Rules of Association for

ALBURY/WODONGA CHRISTIAN BROADCASTERS INCORPORATED

As required by the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and Associations Incorporation Reform Regulations 2012 Part 3

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Rules of Albury/Wodonga Christian Broadcasters Incorporated

Note

The persons who from time to time are members of the Association are an incorporated association by the name given in rule 1 of these Rules.

Under section 46 of the **Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012**, these Rules are taken to constitute the terms of a contract between the Association and its members.

PART 1—PRELIMINARY

1. Name

The name of the incorporated association is:

"Albury/Wodonga Christian Broadcasters Incorporated".

Note

Under section 23 of the Act, the name of the association and its registration number must appear on all its business documents.

2. Purposes

The purposes of the association are:

- (1) To apply for and to hold a community broadcasting licence and any other telecommunications licences.
- (2) To establish and to operate a community broadcasting station and to erect, furnish and equip offices, audio studios and production facilities of broadcast standard for use by members of the Association and such other community groups and individuals whose purposes or creed do not conflict with those of the Association.
- (3) To operate the Association as a not for profit community institution and to undertake all measures necessary to provide a radio broadcasting service to encourage, enable and facilitate communication within the community by operating and developing community media activities serving the Christian community and in particular:
 - a. to enable and facilitate communication within the community by broadcasting programs dealing with local issues, events, culture and activities which are consistent with the Purposes of this Association.
 - b. to promote the work of Australian musicians and performers and regularly play throughout the day, new material and music of upcoming Australian bands and performers or those not recorded or distributed by major record companies and to this end to provide broadcasting and recording facilities to encourage Australian music talent.
 - c. to exceed at all times the minimum Australian content provisions outlined in the Community Broadcasting Code of Practice.
 - d. to provide the opportunity for community groups and related associations, organisations and individuals whose purposes or creed do not conflict with those of the Association, to be involved in the production and presentation of original programs.
- (4) In accordance with the previous point, and as the Association determines, to provide programming of a type not adequately covered by existing broadcasters, and in particular:
 - a. to encourage and develop uses of radio for community and public affairs, education, culture, information, entertainment and recreation by, for and directed to the local community including the handicapped, parents, teachers, and children, etc.

- b. to become a "town crier" of cultural and community information by compiling community resource data and information which are consistent with the purposes of this Association, with respect to local activities, events and developments affecting the community,
- c. to promote and encourage innovative and experimental uses of radio,
- d. to commission musical, dramatic and literary works for use relating to the objects of the Association.
- (5) To teach, train, instruct, prepare and assist members of the Association and other members of the community as deemed appropriate who are in agreement with the purposes of the Association and Statement of Faith, to participate in management, production of material for transmission, program production, administration, technical aspects and other work of the Association.
- (6) To foster the development and ideals of community broadcasting in such ways as the Association may determine, and to subscribe to the Community Broadcasting Code of Practice, and in particular:
 - a. to seek all possible participation of members in all aspects of the Association including management, operations, programming and program production.
 - b. to actively discourage the broadcast of material which is sexist or racist.
- (7) To conduct, either solely or jointly with others, entertainments, promotions, concerts, cultural activities, meetings, conferences, community information resource centres, lectures, seminars, courses, on matters of interest relating to the objects of the Association, (and to broadcast the same as are relevant) and to publish either solely or jointly with others, program and other material consistent with the purposes of the Association.
- (8) To carry out research into radio and other media including all technical, economic, social and marketing aspects specifically related to the use of these means towards the objects of the Association.
- (9) To produce either solely or jointly with others publications and other products for sale, loan, or hire including recorded programs suitable for dissemination through access arrangements with other community broadcasters and programmers and other outlets.
- (10) To inform members and other interested individuals about the aims and operations of the Association, about community broadcasting, Australian and alternative music, and about the aims and activities of participating groups and individuals, through station programming and the establishment of a newsletter or programming guide.
- (11) To support and to co-operate with any kindred body.
- (12) To appoint, employ, remove or suspend staff as may be necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Association.
- (13) To do or cease to do from time to time any other such things as may be determined to be in keeping with the general aims of the association.
- (14)To encourage the appreciation of Christian values and belief including moral values and to promote such values that will be for the common good of all.
- (15)To conduct all such business consistent with these rules and the Association's Statement of Faith in the form of the first schedule annexed hereto.

3. Financial year

The financial year of the Association is each period of 12 months ending on 31 December.

4. Definitions

In these Rules—

absolute majority, of the Committee, means a majority of the committee members currently holding office and entitled to vote at the time (as distinct from a majority of committee members present at a committee meeting);

associate member means a member referred to in rule 14(1);

Chairperson, of a general meeting or committee meeting, means the person chairing the meeting as required under rule 43;

Committee means the Committee having management of the business of the Association;

committee meeting means a meeting of the Committee held in accordance with these Rules:

committee member means a member of the Committee elected or appointed under Division 3 of Part 5;

disciplinary appeal meeting means a meeting of the members of the Association convened under rule 21(3);

disciplinary meeting means a meeting of the Committee convened for the purposes of rule 19;

financial year means the 12 month period specified in rule 3;

general meeting means a general meeting of the members of the Association convened in accordance with Part 4 and includes an annual general meeting, a special general meeting and a disciplinary appeal meeting;

member means a member of the Association;

member entitled to vote means a member who under rule 13(2) is entitled to vote at a general meeting;

membership subscription means the annual or lifetime membership fee

special resolution means a resolution that requires not less than three-quarters of the members voting at a general meeting, whether in person or by proxy, to vote in favour of the resolution:

the Act means the **Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012** and includes any regulations made under that Act;

the Registrar means the Registrar of Incorporated Associations.

