



CONSTITUTION
(revised June 25, 2018)

1.0 NAME:

The name of the Association/Club is Maitland Saints Australian Football Club (Inc.) hereinafter referred to as the "Association" or "Club".

2.0 OBJECTS:

The objects of the Association are:-

- 2.1 The participation, promotion and development of the game of Australian Football through Senior and Junior Sub-Committees under the direction of the Board
- 2.2 To undertake affiliation and links with other organisations engaged in whole or in part with the delivery of sporting and other community-based services through Senior and Junior Sub-Committees under the direction of the Board; and
- 2.3 The provision and maintenance of facilities, through the purchase, lease and/or development of land, buildings or other assets, for the benefit and welfare of members and from which the Association might derive a benefit.
- 2.4 The fair and balanced financial management of the club to the benefit of all members by the Board;
- 2.5 The governance and strategic planning of the Association to the benefit of all members by the Board.

3.0 ATTAINING OBJECTS

The Association shall be empowered to do all things necessary which are incidental to and necessary for the attainment of the objects of the Association.

4.0 PROPERTY OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Association must apply all property and income of the Association towards the promotion of the objects or purposes of the Association and no part of that property or income to be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to members of the Association, except in good faith in the promotion of those objects or purposes.

5.0 POWERS OF THE ASSOCIATION: (as conferred by Section 13 of the Act).

- 5.1 To acquire, hold, deal with, and dispose of any real or personal property;
- 5.2 To open and operate bank accounts;

- 5.3 To invest its money –
 - (i) in any security in which trust moneys may be invested; or
 - (ii) in any other manner authorised by the rules of the Association;
- 5.4 To borrow money upon such terms and conditions as the Association thinks fit;
- 5.5 To give such security for the discharge of liabilities incurred by the Association as the Association thinks fit;
- 5.6 To appoint agents and employees to transact any business of the Association on its behalf for reward or otherwise;
- 5.7 To build, construct, erect, maintain, alter and repair any premises, building or other structure of any kind and to furnish, equip and improve the same for use by the Association;
- 5.8 Accept donations and gifts in accordance with the objects of the Association;
- 5.9 Print and publish any information by any media including newsletters, newspapers, articles or leaflets for promotion of the Association;
- 5.10 Provide gifts and prizes in accordance with the objects of the Association;
- 5.11 Organise social events for Members and the promotion of the Association; and
- 5.12 To enter into any other contract the Association considers necessary or desirable.

6.0 MEMBERSHIP:

- 6.1 Membership shall be open to any person who wishes to further the interests of the Association.
- 6.2 Any person seeking membership shall make application to the Board, and the Board shall determine whether the application is successful or not.
- 6.3 Each person admitted to membership shall be;
 - 6.3.1 Bound by the Constitution and By-laws of the Association.
 - 6.3.2 Come liable for such fees and subscriptions as may be fixed by the Association.
 - 6.3.3 Entitled to all advantages and privileges of membership.
- 6.4 Membership Categories:
 - 6.4.1 ORDINARY MEMBER
Any person who is a financial member (including parents/guardians of financial Junior Members) of the Association is entitled to hold any office and enjoy the privileges of the Association.
 - 6.4.2 SOCIAL MEMBER
Persons other than ordinary members who are interested in promoting the Association, but who do not wish to participate in the playing activities of the Association, may become a Social Member.
 - 6.4.3 JUNIOR MEMBER
Any person under the age of 18 years may become a Junior Member. Junior Members shall have no voting rights nor be entitled to hold any office.
 - 6.4.4 LIFE MEMBERSHIP
Any member may nominate a person to the Board for consideration for Life Membership. The Board may elect any member who has given outstanding service to the Association.
 - 6.4.5 PATRON
The Association may, at its discretion, elect a patron/s or vice patron/s of the Association for such period as may be deemed necessary. Such patron/s or vice patron/s shall not be eligible to vote unless they are

current members of the Association under another category of membership.

6.4.6 AFFILIATED CLUBS OR TEAMS

A club or team desirous of becoming an affiliated club or team must take application in accordance with the By-Laws of the Association. Such application must be lodged with the Association Secretary on or before a date as determined by the Board of the Association. Each affiliated club or team shall appoint or elect a delegate as his or her representative to meetings of the Board (as per Section 9.1).

