, and in the interest of, the Members and Football in the Region;

- (f) promote the economic and community service success, strength and stability of the Association, the Members and Football in the Region;
- (g) affiliate and otherwise liaise with the SSO and adopt its rule and policy framework to further these Objects and football;
- (h) use and protect the Intellectual Property;
- (i) apply the property and capacity of the Association towards the fulfilment and achievement of these Objects;
- (j) strive for government, commercial and public recognition of the Association as the controlling body for Football in the Region;
- (k) abide by, promulgate, enforce, and secure uniformity in the application of the rules of Football as may be determined from time to time by NSO or IF and as may be necessary for the management and control of Football and related activities in the Region;
- (l) advance the operations and activities of the Association throughout the Region;
- (m) review and/or determine any matters relating to Football which may arise, or be referred to it, by any Member;
- (n) recognise any penalty imposed by any Member;
- (o) act as arbiter (as required) on all matters pertaining to the conduct of Football in the Region, including disciplinary matters;
- (p) pursue such commercial arrangements, including sponsorship and marketing opportunities as are appropriate to further the interests of Football in the Region;
- (q) adopt and implement such policies as may be developed by NSO or SSO, including (as relevant and applicable) member protection, anti-doping, health and safety, junior sport, infectious diseases, and such other matters as may arise as issues to be addressed in football;
- (r) represent the interests of its Members and of Football generally in any appropriate forum in the Region;
- (s) have regard to the public interest in its operations;
- (t) do all that is reasonably necessary to enable these Objects to be achieved and enable Members to receive the benefits which these Objects are intended to achieve;
- (u) promote the health and safety of Members and all other participants in Football in the Region;
- (v) seek and obtain improved facilities for the enjoyment of Football in the Region; and
- (w) undertake and or do all such things or activities which are necessary, incidental, or conducive to the advancement of these Objects.

#### **4 POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Solely for furthering the Objects, the Association has, in addition to the rights, powers and privileges conferred on it under section 19 of the Act, the legal capacity and powers of a company as set out under section 124 of the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*.

## **5 MEMBERS**

### **5.1 Categories of Members**

The Members of the Association shall consist of:

- (a) Clubs which, subject to this Constitution, shall be entitled to be represented by its Delegate(s) and who shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and to be present, debate and vote on behalf of the Club at General Meetings;
- (b) Life Members, who subject to this Constitution, shall have the right to receive notice of General Meetings and to be present and to debate at General Meetings, but shall have no voting rights;
- (c) Individual Members and Affiliated Members who the Board may invite to be present at General Meetings but shall have no rights, to debate or to vote at General Meetings;
- (d) the Directors, who shall have the right to be present and to debate at General Meetings but are not entitled to vote at General Meetings; and
- (e) such new or other categories of Members as may be established by the Board. Any new category of Member established by the Board cannot be granted voting rights without the approval of the Association at a General Meeting.

### **5.2 Life Members**

- (a) The Board may recommend to the Annual General Meeting that any natural person who has rendered distinguished service to the Association or Football, where such service is deemed to have assisted the advancement of Football in the Region, be appointed as a Life Member;
- (b) Nominations for appointment of Life Members must be made in writing to the Executive Director;
- (c) A resolution of the Annual General Meeting to confer life membership (subject to article 5.2(d)) on the recommendation of the Board must be a Special Resolution and must be carried by a two thirds majority.
- (d) A person must accept or reject the Association's resolution to confer life membership in writing. Upon written acceptance, the person's details shall be entered upon the Register, and from the time of entry on the Register the person shall be a Life Member.

## **6 AFFILIATION**

### **6.1 Clubs**

- (a) Unless the Board otherwise determines, to be, or remain, eligible for membership, a Club must be incorporated or in the process of incorporation. This process must be complete within ninety (90) days of applying for membership under this Constitution.
- (b) For such time as the Club is not incorporated, the Secretary of any such unincorporated Club shall be deemed to be the Member (on behalf of the unincorporated entity). The Secretary shall be entitled to exercise the same voting and other rights and have the same obligations and shall follow such procedures on behalf of the unincorporated Club as incorporated Members, to the extent that this is possible.
- (c) Any dispute or uncertainty as to the application of this Constitution to an unincorporated Club shall be resolved by the Board in its sole discretion.



- (d) Failure to incorporate within the period stated in **clause 6.1(a)** shall result in the expulsion of the Secretary (acting on behalf of the unincorporated entity) from membership. The expelled unincorporated entity shall not be entitled to re-apply for membership until it becomes incorporated.
- (e) All Clubs have an obligation to maintain its incorporated status to maintain membership. Should a club lose its incorporated status, then the club will not be able to continue to participate in the affairs and the competitions of the Association until such time as incorporated status is regained.
- (f) In the event that the Club holds a direct lease or a direct permit over any Football grounds, the club must advise the Association in writing, the specific hours that the Association have unfettered access to the grounds for the purposes of operating the Associations standard competitions. As a minimum, the hours of access to the Association are from 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM on Fridays; 8:00 AM to 9:30 PM on Saturdays; and 8:00 AM to 9:30 PM on Sundays in addition to any public holidays required for makeup games and any other time as required for the replay of washed-out games. The Club may not seek use of other Association fields for training, in order to run events other than Association fixtures.

## **6.2 Application for Affiliation**

An application for affiliation must be:

- (a) in writing on the form prescribed from time to time by the Board (if any), from the applicant or its nominated representative and lodged with the Association;
- (b) accompanied by a copy of the applicant's constitution (which must be acceptable to the Association and must substantially conform to this Constitution) and the applicant's register of members; and
- (c) accompanied by the appropriate fee (if any); and
- (d) accompanied by evidence of incorporation.
- (e) In the event that the applicant holds a direct lease or a direct permit over their grounds, a copy of the lease or permit is to be provided with the application.
- (f) By applying an applicant acknowledges and agrees that they voluntarily agree to be bound by the rules, regulations, and policies of the Association (as well as those of the SSO and NSO) including but not only this Constitution.

## **6.3 Discretion to Accept or Reject Application**

- (a) The Board may at its discretion and in acting in the best interests of the Association and in good faith, accept or reject an application whether the applicant has complied with the requirements in articles 6.1 and 6.2 or not. The Association shall not be required or compelled to provide any reason for such acceptance or rejection.
- (b) Where the Board accepts an application, the applicant shall, become a Member. Membership shall be deemed to commence upon acceptance of the application by the Association. The Executive Director shall amend the Register accordingly as soon as practicable.
- (c) Where the Board rejects an application, the Association shall refund any fees forwarded with the application and the application shall be deemed rejected.
- (d) There is no right of appeal where the Board rejects an application for membership, whether a new application or a renewal application.
- (e) A club whose membership is rejected has no claim in their capacity as a Member or a former member of the Association against the Association or the Directors, for damages or otherwise.

#### **6.4 Re-Affiliation**

- (a) Clubs must re-affiliate annually with the Association in accordance with the procedures set down by the Association in Regulations from time to time. Members acknowledge and agree that membership renewal is not automatic. Article 6.3 applies to re-applications for membership.
- (b) Upon re-affiliation a Club must lodge with the Association an updated copy of its constitution (including all amendments) and must provide details of any change in its Delegate and any other information reasonably required by the Association. Each Club must ensure that its constitution is amended to conform to any amendments made to this Constitution and/or to the SSO's constitution.
- (c) A club whose membership ceases has no claim in their capacity as a Member or a former member of the Association against the Association or the Directors, for damages or otherwise.