PART 2—POWERS OF ASSOCIATION

5. Powers of Association

- (1) Subject to the Act, the Association has power to do all things incidental or conducive to achieve its purposes.
- (2) Without limiting subrule (1), the Association may—
 - (a) acquire, hold and dispose of real or personal property;
 - (b) open and operate accounts with financial institutions;
 - (c) invest its money in any security in which trust monies may lawfully be invested;
 - (d) raise and borrow money on any terms and in any manner as it thinks fit;

- (e) secure the repayment of money raised or borrowed, or the payment of a debt or liability;
- (f) appoint agents to transact business on its behalf;
- (g) enter into any other contract it considers necessary or desirable.
- (3) The Association may only exercise its powers and use its income and assets (including any surplus) for its purposes.

6. Not for profit organisation

- (1) The Association must not distribute any surplus, income or assets directly or indirectly to its members.
- (2) Subrule (1) does not prevent the Association from paying a member—
 - (a) reimbursement for expenses properly incurred by the member; or
 - (b) for goods or services provided by the member—

if this is done in good faith on terms no more favourable than if the member was not a member.

PART 3—MEMBERS, DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES AND GRIEVANCES

Division 1—Membership

7. Minimum number of members

The Association must have at least 5 members.

8. Who is eligible to be a member

Any person who supports the purposes of the Association and is in agreement with the Association's Statement of Faith in the form of the first schedule annexed hereto is eligible for membership.

9. Application for membership

- (1) To apply to become a member of the Association, a person must submit a written application to a committee member stating that the person—
 - (a) wishes to become a member of the Association; and
 - (b) supports the purposes and Statement of Faith of the Association; and
 - (c) agrees to comply with these Rules.
- (2) The application—
 - (a) must be set out on the Application Form approved from time to time by the Committee,
 - (b) must be signed by the applicant;
 - (c) must be accompanied by a signed Statement of Faith (in the form of the first schedule annexed hereto); and
 - (d) may be accompanied by the joining fee.

Note

The joining fee is the fee (if any) determined by the Association under rule 12(3).

10. Consideration of application

- (1) As soon as practicable after receiving an application for membership, the secretary shall refer the application to the committee which shall determine whether to approve or reject the application. An application may only be rejected if
 - (a) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant would not abide by the Rules and Purposes of the Association; or
 - (b) the applicant refuses to be in agreement with the Statement of Faith of the Association; or
 - (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant will engage in conduct prejudicial to the Association; or
 - (d) required by law; or
 - (e) the applicant has been convicted of an indictable offence; or
 - (f) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant would not abide by the Community Broadcasting Code of Practice; or
 - (g) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant would pose a security risk to the members or premises of the association.
- (2) Where the committee resolves
 - (a) to approve an application for membership, the secretary shall, as soon as practicable after that resolution, notify the applicant of that approval and request the applicant to pay within the period of 28 days after receipt by the applicant of the notification the sum payable under these rules by a member as membership fee.
 - (b) to reject an application for membership, the applicant shall have the right of reply and appeal under rule 20 and 21. Where the applicant exercises the right of reply the resolution of the committee is of no effect unless the committee, at a meeting held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after the service on the applicant of a notice under clause 20(1), confirms the resolution in accordance with this rule.
- (3) If the Committee rejects the application, it must return any money accompanying the application to the applicant.
- (4) The secretary shall -
 - (a) on payment by the applicant of the amounts referred to in clause (12) within the period referred to in that clause; or
 - (b) upon resolution of the committee to reject an application being overturned on reply or appeal and payment of the required membership fee by the applicant,
 - (c) enter the applicant's name in the register of members and, on the name being so entered, the applicant becomes a member of the association.

11. New membership

- (1) If an application for membership is approved by the Committee—
 - (a) the resolution to accept the membership must be recorded in the minutes of the committee meeting; and
 - (b) the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, enter the name and address of the new member, and the date of becoming a member, in the register of members.
- (2) A person becomes a member of the Association and, subject to rule 13(2), is entitled to exercise his or her rights of membership from the date, whichever is the later, on which—

- (a) the Committee approves the person's membership; or
- (b) the person pays the membership fee.