6.5 The Board shall appoint a member of the Association to maintain an up to date register of members of the Association.

6.6 A member may, at any reasonable time, inspect the records and documents of the Association.

7.0 SUBSCRIPTIONS:

7.1 As determined annually at the Annual General Meeting and amended in the By-Laws of the Association forthwith.

8.0 TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

8.1 Any person's membership may be terminated by the following events;

8.1.1 Resignation

8.1.2 Expulsion

8.1.3 a Member's annual membership fee remains unpaid after 45 days falling due;

8.2 The Board shall have the power to suspend or expel any member of the Association for:

8.2.1 any of the events in Item 8.1

8.2.2 False or inaccurate statements made in the member's application for membership of the Association,

8.2.3 breach of any rule, regulation or by-law of the Association and

8.2.4 by any act detrimental to the Association.

After having undertaken due inquiry.

8.3 Any member who is expelled, suspended or has their membership terminated, shall have the right to appeal against their suspension or expulsion by presenting their case to a General Meeting called for such purpose, and the decision of the General Meeting shall be final.

9.0 BOARD

Committee persons are sometimes referred to as Office Bearers.

The main Office Bearers are often referred to as The Executive.

9.1 Management of the Association shall be vested in the Board elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting and consisting of;

9.1.1 Chairman

9.1.2 Vice Chairmans x 2 (being the elected Presidents of the Junior and Senior Committees)

9.1.3 Secretary

9.1.4 Treasurer

9.1.5 Public Officer

9.1.6 Junior Club Delegates being the elected Secretary and up to two additional nominees;

- 9.1.7 Senior Club Delegates being the elected Secretary and up to two additional nominees; and
- 9.1.8 One delegate per separate team entity outside of Junior and Senior Club affiliations.
- 9.2 No person shall hold more than one position on the Board at any one time. A person shall cease to be a member of the Board at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting which follows his/her election and he/she will be eligible for re-election.
- 9.3 A quorum of the Board shall be half of its members plus one.
- 9.4 If the Chairman or Vice Chairman is unable to attend, then a chairperson nominated by the meeting shall chair that meeting.
- 9.5 A member of the Board may lose his or her seat on the committee for either of the following;
 - Absence from three or more meetings without leave of absence.
 - Found not to be a financial member.

10.0 POWERS OF THE BOARD

- 10.1 The Board shall carry out the day-to-day running of the Association and shall have the power to:
 - 10.1.1 Administer the finances, appoint bankers, and direct the opening of banking accounts for specific purposes and to transfer funds from one account to another, and to close any such account;
 - 10.1.2 Fix the manner in which such banking accounts shall be operated upon, providing the Board passes all payments;
 - 10.1.3 Fix fees and subscriptions payable by members and decide such levies, fines and charges as is deemed necessary and advisable, and to enforce payment thereof;
 - 10.1.4 Adjudicate on all matters brought before it which in any way affect the Association.
 - 10.1.5 Cause minutes to be made of all proceedings at meetings of the Board and General Meetings of members;
 - 10.1.6 Make, amend and rescind rulings and By-laws;
 - 10.1.7 Have the power to form and appoint any sub committee/s as required for specific purposes;
 - 10.1.8 May at their discretion employ a person or persons to carry out certain duties required by the Association, at salaries or remunerations for such period of time, as may be deemed necessary.
 - 10.1.9 Should a vacancy occur on the Board during the season, the Board shall appoint a successor until the next Annual General Meeting.
 - 10.1.10 Appoint an officer/s or agent of the Board to have custody of the Association's records, documents and securities.

11.0 AUDITOR

- 11.1 The Annual General Meeting shall elect or appoint an Auditor or Auditors.
- 11.2 The Auditor/s shall examine and audit all the books and accounts of the Association annually, and have the power to call for all books, papers, accounts, receipts etc., of the Association and report thereon to the Annual General Meeting.