### **7 REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

#### **7.1 Association to keep Register**

The Association shall keep and maintain a Register in which shall be entered (as a minimum):

- (a) the full name, address, category of membership, and date of entry to membership of each Club; and
- (b) the full name, residential address, and date of entry to membership of each Director and Life Member; and
- (c) where applicable, the date of termination of membership of any Club; and
- (d) where applicable, the date of termination of any Director.

Clubs, Directors, and Life Members shall provide notice of any change and required details to the Association within one month of such change.

#### **7.2 Inspection of Register**

Having regard to privacy and confidentiality considerations, inspection of the Register will only be available as required by the Act and under **article 31.2(b)**. If permitted, only an extract of the Register, excluding the address or other direct contact details of any Life Member or Director, shall be available for inspection (but not copying) by Members.

#### **7.3 Use of Register**

Subject to the Act, confidentiality considerations and privacy laws, the Register may be used to further the Objects, in such manner as the Board considers appropriate.

### **8 EFFECT OF MEMBERSHIP**

Members acknowledge and agree that:

- (a) this Constitution constitutes a contract between each of them and the Association and that they are bound by this Constitution and the By-Laws and the SSO's and NSO's constitution and regulations;
- (b) they shall comply with and observe this Constitution and the By-Laws and any determination, resolution or policy which may be made or passed by the Board or other entity with delegated authority;

- (c) by submitting to this Constitution and Regulations they are subject to the jurisdiction of the Association, SSO and NSO;
- (d) the Constitution and Regulations are necessary and reasonable for promoting the Objects and particularly the advancement and protection of Football;
- (e) neither membership of the Association nor this Constitution gives rise to:
  - i. any proprietary right of Members in, to or over the Association or its property or assets;
  - ii. any automatic right of a Member to renewal of their membership of the Association;
- (f) subject to the Act and the Association acting in good faith, the right of Members to natural justice, unless expressly provided for in this Constitution;
- (g) they are entitled to all benefits, advantages, privileges, and services of Association membership; and
- (h) a right, privilege, or obligation of a person by reason of their membership of the Club:
- (i) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person; and
- (j) terminates upon the cessation of membership whether by death, resignation or otherwise.

## 9 DISCONTINUANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

### 9.1 Notice of Resignation

- (a) A Member having paid all arrears of fees payable to the Association may resign or withdraw from membership of the Association by giving one (1) months' notice in writing to the Board of such resignation or withdrawal.
- (b) A Club may not resign, disaffiliate, or otherwise seek to withdraw from the Association without approval by Special Resolution of the Club. A copy of the relevant minutes of the Club meeting showing that the Special Resolution has been passed by the Club must be provided to the Board.
- (c) If a Club ceases to be a Member under this Constitution, the Association membership of all Individual Members affiliated or registered with or through the Club shall not automatically cease at that time but shall be dealt with in accordance with the Regulations.
- (d) Upon the Association receiving notice of resignation of membership given under **articles 9.1(a) and (b)**, it must make an entry in the Register that records the date on which the Member who or which gave notice ceased to be a Member.

### 9.2 Discontinuance for breach

Notwithstanding anything in the Act or this Constitution:

- (a) Membership of the Association may be discontinued by the Board upon breach of any clause of this Constitution or the Regulations, including but not limited to the failure to pay any monies owed to the Association, failure to comply with the By-Laws or any resolutions or determinations made or passed by the Board or any duly authorised committee;
- (b) Membership shall not be discontinued by the Board under clause 9.2(a) without the Board first giving the Member accused of the said breach the opportunity to explain the breach; and

- (c) Where a member fails, in the Board's view, to adequately explain the breach, that Member's membership shall be discontinued under clause 9.2(a) by the Association giving written notice of the discontinuance to the Member. The Register shall be amended to reflect any discontinuance of membership under this clause as soon as practicable.

### **9.3 Discontinuance for failure to re-affiliate**

Membership of the Association may be discontinued by the Board if a Club has not re-affiliated with the Association within one month of re-affiliation falling due. The Register shall be amended to reflect any discontinuance of membership under this clause 9.3 as soon as practicable.

### **9.4 Member to Re-Apply**

A Member whose membership has been discontinued under **clauses 9.2 or 9.3**:

- (a) must seek renewal or re-apply for membership in accordance with this Constitution; and
- (b) may be re-admitted at the discretion of the Board. There is no right of appeal where the Board refuses to re-admit a former Member under this article.

### **9.5 Forfeiture of Rights**

A Member who or which ceases to be a Member, for whatever reason, shall forfeit all rights in and claims upon the Association and its property and shall not use any property of the Association including Intellectual Property. Any Association documents, records or other property in the possession, custody or control of that Member shall be returned to the Association immediately. Where a Club ceases to be a Member it shall also forfeit all representation rights on the Board and at General Meetings.

### **9.6 Delegate Position Lapses**

The position of Delegate shall lapse immediately on cessation of membership of a Club.

### **9.7 Membership may be Reinstated**

Membership which has been discontinued under this clause 9 (excluding Notice of Resignation under clause 9.1) may be reinstated at the discretion of the Board, with such conditions as it deems appropriate;

### **9.8 Refund of Membership Fees**

Membership fees or subscriptions paid by the discontinued Member may be refunded on a pro-rata basis to the Member upon discontinuance.

## **10 DELEGATE**

- (a) A Delegate of FSG shall consist of:
  - (i) an elected Club President;
  - (ii) an elected Club Vice President;
  - (iii) an elected Club Secretary.
- (b) Each Club must appoint only three (3) Delegates of FSG in accordance with article 10 (a).
- (c) A Delegate of FSG, cannot also be:
  - (i) A Director or Officer of any National Premier League (NPL) Club that is not also affiliated as a grassroots member of FSG;
  - (ii) A person that is a Director, Officer, or Delegate of another Football Association.

## **11 DISCIPLINE**

- (a) Where the Board is advised or considers that a Member has allegedly:
  - (i) breached, failed, refused, or neglected to comply with a provision of this Constitution, the Regulations, the SSO's or the NSO's constitution or regulations or any resolution or determination of the Board or any duly authorised committee; or
  - (ii) acted in a manner unbecoming of a Member, or prejudicial to the purposes and interests of the Association, SSO, NSO and/or Football; or
  - (iii) brought the Association, SSO, NSO, any other Member or Football into disrepute;
- (b) The Board may commence or cause to be commenced, disciplinary proceedings against that Member.
- (c) That Member will be subject to, and submits unreservedly to the jurisdiction, procedures, penalties, and the appeal mechanisms of the Association set out in the Regulations or as otherwise determined by the Board.
- (d) The Board may appoint a Judiciary Committee to deal with any disciplinary matter referred to it. Such a Judiciary Committee shall operate in accordance with the procedures expressed in the Regulations or as otherwise determined by the Board.
- (e) Excluding criminal proceedings, a Member cannot commence or pursue any proceedings in a court of law or any other government or regulatory authority or body and shall submit to the grievance or disciplinary processes of the Member Club, FSG, FNSW, and FA until they have been exhausted.

## **12 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND FEES**

- (a) The annual membership subscription (if any) and any fees or other levies payable by Members to the Association, the time for and manner of payment, shall be as determined by the Board.
- (b) The Board is empowered to prevent any Member who's annual subscription or any other fees are in arrears from exercising the whole or any of the rights or privileges of membership of the Club, including but not limited to the right to vote at General Meetings. There is no right to natural justice or any right of appeal where the Board exercises its power under this article 11(b).

