

CONSTITUTION
OF
THE AUSTRALASIAN FIRE BRIGADES GOLF CLUB

1) NAME

The club shall be called "**The Australasian Fire Brigades Golf Club**", hereinafter called "the club".

2) OBJECTS

The objects of the club to be:

- a) Foster the game of golf and to encourage good fellowship among the members
- b) Conduct an annual competition throughout Australia and New Zealand

3) REPRESENTATION OF STATES ETC.

Each State, Territory and New Zealand shall be represented by one contingent only who will be administered by the following golf clubs, hereinafter called "the recognised clubs":

VICTORIA	FRV Social Golf Club Inc
NORTHERN TERRITORY	Northern Territory Firefighters Golf Club Inc.
NEW SOUTH WALES	New South Wales Fire Brigade Golf Club.
QUEENSLAND	Queensland Fire Service Golf Club.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service Golf Club
TASMANIA	Tasmania Fire Service Golf Club.
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY	ACT Firefighters Golf Club
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	WA Fire Brigades Golf Club
NEW ZEALAND	New Zealand National Fire Service Golf Executive

4) MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership shall consist of the following:
 - Ordinary members:
 - Social members:
 - Life members.

5) CLASSIFICATION

a) SOCIAL MEMBERS

Social members shall be members of any recognised Fire Brigade Golf Club who do not satisfy the requirements as applies to ordinary members.

b) ORDINARY MEMBERS

Ordinary members shall be members of any recognised Fire Brigade Golf Club and who are serving or retired members of any Commonwealth or State Fire Service, permanent or volunteer, who hold a current Golf Australia Handicap or New Zealand Golf Handicap Index.

Retirement, resignation or redundancy shall not preclude a person being an Ordinary Member of the Club, provided that person be a member of the representative Golf Club of the State they are competing for, as named in Section (3) of the Constitution and they have a minimum of 15 years' service with a Fire Service.

Medical retirement shall not preclude a person being an Ordinary Member of the Club providing the individual has played as an Ordinary Member at an Australasian event whilst a serving member of a Fire Service.

c) LIFE MEMBERS

Members shall be eligible for Life Membership when:

- 1) They have been a continuous member of their home club for a minimum period of 10 years and are a Life Member of that club.
- 2) They have been proposed and seconded in writing to the current Secretary, all States, Territories and New Zealand at least (2) two months prior to the Annual General Meeting by their recognised club.
- 3) The nominating club shall include with their proposal their recommendation supporting the proposal, including but not limited to how many years they have attended the Australasian golf tournament (or best estimate) and how many years they have been a life member of their home club.
- 4) Limited to two newly elected members per year.
- 5) A unanimous decision shall be necessary for life membership to be approved.
- 6) Life Members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

6) SUBSCRIPTIONS

There shall be no subscriptions.

7) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- a) The Annual General Meeting of the club shall be held each year prior to the championships at a date and venue to be selected by the host state.
- b) The members present at the Annual General Meeting shall consist of two members only from each State, Territory and New Zealand, with the exception of the host State who may provide one additional member for the purpose of recording the proceedings but who shall have no voting powers.
- c) All members present shall have one vote each with the exception of the third host State Member.
- d) The Chairman shall be the host state President or in his absence the Vice President or any member elected by the majority.
- e) The Chairman shall have a casting vote in addition to his original vote.
- f) Copies of the minutes of the meeting shall be distributed by the host state to all States, Territories and New Zealand within (3) three months of such meeting.

8) ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION AND POLICIES

- a) The constitution and policies of the club shall not be altered, added to, or rescinded except by resolution passed at an Annual General Meeting.
The sitting committee can resolve non-constitutional issues arising between tournaments via email.
- b) No such resolution regarding the constitution shall be submitted to the meeting unless 60 days' notice of such proposed alteration has been duly given in writing to the Secretary and copies posted to all States, Territories and New Zealand.
- c) Resolutions regarding the constitution must be accepted by two thirds (2/3) majority of the members present and entitled to vote at such meetings.
- d) The WA Fire Brigades Golf Club be entrusted with the custodianship of the Constitution and Policy Document of the Australasian Fire Brigades Golf Club and be responsible for the proper maintenance and updating as required. It shall also be responsible for the distribution of current documents to each State, Territory and New Zealand six months prior to the next Australasian Fire Brigade Golf Club Championship following any alterations confirmed at the previous AGM.

9) OFFICE BEARERS

- a) Office bearers of the club shall be the office bearers of the state responsible for hosting the championships in any one year.
- b) The term of office shall commence at the conclusion of the preceding championships and shall terminate at the conclusion of the current championship in any one year.

10) SUB COMMITTEES

- a) Sub Committees shall be as designated by the officers of the club, with the exception of the Match Committee.
- b) The Match Committee shall be chaired by the host State's Captain and consist of all nine State, Territory and New Zealand Captain's.
- c) In the event of any absences of the above, proxies shall be nominated by their individual states.
- d) The match committee shall be sole adjudicators over all matters arising from the competition requiring a quorum of five State Captains or their representatives.

11) COMPLAINTS

All complaints will be submitted to the Secretary in writing who will lay them before the Annual General Meeting.

12) PLAYING RULES

All play shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of golf as approved from time to time by the rules of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews subject to such local playing rules as are in force from time to time.

13) RULES AND POLICIES

Every member of the club is bound by and shall submit to the Rules and Policies of the club.

14) CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

- a) The championships shall be played annually between the months of September and November inclusive.
- b) Northern Territory shall have the option of hosting the championships in August.

15) CHAMPIONSHIP VENUES

a) The Championship venues shall be in the following order:

- Victoria
- Northern Territory
- New South Wales
- Queensland
- South Australia
- Tasmania
- Australian Capital Territory
- Western Australia
- New Zealand

Note: This order will be temporarily altered due to cancellation of the 2020 event. Victoria to host 2021, New South Wales in 2022, Northern Territory in 2023. Queensland will host in 2024 with the order then continuing as listed above.

b) In the event of any State, Territory or New Zealand being unable to host the Championships, a notification period of two [2] years is required. That State, Territory or New Zealand shall forfeit its right to host the Championships until its turn appears again in the order.

c) If cancellation occurs due to circumstances outside of the control of any State, Territory or New Zealand such as a Pandemic (2020), that a Special General meeting of all State representatives will be convened to determine the future hosts of the event.

16) HANDICAPS

a) Members with a Golf Australia “GA Handicap” or a New Zealand Golf “Handicap Index” shall supply their Golfink number or NZ Golf Member ID number on their nomination form.

b) Members “Daily Handicap” (Aust) or “Playing Handicap” (NZ) shall be determined by the host country’s World Handicap System formula.

c) Members who do not have a Golf Australia “GA Handicap” or a New Zealand Golf “Handicap Index” shall supply written verification of their handicap via their home club’s secretary or captain.

17) DONATIONS

a) Each State, Territory and New Zealand pay to the next Host State, Territory or New Zealand the sum of \$500.00 (Australian) as a non-refundable donation to help fund the championship for that year.

- b) This sum shall be paid to the following year's Host State, Territory or New Zealand at the Australasian Fire Brigades Golf Club AGM the year prior.

18) USE OF MOTORISED EQUIPMENT

- a) Any player, including State Team Members, who are incapable of walking the course, where supported by medical documentation, may use motorised equipment if so approved by the Match Committee and the Venue Course Committee.