

## **SECTION B: MEMBERSHIP**

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### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

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- 3.1 A person may become a Member by being admitted in one of the following classes of membership:
- (a) Service Member in accordance with this Constitution; or
  - (b) National Member in accordance with this Constitution and the National Constitution; or
  - (c) Affiliate Member in accordance with this Constitution
- 3.2 All Service Members and National Members have equal status in RSL NSW as set out in the Constitution. Affiliate Members will have conditions placed on their membership as detailed in the By-Laws.
- 3.3 Upon becoming a Member, a person is deemed to have agreed:
- (a) to be bound by, and act in accordance with, the provisions of this Constitution; and
  - (b) promote the aims and objects of RSL NSW as set out in this Constitution.
- 3.4 This Constitution will not affect the continuity of membership of any Member who was admitted as a Member (irrespective of the class of membership) prior to this Constitution coming into effect.
- 3.5 A person who has been expelled from membership pursuant to either this Constitution or the National Constitution will not be re-admitted as a Member unless by resolution of State Council and any other purported re-admission will be null and void.
- 3.6 An application to be admitted as a Member must be in accordance with the By-Laws and Regulations.
- 3.7 RSL NSW will establish and maintain a register of all Members in accordance with the By-Laws.

### **4. SERVICE MEMBERS**

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- 4.1 The following persons are eligible to apply for admission as a Service Member:
- (a) a person who, for a period of not less than 6 months, has been a member of the Australian Defence Force;
  - (b) a person who was a member of the Australian Defence Force for a period of less than 6 months due to the person being discharged for medical reasons or other reasons outside their control;
  - (c) a person who was a member of the Armed Forces of:
    - (i) any country presently or formerly a member of the Commonwealth;
    - (ii) any country or place presently or formerly a Crown Colony of the United Kingdom; or
    - (iii) the United States of America.

- (d) a person to whom clause 4.1(c) does not apply, but who has, in a theatre of conflict, either served with, supported or was otherwise engaged with the Australian Defence Force or the Armed Forces of those countries or places referred to in clause 4.1(c) above and who is an Australian citizen or a citizen of any of those countries or places;
- (e) a person who is an Australian citizen and who:
  - (i) was a member of the Armed Forces of another country or place which, during that time of conflict, was an ally of the Commonwealth; or
  - (ii) in a theatre of conflict either served with or supported or was otherwise engaged with the Armed Forces of such a country or place.
- (f) any person who is not otherwise eligible to be admitted as a Service Member but who:
  - (i) is an Australian Citizen and who for a period of not less than 6 months served in the Armed Forces of any other country or place not included in those countries or places referred to in clause 4.1(c) above, provided however that at no time during such service, the country or place was in conflict in war or war-like operations against the Commonwealth; or
  - (ii) for a period of not less than 6 months has been a member of a philanthropic organisation which was, during that period, formally accredited to and administered by the Australian Defence Force.
- (g) a person who is an Australian citizen and has served 10 continuous years as an "officer" or other rank instructor in the Australian Defence Force Cadets (this includes officers serving in the Australian Navy Cadets, Australian Army Cadets and Australian Air Force Cadets).

4.2 If State Council is satisfied special circumstances exist, a person who does not strictly comply with clauses 4.1(a) to 4.1(g) above may be admitted as a Service Member, provided such person is otherwise qualified to be admitted as a Service Member.

4.3 All Service Members may attend and observe any National Congress but shall not, unless attending as a RSL NSW Delegate, be entitled to be heard, vote or receive notices.

4.4 All Service Members will pay an Annual Subscription in accordance with, and subject to, the By-Laws.

## **5. NATIONAL MEMBERS**

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5.1 The National Constitution will regulate National Members.

5.2 Life Members

- (a) A Service Member may be admitted as a Life Member in accordance with the National Constitution.
- (b) Subject to the By-Laws and Regulations, RSL NSW may propose that a Service Member who has given long, continued and outstanding service to RSL NSW, be elected by the National Executive to the class of Life Member.
- (c) The rights, privileges and obligations under this Constitution of a Service Member elected as a Life Member will not be affected by their election, except that they will no longer be liable to pay annual subscription fees to RSL NSW or a sub-Branch.

5.3 Honorary Members and Honorary Life Members

- (a) A person may be admitted as an Honorary Member in accordance with the National Constitution.
- (b) A person, Service Member or Life Member may be admitted as an Honorary Life Member in accordance with the National Constitution.
- (c) The rights, privileges and obligations under this Constitution of a Service Member or Life Member who is awarded Honorary Membership or Honorary Life Membership, will not be affected by the award of Honorary Membership or Honorary Life Membership, except that they will not be liable to pay subscription fees or other sums to RSL NSW or a sub-Branch.

## **6. MEMBER LIABILITY**

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- 6.1 The liability of each Member is limited to the contribution amount payable by that Member to RSL NSW in accordance with this clause.
- 6.2 Each Member will contribute to RSL NSW in the event of RSL NSW being wound up, the sum of \$10.00.

## **7. CESSATION AND SUSPENSION OF MEMBERSHIP**

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- 7.1 A Member may resign (with immediate effect) from RSL NSW by giving written notice to either RSL NSW or the sub-Branch of which they are a member.
- 7.2 A person who has ceased, for any reason, to be a Member:
  - (a) will cease to have any rights or privileges under this Constitution;
  - (b) will remain liable to pay any outstanding amounts they owe to the RSL NSW, sub-Branches or Subsidiaries at the date of cessation of their membership; and
  - (c) will return their Badge to the State Secretary.
- 7.3 A resignation submitted in accordance with this Constitution cannot be refused by RSL NSW or a sub-Branch.
- 7.4 A person who has submitted their resignation as a Member in accordance with this Constitution, cannot revoke their resignation but may immediately apply to be re-admitted as a Member in accordance with this Constitution.
- 7.5 RSL NSW is not required to accept the application of any person to become a Member and State Council may terminate a Member's membership if it reasonably believes:
  - (a) that the membership of that person is irreconcilable with the aims and objectives of RSL NSW as set out in this Constitution; or
  - (b) that the person is not a fit and proper person to be admitted as a Member.
- 7.6 A Member may be reprimanded, suspended or expelled in accordance with this Constitution.

## **8. NATIONAL MEMBERS SUSPENSION FROM NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP**

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- 8.1 A Member who is also a National Member may be suspended or expelled from National Membership by RSL National in accordance with the National Constitution.
- 8.2 A National Member to whom this clause applies, will return their Badge to the National Secretary.