## **13 POWERS OF THE BOARD**

Subject to the Act and this Constitution, the business of the Association shall be managed, and the powers of the Association shall be exercised, by the Board. In particular, the Board shall act in accordance with the Objects and shall operate for the benefit of the Members and Football and the community throughout the Region.

In exercising its powers, the directors must do so in accordance with s180 – s185 of the Corporations Act.

## **14 COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD**

### **14.1 Composition of the Board**

- (a) The Board shall comprise up to:
  - (i) five (5) elected Directors who must all be Individual Members and who shall be elected under clause 15; and

(ii) up to two (2) appointed Directors; who need not be Individual Members and who may be appointed by the Directors in accordance with clause 16.

(b) A Director cannot also be:

(i) a Delegate of any FSG affiliated Club;

(ii) a Director or Officer of any National Premier League (NPL) Club;

(iii) a person that is a Director, Officer, or Delegate of another Football Association.

#### **14.2 Election and Appointment of Directors**

(a) The elected Directors shall be elected under **clause 15**;

(b) The appointed Directors may be appointed under **clause 16**.

#### **14.3 Portfolios**

The Board may allocate portfolios and/or titles to Directors. Subject to this Constitution and any properly passed resolution of the Board, the allocation of portfolios or titles does not affect the powers and duties of Directors.

### **15 ELECTED DIRECTORS**

#### **15.1 Nominations**

(a) Nominations for an elected Director position shall be called for at least twenty eight (28) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. When calling for nominations, details of the necessary qualifications and descriptions for the positions shall also be provided. Qualifications and portfolio descriptions shall be as determined by the Board from time to time.

(b) Nominees for an elected Director position must declare any position they hold in a Club, the SSO or NSO including as an officer (howsoever described including as a Delegate) or as a full-time employee.

#### **15.2 Form of Nomination**

Nominations must be:

(a) in writing;

(b) on the prescribed form (if any) provided for that purpose;

(c) signed by two (2) members who are defined in clause 5 and would be listed as members in the Register of Members;

(d) certified by the nominee (who must be an Individual Member) expressing his willingness to accept the position for which he is nominated; and

(e) delivered to the Association not less than 21 days before the date fixed for the Annual General Meeting.

#### **15.3 Elections**

(a) If the number of nominations received for the Board is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled or if there are insufficient nominations received to fill all vacancies on the Board, then those nominated shall be declared elected only if approved by the majority of Members entitled to vote.

- (b) If there are insufficient nominations received to fill all vacancies on the Board, or if a person is not approved by the majority of Members under clause 15.3(a), the positions will be deemed casual vacancies under clause 17.1.
- (c) If the number of nominations exceeds the number of vacancies to be filled, voting papers shall be prepared containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order, for each vacancy on the Board.
- (d) Voting shall be conducted in such manner and by such method as may be determined by the Board from time to time.

#### **15.4 Term of Appointment for Elected Directors**

- (a) An Elected Director elected under clause 15 will hold office for a term commencing at the conclusion of the AGM at which they are elected and expiring at the conclusion of the second AGM after their election. Subject to provisions in this Constitution relating to earlier retirement or removal of Directors, elected Directors shall remain in office from the conclusion of the AGM at which the election occurred until the conclusion of the second AGM following.
- (b) Three (3) elected Directors shall retire in each odd year and two (2) elected Directors shall retire in each even year until, after two (2) years the five (5) original elected Directors have retired after which those elected Directors (or their replacements) who first retired, shall retire and so on.
- (c) The sequence of retirements under clause 15.4(b) to ensure rotational terms shall be determined by the Board. If the Board cannot agree it will be determined by lot.
- (d) Following the adoption of this Constitution, no person who has served as an elected Director for a period of four (4) consecutive full terms (eight (8) years) shall be eligible for election as an elected Director until the next AGM following the date of conclusion of their last term as an elected Director.

## **16 APPOINTED DIRECTORS**

The elected Directors may appoint up to two (2) appointed Directors.

### **16.1 Qualifications for Appointed Directors**

The appointed Directors may have specific skills in commerce, finance, marketing, law, or business generally or such other skills which complement the Board composition. They do not need to be Individual Members but must be natural persons. Appointed Directors cannot also be:

- (a) a Delegate of any FSG affiliated Club;
- (b) a Director or Officer of any National Premier League (NPL) Club;
- (c) a person that is a Director, Officer, or Delegate of another Football Association.

### **16.2 Term of Appointment for Appointed Directors**

- (a) Appointed Directors may be appointed by the elected Directors under this Constitution for a maximum term of two (2) years, which shall commence from the first Board meeting after the AGM until after the conclusion of the second AGM following.
- (b) Appointed Directors should be appointed to ensure rotational terms that coincide with the elected Directors' rotational terms where possible.
- (c) Any adjustment to the term of appointed Directors appointed under this Constitution necessary to ensure rotational terms under this Constitution, shall be determined by the Board.

- (d) No person who has served as an appointed Director for a period of two (2) consecutive full terms (four (4) years) shall be eligible for appointment as an appointed Director until the next Annual General Meeting following the date of conclusion of his last term as an appointed Director.

## **17 VACANCIES ON THE BOARD**

### **17.1 Casual Vacancies**

Any casual vacancy occurring in the position of Director may be filled by the remaining Directors from among appropriately qualified persons. Any casual vacancy may only be filled for the remainder of the Director's term under this Constitution.

### **17.2 Grounds for Termination of Director**

In addition to the circumstances in which the office of a Director becomes vacant by virtue of the Act, the office of a Director becomes vacant if the Director:

- (a) dies;
- (b) becomes bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors generally;
- (c) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in anyway under the law relating to mental health;
- (d) after reasonable consideration by the Board, is determined by the Board to have become Incapacitated and the Board reasonably expects the Director will remain Incapacitated for a period exceeding 3 months, provided always that:
  - (i) the Director is first given the opportunity to make written or oral submissions to the Board before a determination is made; and
  - (ii) any determination made under this article 17.2 shall be made with the Directors acting reasonably;or
- (e) resigns his office in writing to the Association;
- (f) is absent without the consent of the Board from meetings of the Board for more than three (3) meetings held during a period of six (6) months;
- (g) holds any office of employment with the Association;
- (h) is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with the Association and fails to declare the nature of his interest;
- (i) in the opinion of the Board (but subject always to this Constitution:
  - (i) has acted in a manner unbecoming or prejudicial to the Objects and interests of the Association; or
  - (ii) has brought the Association into disrepute;
- (j) is removed by Special Resolution; or
- (k) would otherwise be prohibited from being a Director of a corporation under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth); or
- (l) is proven guilty of fraud or misconduct in accordance with this Constitution, Regulations or otherwise.



### **17.3 Board May Act**

In the event of a casual vacancy or vacancies in the office of a Director or Directors, the remaining Directors may act but, if the number of remaining Directors is not sufficient to constitute a quorum at a meeting of the Board, they may act only for the purpose of increasing the number of Directors to a number sufficient to constitute such a quorum.

## **18 MEETING OF THE BOARD**

### **18.1 Board to Meet**

The Board shall meet as often as is deemed necessary in every calendar year for the dispatch of business (and shall be at least as often as is required under the Act) and subject to this Constitution may adjourn and otherwise regulate its meetings as it thinks fit. A Director may at any time convene a meeting of the Board within a reasonable time.