12.0 GENERAL MEETINGS:

- 12.1 Annual General Meeting

- 12.1.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Association must be held within four months of the end of the club's financial year.
- 12.1.2 The Secretary shall give at least fourteen (14) days notice of the date of the Annual General Meeting, to members.
- 12.1.3 All financial members may attend the Annual General Meeting.
- 12.1.4 The quorum at the Annual General Meeting, shall be a minimum of 15 members. If, at the end of 30 minutes after the time appointed in the notice for the opening of the Meeting, there be no quorum the meeting shall stand and adjourn for one week. If at such meeting there is no quorum those members present shall be competent to discharge the business of the meeting.
- 12.1.5 The agenda for an Annual General Meeting shall be;
 - Opening of Meeting
 - Apologies
 - Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting
 - Presentation of Annual Report
 - Adoption of Annual Report
 - Presentation of Treasurer's statement
 - Election of New Executive and appointment of Auditor
 - Vote of thanks to outgoing Executive
 - Determination of Annual Membership Fee
 - Notice/s of Motion
 - Urgent general business
 - Closure

12.2 General Meetings

- 12.2.1 General Meetings may be called by the Board or at the request of the Chairman and Secretary or on the written request of 15 members of the Association.
- 12.2.2 The Secretary shall give at least seven (7) days notice, in writing, of the date of the General Meeting to the members. Notice of General Meetings shall set out clearly the business for which the meeting has been called. No other business shall be dealt with at that General Meeting.
- 12.2.3 The quorum at the General Meeting shall be a minimum of 10 members.

13.0 VOTING

- 13.1 Voting powers at the Annual General Meeting and General Meetings:
 - 13.1.1 The Chairman shall be entitled to a deliberate vote and, in the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall exercise a casting vote.
 - 13.1.2 Each individual financial member present shall have one (1) vote.
- 13.2 Voting powers at Board Meetings;
 - 13.2.1 The Chairman shall be entitled to a deliberate vote, and, in the event of a tied vote, the Chairman shall exercise a casting vote.
 - 13.2.2 Each individual committee member present shall have one (1) vote.

14.0 FINANCE:

- 14.1 All funds of the Association shall be deposited into the Association's accounts at such bank or recognised financial institution as the Board may determine.

- 14.2 All accounts due by the Association shall be paid after having being passed for payment at the Board Meeting and when immediate payment is necessary, account/s shall be paid and the action endorsed at the next Board Meeting.
- 14.3 A statement showing the financial position of the Association shall be tabled at each Board Meeting by the Treasurer.
- 14.4 A statement of Income and Expenditure, Assets and Liabilities shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting. The auditor's report shall be attached to such financial report.
- 14.5 The financial year of the Association shall commence on September 15 each year. The accounts, books and all financial records of the Association shall be audited each year.
- 14.6 The approver to the Association's account/s will be any two of the Treasurer, the Secretary and the Chairman.
- 14.7 All property and income of the Association will apply solely to the promotion of the objects of the Association and no part of that property or income shall be paid or otherwise distributed, directly, or indirectly, to members, except in good faith in the promotion of these objects.

15.0 ALTERNATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS:

- 15.1 No alteration, repeal or addition shall be made to the Constitution except at the Annual General Meeting, or General Meeting, called for that purpose and notice of all motions to alter, repeal or add to the Constitution shall be given to members fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting, or seven (7) days prior to a General Meeting called for such purpose.
- 15.2 The Secretary shall forward such notices of motion to each Board member at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Annual General Meeting or seven (7) days prior to a General Meeting.
- 15.3 Alterations to the By-laws can be made only at Board Meetings provided notice of the proposed alteration/s has been duly notified to Committee Members.
- 15.4 Such motions, or any part thereof, shall be of no effect unless passed by a seventy five percent (75%) majority (Special Resolution) of those present and entitled to a vote at the Annual General Meeting, General Meeting or Board Meeting, as the case may be.
- 15.5 Within one month of the passing of a Special Resolution, the Secretary shall notify the Department of Fair Trading of the amendment. (In the case of a licensed club, the Director of Liquor and Gaming must also be notified.)

16.0 DISSOLUTION

If, on the winding up of the Association, any property of the Association remains after satisfaction of the debts and liabilities of the Association and the costs, charges and expenses of that winding up, that property shall be distributed

- (a) another incorporated association having objects similar to those of the Association; or
- (b) for charitable or benevolent purposes, which incorporated Association or purposes, as the case requires, shall be determined by resolution of the members.