### **18.2 Decisions of Board**

- (a) Subject to this Constitution, questions arising at any meeting of the Board shall be decided by a majority of votes and a determination of a majority of Directors shall for all purposes be deemed a determination of the Board. All Directors shall have one (1) vote on any question. Where voting is equal, the chairperson may exercise a casting vote. If the chairperson does not exercise a casting vote, the motion will be lost.
- (b) Minutes of all meetings of the Board are to be kept and circulated to the Delegates of the affiliated clubs within forty (40) days of the meeting.
- (c) All minutes are to be signed and entered into the official minute book or register within 40 days of the Board meeting.

### **18.3 Resolutions not in Meeting**

- (a) A resolution in writing, signed or assented to by telegram, cablegram, radiogram, facsimile, telex, or other form of visible or other electronic communication by all the Directors for the time being present in Australia shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of Directors duly convened and held. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in like form each signed by one (1) or more of the Directors.
- (b) Without limiting the power of the Board to regulate its meetings as it thinks fit, a meeting of the Board may be held where one (1) or more of the Directors is not physically present at the meeting, provided that:
  - (i) all persons participating in the meeting are able to communicate with each other effectively simultaneously and instantaneously whether by means of telephone, video conferencing or other form of communication;
  - (ii) notice of the meeting is given to all the Directors entitled to notice in accordance with the usual procedures agreed upon or laid down from time to time by the Board or this Constitution and such notice specifies that Directors are not required to be present in person;

- (iii) if a failure in communications prevents clause 18.3(b)(i) from being satisfied by that number of Directors which constitutes a quorum, and none of such Directors are present at the place where the meeting is deemed by virtue of the further provisions of this Rule to be held then the meeting shall be suspended until clause 18.3(b)(i) is satisfied again. If such condition is not satisfied within fifteen (15) minutes from the interruption the meeting shall be deemed to have terminated or adjourned; and
- (iv) any meeting held where one (1) or more of the Directors is not physically present shall be deemed to be held at the place specified in the notice of meeting provided a Director is there present and if no Director is there present the meeting shall be deemed to be held at the place where the chairperson of the meeting is located.

#### **18.4 Quorum**

At meetings of the Board the number of Directors whose presence is required to constitute a quorum is four (4). A quorum must remain present throughout the meeting. **Notice of Board Meetings**

Unless all Directors agree to hold a meeting at shorter notice (which agreement shall be sufficiently evidenced by their apology or presence) not less than seven (7) days written notice of the meeting of the Board shall be given to each Director. The agenda shall be forwarded to each Director not less than two (2) days prior to such meeting.

#### **18.5 Chairperson**

The Board shall appoint a chairperson from amongst its number. The chairperson shall be the nominal head of the Association and will act as chair of any Board meeting or General Meeting at which they are present. If the chairperson is not present or is unwilling or unable to preside at a board meeting, the remaining Directors shall appoint another Director to preside as chair for that meeting only.

#### **18.6 Directors' Interests**

A Director is disqualified by holding any place of profit or position of employment in the Association or in any company or incorporated association in which the Association is a shareholder or otherwise interested or from contracting with the Association either as vendor, purchaser or otherwise except with express resolution of approval of the Board. Any such contract or any contract or arrangement entered into by or on behalf of the Association in which any Director is in any way interested will be void unless approved by the Board.

#### **18.7 Conflict of Interest**

A Director shall declare his interest in any:

- (a) contractual matter;
- (b) selection matter;
- (c) disciplinary matter; or
- (d) financial matter;

in which a conflict of interest arises or may arise, and shall, unless otherwise determined by the Board, absent himself from discussions of such matter and shall not be entitled to vote in respect of such matter. If the Director votes the vote shall not be counted. In the event of any uncertainty as to whether it is necessary for a Director to absent himself from discussions and refrain from voting, the issue should be immediately determined by vote of the Board, or if this is not possible, the matter shall be adjourned or deferred.

### **18.8 Disclosure of Interests**

- (a) The nature of the interest of such Director must be declared by the Director at the meeting of the Board at which the relevant matter is first taken into consideration if the interest then exists or in any other case at the first meeting of the Board after the acquisition of the interest. If a Director becomes interested in a matter after it is made or entered into the declaration of the interest must be made at the first meeting of the Board held after the Director becomes so interested.
- (b) All disclosed interests must also be disclosed to each Annual General Meeting in accordance with the Act.

### **18.9 General Disclosure**

A general notice that a Director is a member of any specified firm or company and is to be regarded as interested in all transactions with that firm or company is sufficient declaration under clause 18.9 as regards such Director and the said transactions. After such general notice it is not necessary for such Director to give a special notice relating to any particular transaction with that firm or company.

### **18.10 Recording Disclosures**

Any declaration made, any disclosure or any general notice given by a Director in accordance with clauses 18.8, 18.9 and/or 18.10 must be recorded in the minutes of the relevant meeting.

The Executive Director shall maintain a register of declared interests by the individual directors. Such register is available for inspection by a member upon a written request to the Executive Director.

### **18.11 Standing Orders**

The form of any meetings held by Directors is outlined in **Schedule 2**.

## **19 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

### **19.1 Appointment of Executive Director**

An Executive Director shall be appointed by and from within the elected Directors of the Board for such term and on such conditions as the Board thinks fit.

### **19.2 Executive Director to act as Public Officer**

The Executive Director shall act as and carry out the duties of Public Officer of the Association and shall administer and manage the Association in accordance with the Act and this Constitution.

### **19.3 Executive Director may employ**

The Executive Director may, with the approval of the Board, employ and/or terminate such personnel as are deemed necessary or appropriate from time to time and such appointments shall be for such period and on such conditions as the Executive Director and the Board determines.

### **19.4 Specific Duties**

The Executive Director shall:

- (a) unless otherwise directed by the Board, as far as practicable attend all Board meetings and all General Meetings;
- (b) prepare the agenda for all Board and General Meetings;
- (c) record and prepare minutes of the proceedings of all Board meetings and General Meetings, and shall use best endeavours to distribute minutes of General Meetings to Clubs promptly from the date of the

meeting; and

(d) regularly report on the activities of, and issues relating to, the Association.

### **19.5 Power to Manage**

Subject to the Act, this Constitution, the Regulations and any policy directive of the Board, the Executive Director has power to perform all such things as appear necessary or desirable for the proper management and administration of the Association. No resolution passed by the Association in General Meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Executive Director or the Board which would have been valid if that resolution had not been passed.

## **20 DELEGATIONS**

### **20.1 Board may Delegate Functions**

The Board may by instrument in writing create or establish or appoint special committees, individual officers, and consultants to carry out such duties and functions, and with such powers, as the Board determines from time to time. In exercising its power under this clause, the Board should take into account broad stakeholder involvement and where possible gender diversity.

### **20.2 Delegation by Instrument**

The Board may in the establishing instrument delegate such functions as are specified in the instrument, other than:

- (a) this power of delegation; and
- (b) a function imposed on the Board or the Executive Director by the Act or any other law, or this Constitution or by resolution of the Association in General Meeting.

### **20.3 Delegated Function Exercised in Accordance With Terms**

A function, the exercise of which has been delegated under this clause, may whilst the delegation remains unrevoked, be exercised from time to time in accordance with the terms of the delegation.

### **20.4 Procedure of Delegated Entity**

The procedures for any entity exercising delegated power shall, subject to this Constitution and any Regulation and with any necessary or incidental amendment, be the same as that applicable to meetings of the Board under clause 18 above. The entity exercising delegated powers shall make decisions in accordance with the Objects and shall promptly provide the Board with details of all material decisions and shall provide any other reports, minutes and information as the Board may require from time to time.

### **20.5 Delegation may be Conditional**

A delegation under this clause may be made subject to such conditions or limitations as to the exercise of any function or at the time or circumstances as may be specified in the delegation.

### **20.6 Revocation of Delegation**

The Board may by instrument in writing, at any time revoke wholly or in part any delegation made under this clause and may amend or repeal any decision made by such body or person under this clause.

## **21 EXECUTION OF DOCUMENT**

- (a) The Association may execute a document if the document is signed by:
  - (i) Two (2) Directors of the Association; or
  - (ii) The Chairperson and the Chief Executive Officer .
- (b) of the Board.

## **22 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)**

- (a) An Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held in accordance with the Act and this Constitution and on a date and at a venue to be determined by the Board.
- (b) All General Meetings other than the Annual General Meeting shall be Special General Meetings and shall be held in accordance with this Constitution.
- (c) All members who have not paid the current seasons account in full, received and receipted by the 30th of September (financial end of season) will be unable to vote at the Annual General Meeting unless exceptional circumstances arise and as approved by the Board.

## **23 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **23.1 Special General Meetings May be Held**

The Board may, whenever it thinks fit, convene a Special General Meeting of the Association and, where, but for this clause more than fifteen (15) months would elapse between Annual General Meetings, shall convene a Special General Meeting before the expiration of that period.

### **23.2 Requisition of Special General Meetings**

- (a) The Executive Director shall convene a Special General Meeting following a request in writing of not less than fifty percent (50%) of Members entitled to vote at such a meeting.
- (b) The requisition for a Special General Meeting shall state the object(s) of the meeting, shall be signed by the Members making the requisition and be sent to the Association and may consist of several documents in a like form, each signed by one or more of the Members making the requisition.
- (c) If the Executive Director does not cause a Special General Meeting to be held within one (1) month after the date on which the requisition is sent to the Association, the Members making the requisition, or any of them, may convene a Special General Meeting to be held not later than three (3) months after that date.
- (d) A Special General Meeting convened by Members under this Constitution shall be convened in the same manner, or as nearly as possible as that, in which meetings are convened by the Board.

## **24 NOTICE OF MEETING DELEGATES**

- (a) Notice of every Meeting of Delegates shall be given to every Club and other Members entitled to receive notice as determined by the Board at the address appearing in the Register kept by the Association. No other person shall be entitled as of right to receive Notices of Meeting of Delegates.
- (b) A notice of a Meeting of Delegates shall specify the place and day and hour of meeting and shall state the business to be transacted at the meeting.

- (c) At least twenty-one (21) days' notice of a Meeting of Delegates shall be given to those Members entitled to receive notice, together with:
  - (i) the agenda for the meeting;
  - (ii) any notice of motion received from Members entitled to vote.
- (d) Notice of every Meeting of Delegates shall be given in the manner authorised in clause 41;
- (e) The Board must hold at least four (4) Meetings of Delegates during the year including one (1) prior to commencement of the season.

## **25 BUSINESS**

- (a) The business to be transacted at the Annual General Meeting includes the consideration of accounts and the reports of the Board and auditors, the election of Directors under this Constitution and the appointment of the auditors.
- (b) All business that is transacted at a General Meeting and all business that is transacted at an Annual General Meeting, with the exception of those matters set down in clause 25(a) shall be special business.
- (c) No business other than that stated on the notice for a General Meeting shall be transacted at that meeting.

## **26 NOTICE OF MOTION**

- (a) Members entitled to vote may submit notices of motion for inclusion as special business at a General Meeting. All notices of motion must be submitted in writing to the Executive Director not less than twenty-one (21) days (excluding receiving date and meeting date) prior to the General Meeting.

## **27 PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **27.1 Quorum**

No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business. A quorum for General Meetings of the Association shall be one-third of Clubs personally represented by at least one (1) Delegate.

### **27.2 Chairperson to preside**

The chairperson of the Board shall, subject to this Constitution, preside as chair at every General Meeting except:

- (a) in relation to any election for which the chairperson is a nominee; or
- (b) where a conflict of interest exists.

If the chairperson is not present or is unwilling or unable to preside the Delegates present shall appoint another Director to preside as chairperson for that meeting only.

### **27.3 Adjournment of Meeting**

- (a) If within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present the meeting shall be adjourned until the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such other day and at such other time and place as the chairperson may determine and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting will lapse;
- (b) The chairperson may, with the consent of any meeting at which a quorum is present, and shall, if so, directed by the meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place;
- (c) When a meeting is adjourned for thirty (30) days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of an original meeting.
- (d) Except as provided in clause 27.3(c) it shall not be necessary to give any notice of an adjournment or the business to be transacted at any adjourned meeting.

### **27.4 Voting Procedure**

At any meeting, a resolution put to the vote of the meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is (before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands) demanded by:

- (a) the chairperson; or
- (b) a simple majority of Delegates on behalf of their Members.

### **27.5 Recording of Determinations**

Unless a poll is demanded under clause 27.4, a declaration by the chairperson that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried or carried unanimously or by a particular majority or lost and an entry to that effect in the book containing the minutes of the proceedings of the Association shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.

### **27.6 Where Poll Demanded**

If a poll is duly demanded under clause 27.4 it shall be taken in such manner and either at once or after an interval or adjournment or otherwise as the chairperson directs and the result of the poll shall be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.

### **27.7 Procedural Irregularities**

- (a) No decision of the Association, the Board or any Board authorised entity shall be invalid merely because of a failure to give proper notice under this Constitution or the Regulations or other irregularity in procedure required by this Constitution or the Regulations unless a person suffers substantial prejudice as a result of that failure to give proper notice or irregularity in procedure.
- (b) The Association, the Board or other Board authorised entity may confirm an earlier decision which may have been otherwise invalid because of a failure to give proper notice or other irregularity in procedure and the decision shall be deemed to be valid from the time it was originally made.

## **28 VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

### **28.1 Members Entitled to Vote**

Each Club shall be entitled to one (1) vote at General Meetings which, subject to this clause shall be exercised by the Club's Delegates. No other Members shall be entitled to vote but shall subject to this Constitution have, and be entitled to exercise, those rights set out in clause 5.1. The Directors and Executive Director shall have no right to vote at General Meetings.

### **28.2 Chairperson May Exercise Casting Vote**

Where voting at General Meetings is equal the chairperson may exercise a casting vote. If the chairperson does not exercise a casting vote the motion will be lost.

### **28.3 Proxy and Postal Voting**

Proxy voting is not allowed at General Meetings. No motion shall be determined by a postal ballot unless determined by the Board. If the Board so determines, the postal ballot shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedures:

- (a) if the Board so determines, proxy voting shall be permitted at all General Meetings provided a proxy form in the form approved by the Board from time to time, has been duly completed and executed and is lodged with the Executive Director at or before the commencement of the meeting. Proxies shall only be exercised by Members entitled to vote. No Member entitled to vote shall exercise more than one (1) proxy vote at any one (1) time.
- (b) the instrument appointing a proxy shall be deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll. A Delegate shall be entitled to instruct their proxy to vote in favour of or against any proposed resolutions. Unless otherwise instructed the proxy may exercise the proxy vote as they think fit.

## **29 STRATEGIC FORUM OF ASSOCIATION**

### **29.1 Strategic Forums**

The Association shall hold a strategic forum at least once per year. The object of the strategic forum is to:

- (a) inform the Board of significant membership issues;
- (b) assist the Board to design or review the Association's strategic plan and direction;
- (c) discuss relevant issues e.g., coaching, and technical development, infrastructure, ground amenities, competitions, special projects, grants, etc;
- (d) provide feedback to the Board on the results of its governance decisions in practice at Member level;

### **29.2 Attendees at Strategic Forums**

The following persons may attend strategic forums:

- (a) up to two (2) delegates from each Club;
- (b) the Directors; and
- (c) such other persons the Board considers should be invited.



## 30 GRIEVANCES

- (a) The grievance procedure set out in this rule applies to disputes under these rules between a Member and:
  - (i) another Member; or
  - (ii) the Association.
- (b) The parties to the dispute must meet and discuss the matter in dispute, and, if possible, resolve the dispute within fourteen (14) days after the dispute comes to the attention of all parties.
- (c) If the parties are unable to resolve the dispute at the meeting or if a party fails to attend that meeting, then the parties may, within ten (10) days, refer the dispute to mediation. The Board may prescribe additional grievance procedures in the Regulations consistent with this clause 30.
- (d) If the dispute is not resolved the Board may take whatever steps it considers appropriate in regard to the dispute in the best interests of the Association and the Members concerned.
- (e) The FSG Board or FSG Executive may dismiss any Grievance it determines, in its absolute discretion, to be a Vexatious Claim.
- (f) No party may commence or pursue any civil proceedings in a court of law or any other government or regulatory authority or body, and shall submit to the grievance or disciplinary processes of the Member Club, FSG, FNSW, and FA until they have been exhausted.

## 31 MEDIATION

- (a) In relation to a Grievance between Members pursuant to article 30, the FSG Board or FSG Executive may require Members to attend a meeting with a representative of FSG and/or an independent person who will act as a mediator (Mediator) for the purpose of attempting to reach agreement for the resolution of the Grievance.
- (b) A Mediator will be a person who, in the opinion of the FSG Board or FSG Executive, is appropriately qualified to conduct the mediation.
- (c) Unless otherwise determined by the FSG Board or FSG Executive, any costs involved in the mediation, including the costs of the Mediator, must be borne equally by the parties to the Grievance.
- (d) As soon as is practicable after receipt of a Grievance Form from a Member, FSG must provide a copy of the Grievance Form and any other related material provided by that Member to the Respondent and/or an Affected Party.
- (e) Within seven (7) working days of receiving the Grievance Form and any other related material, the Respondent and/or an Affected Party must file with FSG its written response to the Grievance along with any material that party intends to rely on.
- (f) FSG will then set a date for the mediation and notify the parties accordingly.
- (g) A Mediator must disclose to the parties to the Grievance, at the commencement of the mediation process, any prior or existing relationship with those parties. If one or more parties to the Grievance object to the Mediator's right to hear a matter on the basis of perceived bias, the party/parties must raise the objection immediately with the Mediator. The Mediator must then advise the FSG Executive who will, in its absolute discretion, appoint another Mediator or refer the Grievance directly to the FSG Board or Disciplinary Committee for determination.

- (h) During the mediation process, the parties to the Grievance and their legal representatives (if applicable) must:
  - (i) participate in good faith;
  - (ii) follow all reasonable directions of the Mediator with regard to the conduct of the mediation process including directions in respect of joint and private discussions with the parties; and
  - (iii) have in attendance an individual with the necessary authority to settle the Grievance and execute any mediation agreement.
- (i) Except as provided for under article 31 (m), a Mediator must not disclose any information provided by a party in private discussions with the Mediator unless authorised by that party or required to do so by operation of law.
- (j) The mediation will be conducted on a “without prejudice basis” and the Mediator will have no power to impose any Suspension, decision, or sanction on any of the parties to the Grievance. The roll of the Mediator is not to act as an advisor to parties or to make a determination but is instead to facilitate the parties to the Grievance in identifying the issues and considering the options to arrive at a mutual agreement.
- (k) If the parties to a Grievance reach agreement in relation to a Grievance during the mediation process, the parties must execute a mediation agreement. Once a mediation agreement is executed by the parties to a Grievance, those parties will have no right of appeal and will not be able to lodge any Grievance or bring any claim in relation to the subject matter of the original Grievance.
- (l) The Mediator may terminate a mediation at any time if they determine, in their absolute discretion, that the mediation is unlikely to produce an agreement and must then refer the Grievance to the FSG Executive for further determination.
- (m) The parties to a mediation agree that the FSG Board or FSG Executive is to be provided with a copy of any mediation agreement or details of the agreed outcome of the mediation, as the case may be, by the Mediator for the purposes of administering football in the Region, including for the taking of any relevant action in the event of a breach of the mediation agreement or the agreed outcome of the mediation.
- (n) A Member who fails to attend mediation convened in accordance with article 31, when reasonably requested by the FSG Board or Executive to do so and without reasonable excuse, will be deemed to have committed Misconduct and the FSG Board or FSG Executive may, in its absolute discretion, take any relevant action against the Member.
- (o) A member of a committee who acted as Mediator in respect of a Grievance which was subsequently referred to the FSG Board or Disciplinary Committee must not sit on a subsequent hearing of the Grievance.

## **32 RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS**

### **32.1 Records**

The Association shall establish and maintain proper records and minutes concerning all transactions, business, meetings and dealings of the Association and the Board and shall produce these as appropriate at each Board or General Meeting.

### **32.2 Records Kept in Accordance with Act**

- (a) Proper accounting and other records of the Association including books, minutes, documents, and securities shall be kept in accordance with the Act and otherwise shall be kept in the care and control of the Executive Director.
- (b) Subject to the Act, the Board may determine whether and to what extent, and at what times and places and under what conditions, the financial records, accounts, books, securities, or other relevant documents of the Association will be open for inspection by the Members.
- (c) The Association shall retain such records for seven (7) years after the completion of the transactions or operations to which they relate.

### **32.3 Board to Submit Accounts**

The Board shall submit to the Members at the Annual General Meeting the statements of account of the Association in accordance with this Constitution and the Act.

### **32.4 Accounts Conclusive**

The statements of account when approved or adopted by an Annual General Meeting shall be conclusive except as regards any error discovered in them within three months (3) after such approval or adoption.

### **32.5 Accounts to be available to Members**

The Executive Director shall cause to be sent to all persons entitled to receive notice of Annual General Meetings in accordance with this Constitution, receive or have access to a copy of the statements of account, the Board's report, the auditor's report, and every other document required under the Act (if any).

### **32.6 Negotiable Instruments**

All cheques, promissory notes, bankers, drafts, bills of exchange and other negotiable instruments, and all receipts for money paid to the Association, shall be signed, drawn, accepted, endorsed, or otherwise executed, as the case may be, by any two (2) duly authorised Directors or in such other manner as the Board determines.

## **33 AUDITOR**

- (a) A properly qualified auditor or auditors shall be appointed by the Association in General Meeting. The auditor's duties shall be regulated in accordance with the Act, or if no relevant provisions exist under the Act, in accordance with the Corporations Act and generally accepted principles, and/or any applicable code of conduct. The auditor may be removed by the Board.
- (b) The accounts of the Association shall be examined, and the correctness of the profit and loss accounts and balance sheets ascertained by an auditor or auditors at the conclusion of each Financial Year.

## **34 INCOME**

- (a) Income and property of the Association shall:
  - (i) derived from such sources; and
  - (ii) managed in such manner;
  - (iii) as the Board determines from time to time subject to the Act and this Constitution.

- (b) The income and property of the Association shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects.
- (c) Except as prescribed in this Constitution or the Act:
  - (i) no portion of the income or property of the Association shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise to any Member; and
  - (ii) no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth shall be paid or given by the Association to any Member who holds any office of the Association.
- (d) Nothing in clauses 33.2 or 33.3 34. (a) or 33. (b) shall prevent payment in good faith of or to any Member for:
  - (i) any services actually rendered to the Association whether as an employee, Director or otherwise;
  - (ii) goods supplied to the Association in the ordinary and usual course of operation;
  - (iii) interest on money borrowed from any Member;
  - (iv) rent for premises demised or let by any Member to the Association;
  - (v) any out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Member on behalf of the Association;
  - (vi) provided that any such payment shall not exceed the amount ordinarily payable between ordinary commercial parties dealing at arm's length in a similar transaction.

#### **34.1 Reserve Fund**

- (a) The Association may maintain a Reserve Fund in the title of Football St George Futures Fund to be controlled by the Board.
- (b) A two-thirds majority at a General Meeting is required to approve expenditure from the Reserve Fund. Investments from the fund may be made in the name of Football St George.
- (c) The Board is responsible to account for the income and expenditure of this fund.

### **35 WINDING UP**

- (a) Subject to this Constitution the Association may be wound up in accordance with the Act.
- (b) The liability of the Members of the Association is limited.
- (c) Every Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Association if it is wound up or cancelled while they are a Member, or within one (1) year after ceasing to be a Member, for payment of the debts and liabilities of the Association contracted before the time at which it ceases to be a Member and the costs, charges and expenses of winding up the Association, such an amount not exceeding one dollar (\$1.00)

## **36 DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY ON WINDING UP**

If upon winding up or dissolution of the Association there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any assets or property, the same shall not be paid to or distributed amongst the Members but shall be given or transferred to another organisation or organisations having objects similar to the Objects and which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their Members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Association by this Constitution. Such organisation(s) to be determined by the Members in General Meeting at or before the time of dissolution, and in default thereof by such judge of the Supreme Court of New South Wales or other Court as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.

## **37 ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION**

- (a) This Constitution shall not be altered except by Special Resolution.
- (b) Any alteration or amendment made by way of a Special Resolution to any provisions of this Constitution, are to take effect and become binding upon the Association and its members at the expiration of a period of fourteen (14) days from the adoption of any such alteration or amendment.

## **38 REGULATIONS**

### **38.1 Board to Formulate Regulations**

- (a) The Board may formulate, issue, adopt, interpret, and amend such Regulations for the proper advancement, management and administration of the Association, the advancement of the Objects and Football in the Region.
- (b) Where there is any inconsistency between these By-Laws and any regulations, rules or policies, the Constitution shall prevail.
- (c) Such Regulations must be consistent with the Constitution, the SSO and NSO's constitutions, any regulations made by the SSO or NSO and any policy directives of the Board.
- (d) Any alteration or amendment made to any Regulations, are to take effect and become binding upon the Association and its members at the expiration of a period of fourteen (14) days from the adoption of any such alteration or amendment.

### **38.2 Regulations Binding**

All Regulations are binding on the Association and all Members.

### **38.3 Regulations Deemed Applicable**

All articles, rules, by-laws, and regulations of the Association (by whatever name) in force at the date of the approval of this Constitution insofar as such articles, rules, by-laws, and regulations are not inconsistent with, or have been replaced by this Constitution, shall be deemed to be Regulations, and shall continue to apply and be in operation.

### **38.4 Changes Binding on Members**

Amendments, alterations, interpretations, or other changes to Regulations shall be advised to Members by such means as are determined and approved by the Board from time to time and prepared and issued by the Executive Director. Clubs shall take reasonable steps to distribute such changes to Individual Members. All changes are binding on all Members.

## **39 STATUS AND COMPLIANCE OF ASSOCIATION**

### **39.1 Recognition of Association**

The Association is a member of SSO and is recognised by SSO as the controlling authority for Football in the Region and subject to compliance with this Constitution and the SSO's and NSO's constitution shall continue to be so recognised and shall administer Football in the Region in accordance with the Objects.

### **39.2 Compliance of Association**

The Members acknowledge and agree the Association shall:

- (a) be or remain incorporated in New South Wales;
- (b) apply its property and capacity solely in pursuit of the Objects and Football;
- (c) do all that is reasonably necessary to enable the Objects to be achieved;
- (d) act in good faith and loyalty to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of Football, its standards, quality, and reputation for the benefit of the Members and Football;
- (e) at all times act in the interests of the Members and Football;
- (f) not resign, disaffiliate, or otherwise seek to withdraw from SSO without approval by Special Resolution; and
- (g) abide by the SSO's and NSO's constitutions and the rules of Football.

### **39.3 Operation of Constitution**

The Association and the Members acknowledge and agree:

- (a) that they are bound by this Constitution and that this Constitution operates to create uniformity in the way in which the Objects and Football are to be conducted, promoted, encouraged, advanced, and administered throughout the Region; and
- (b) to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of Football, its standards, quality, and reputation for the benefit of the Members and Football;
- (c) not to do or permit to be done any act or thing which might adversely affect or derogate from the standards, quality and reputation of Football and its maintenance and enhancement;
- (d) to promote the economic and community service success, strength, and stability of each other and to act interdependently with each other in pursuit of their respective objects;
- (e) to act in the interests of Football and the Members; and
- (f) that should a Member have administrative, operational, or financial difficulties the Association may act to assist the Member in whatever manner the Association considers appropriate.

## **40 ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION**

### **40.1 Constitution of the Association**

This Constitution will clearly reflect the objects of the SSO and will conform to the SSO's constitution, subject always to the Act.

## **40.2 Operation of SSO constitution**

- (a) The Association will take all reasonable steps to ensure this Constitution conforms to the SSO constitution subject always to the Act.
- (b) The Association shall provide to the SSO a copy of this Constitution and any amendments to it. The Association acknowledges and agrees that the SSO has power to veto any provision in its Constitution which, in the SSO's opinion, is contrary to the objects of the SSO.

## **40.3 Register**

The Association shall maintain, in a form acceptable to SSO but otherwise in accordance with the Act and this Constitution, a Register of all Clubs and if appropriate all Individual Members.

# **41 STATUS AND COMPLIANCE OF CLUBS**

## **41.1 Compliance**

Subject to this Constitution, Clubs acknowledge and agree that they shall:

- (a) be or remain incorporated in New South Wales;
- (b) nominate Delegates annually to attend General Meetings, and shall inform the Association of the details of that person accordingly;
- (c) provide the Association with copies of their audited accounts, annual financial reports, and other associated documents as soon as practicable, following the Club's Annual General Meeting;
- (d) recognise the Association as the authority for Football in the Region, the SSO as the authority in New South Wales and the NSO as the national authority for Football;
- (e) adopt and implement such communications and Intellectual Property policies as may be developed by the Association and/or the SSO from time to time; and
- (f) have regard to the Objects in any matter of the Club pertaining to Football.

## **41.2 Club Constitutions**

- (a) A Club's constituent documents will clearly reflect the Objects and will conform to this Constitution.
- (b) Clubs will take all reasonable steps necessary to ensure their constituent documents conform to this Constitution.
- (c) Clubs shall provide to the Association a copy of their constituent documents and all amendments to these documents. Clubs acknowledge and agree that the Association has power to veto any provision in a Club constitution which, in the Association's opinion, is contrary to the Objects.
- (d) The constituent documents of each Club shall, at the earliest available opportunity, but within one year of the commencement of this Constitution, recognise the Association as the authority for Football in the Region, the SSO as the authority in New South Wales and the NSO as the national authority for Football in Australia.

## **41.3 Register**

All Clubs shall maintain, in a form acceptable to the Association, a Register of all Members of the Club. Each Club shall provide a copy of the Register at a time and in a form acceptable to the Association and shall provide regular updates of the Register to the Association.

## 42 NOTICE

- (a) Notices may be given by the Association to any person entitled under this Constitution to receive any notice by sending the notice by pre-paid post or facsimile transmission or where available, by electronic mail, to the Member's Registered address or facsimile number or electronic mail address, or in the case of a Delegate, to the last notified address, facsimile number, or electronic mail address.
- (b) Where a notice is sent by post, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected by properly addressing, prepaying, and posting the notice. Service of the notice is deemed to have been effected three (3) days after posting.
- (c) Where a notice is sent by facsimile transmission, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected upon receipt of a confirmation report confirming the facsimile was sent to/or received at the facsimile number to which it was sent.
- (d) Where a notice is sent by electronic mail, service of the notice shall be deemed to be effected the next business day after it was sent.

## 43 PATRONS

The Association at its AGM may appoint on the recommendation of the Board a chief patron and such number of patrons as it considers necessary, subject to approval of that person or persons.

## 44 INDEMNITY

- (a) Every Director and employee of the Association shall be indemnified out of the property and assets of the Association against any liability incurred by them in their capacity as Director or employee in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in their favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in relation to any such proceedings in which relief is granted by the Court.
- (b) The Association shall indemnify its Directors and employees against all damages and losses (including legal costs) for which any such Director or employee may be or become liable to any third party in consequence of any act or omission except willful misconduct:
  - (i) in the case of a Director, performed or made whilst acting on behalf of and with the authority, express or implied of the Association; and
  - (ii) in the case of an employee, performed or made in the course of, and within the scope of their employment by the Association.

## 45 HONORARIA

- (a) Each Officer and/ or Office bearer of the Association shall be entitled to reimbursement for any out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the course of so acting but shall not otherwise be entitled to receive remuneration.
- (b) The Board may propose for consideration by the members present at the Annual General Meeting that Honoraria be paid to such Officers and/ or Office Bearers, and in such amounts, as the members so determine.



## **46 ASSOCIATION COLOURS**

- (a) The Association colours are Red, White, and Black.
- (b) The Association logo shall feature a Dragon and may include other traditional symbols associated with Saint George.

## SCHEDULE 1 – LIST OF AFFILIATED CLUBS

CLUB NAME:	NO. OF DELEGATES
All Saints Oatley West	2
Arncliffe Aurora	2
Banksia Tigers	2
Bexley North Bombers	2
Carlton Rovers	2
Carss Park	2
Connells Point Rovers	2
Dolls Point	2
Forest Ranger	2
Hurstville Glory Soccer Club	2
Hurstville City Minotaurs	2
Hurstville Z. FC	2
Kogarah Waratah	2
Lugarno	2
Oatley R.S.L	2
Peakhurst United	2
Penshurst West	2
Ramsgate R.S.L	2
Rockdale City Suns	2
Rockdale Raiders	2
Sans Souci	2
Scots FC	2

## SCHEDULE 2 – AFFILIATION HISTORY NOTES

- All Saints Oatley West admitted 12th August 1987
- Dolls Point name change to St. George Sailing February 1990 then altered back to Dolls Point February 1993
- Arncliffe Aurora admitted February 1991
- Bardwell Park/Turrella Minotaurs admitted February 1992 - name change to Southern Minotaurs February 1993 - name change to Hurstville City Minotaurs March 1998
- Blakehurst withdrawn February 1993
- Hurstville R.S.L. withdrawn January 1994
- Rockdale Youth name change to Rockdale Raiders January 1994
- Bexley North name change to Bexley North Bombers January 1996
- Qantas name change to Monterey February 1997
- Rockdale Ilinden name change to Rockdale City Suns 1999
- Riverwood Legion – club disbanded 1999
- Arncliffe Aurora - Name change to Brighton Andinos in June 2000 to commence 2001 – Brighton Andinos failed to affiliate 2003
- Arncliffe Aurora re-admitted in February 2001
- St. George Police Youth – Name change to St. George United December 2001
- Kingsgrove Allstars & St. George Olympic merged together and formed Hurstville Glory January 2003
- Banksia Tigers admitted 28<sup>th</sup> February 2005
- Monterey – not affiliated, unfinancial 2007
- Ansett Australia – did not re-affiliate January 2008
- St. George United – did not re-affiliate 2013
- Beverly Hills FC – did not re-affiliate in 2015

### SCHEDULE 3 - LIST OF LIFE MEMBERS

E. Coleman	J. Ludington	Mrs D. Buckley*
A.S Tanner BEM*	J. Preston	M. Dinley
R. Orton	G. Taff	R. Gardner
R. Doige	D. Rothwell	D. Marshall*
R. Hunt*	S. Best*	R. Baker*
S. Moses*	I. Pavelic	K. Pavey
C. Pirie *	K. Setter	W. Dennis
A. Knight*	G. Dalley*	M Corfield
K. Pitt	R. Mason	Mrs R. Corfield
F. Burgess*	R. Harrington	S. Mallios*
G. Harris*	R. Pannowitz*	A. Bonura
R. Edwards	P. Dawson*	J. Finlay-Jones
W. Dobson*	Mrs J. Dawson	P. Sarikakis
J. Hedison	Mrs H. Christopher*	
K. Derrett	A. Howards	
J. Palmer*	J. Wall*	
J. Gooch	Mrs J. Clow	
D. Dollery	T. Trotman	
A. Christopher	R. Walker*	
A. Noyes*	J. Buckley*	

\*Deceased

## SCHEDULE 4 - CONSTITUTION REVISION HISTORY

The amendments to the Association Constitution 2011 tabled to the members to be included in the amended and new format known as the Association Constitution 2013 were approved at the Association AGM held on 3 December 2012.

Season	Amendments Approved	Minute
2013 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates - 3 December 2012	MCM 2/12/12 Minute 7
2014 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 25 November 2013	MCM-25/11/13 Minute 7
2015 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 25 November 2014	MCM-25/11/14 Minute 7
2016 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates - 23 November 2015	MCM-23/11/15 Minute 7
2017 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 21 November 2016	MCM-20/11/16 Minute 2.8
2018 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 20 November 2017	MCM-20/11/17 Minute 2.7
2019 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 19 November 2018	MCM-18/11/18 Minute 9
2020 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 18 November 2019	MCM-30/11/19 Minute 9
2021 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 30 November 2020	MCM-30/11/19 Minute 10
2022 Constitution	Meeting of Club Delegates – 31 March 2022	MCM 31/3/22 Minute 6.2
2023 Constitution	Annual General Meeting – 8 February 2023	AGM 8/2/23 Minute 7



**FOOTBALL  
ST GEORGE**

**Football St George**

Level 2, Western Grandstand

Netstrata Jubilee Stadium

Carlton NSW 2218

 9556 3055

 [footballstgeorge.com.au](http://footballstgeorge.com.au)

 [info@footballstgeorge.com.au](mailto:info@footballstgeorge.com.au)

 /footballstgeorge

 \_footballstgeorge