12. Membership subscription and fee on joining

- (1) Prior to the commencement of each financial year, the Committee must determine—
 - (a) the amount of the full annual subscription (if any) for the following financial year; and
 - (b) the amount of the concession annual subscription (if any) for the following financial year; and
 - (c) the amount of the full lifetime subscription (if any) and concession lifetime subscription (if any); and
 - (d) the date for payment of the annual or lifetime membership subscription.
- (2) The Committee may determine that a lower annual subscription is payable by associate members. Associate members cannot be offered lifetime membership.
- (3) The Committee may determine that any new member who joins after the start of a financial year must, for that financial year, pay a fee equal to—
 - (a) the full annual subscription or concession annual subscription,; or
 - (b) a pro rata full annual subscription or concession annual subscription based on the remaining part of the financial year; or
 - (c) if requested by the member, the lifetime membership fee; or
 - (d) a fixed amount determined from time to time by the Committee which shall not exceed the annual subscription.
- (4) The rights of a member (including the right to vote) who has not paid the annual subscription or lifetime subscription by the due date are suspended until the subscription is paid.

13. General rights of members

- (1) A member of the Association who is entitled to vote has the right—
 - (a) to receive notice of general meetings and of proposed special resolutions in the manner and time prescribed by these Rules; and
 - (b) to submit items of business for consideration at a general meeting; and
 - (c) to attend and be heard at general meetings; and
 - (d) to vote at a general meeting; and
 - (e) to have access to the minutes of general meetings and other documents of the Association as provided under rule 73; and
 - (f) to inspect the register of members.
- (2) A member is entitled to vote if—
 - (a) the member is a member other than an associate member; and
 - (b) more than 10 business days have passed since he or she became a member of the Association; and
 - (c) the member's membership rights are not suspended for any reason.

14. Associate members

- (1) Associate members of the Association include—
 - (a) any members under the age of 15 years; and
 - (b) any other category of member as determined by the committee or by resolution at a general meeting.
- (2) An associate member must not vote but may have other rights as determined by the Committee or by resolution at a general meeting.

15. Rights not transferable

The rights of a member are not transferable and end when membership ceases.

16. Ceasing membership

- (1) The membership of a person ceases on resignation, expulsion or death.
- (2) If a person ceases to be a member of the Association, the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, enter the date the person ceased to be a member in the register of members.

17. Resigning as a member

(1) A member may resign by notice in writing given to the Association.

Note

Rule 72(3) sets out how notice may be given to the association. It includes by post or by handing the notice to a member of the committee.

- (2) A member is taken to have resigned if—
 - (a) the member's annual subscription is more than 12 months in arrears; or
 - (b) where no annual subscription is payable—
 - (i) the Secretary has made a written request to the member to confirm that he or she wishes to remain a member; and
 - (ii) the member has not, within 3 months after receiving that request, confirmed in writing that he or she wishes to remain a member.

18. Register of members

- (1) The Secretary must keep and maintain a register of members that includes—
 - (a) for each current member—
 - (i) the member's name;
 - (ii) the address for notice last given by the member;
 - (iii) the date of becoming a member;
 - (iv) if the member is an associate member, a note to that effect;
 - (v) any other information determined by the Committee; and
 - (b) for each former member, the date of ceasing to be a member.
- (2) Any member may, at a reasonable time and free of charge, inspect the register of members.

Note

Under section 59 of the Act, access to the personal information of a person recorded in the register of members may be restricted in certain circumstances. Section 58 of the Act provides that it is an offence to make improper use of information about a person obtained from the Register of Members.

Division 2—Disciplinary action

19. Grounds for taking disciplinary action

The Association may take disciplinary action against a member in accordance with this Division if it is determined that the member—

- (a) has failed to comply with these Rules; or
- (b) refuses to support the Purposes or Statement of Faith of the Association; or
- (c) has engaged in conduct prejudicial to the Association.

20. Right of Reply of rejected applicant or disciplined member

- (1) Where the committee passes a resolution under rule 10(2)(b) or rule 19, the secretary shall, within 7 days, cause a notice in writing to be served on the applicant or member subject of the resolution
 - (a) setting out the resolution of the committee and the grounds on which it is based;
 - (b) stating that the applicant or member subject of the resolution may address the committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than 14 days and not later than 28 days after the service of the notice;
 - (c) stating the date, place and time of that meeting; and
 - (d) informing the applicant or member subject of the resolution that he may do either or both of the following:
 - (i) attend and speak at that meeting;
 - (ii) submit to the committee at or prior to the date of that meeting written representations relating to the resolution.
- (2) At a meeting of the committee held as referred to in clause (1) the committee shall-
 - (a) give the applicant or member subject of the resolution an opportunity to make oral representations
 - (b) give due consideration to any written representations submitted to the committee by the applicant or member subject of the resolution at or prior to the meeting; and
 - (c) by resolution determine whether to confirm or to revoke the resolution.
- (3) Where the committee confirms a resolution under clause (2), the secretary shall, within 7 days after that confirmation, by notice in writing inform the applicant or member subject of the resolution of the reasons for the confirmation and of the right of appeal under rule 21.
- (4) A resolution confirmed by the committee does not take effect:
 - (a) until the expiration of the period within which the applicant or member subject of the resolution is entitled to appeal against the resolution where the applicant or member subject of the resolution does not exercise the right of appeal within that period; or
 - (b) where within that period the applicant or member subject of the resolution exercises the right of appeal, unless and until the association confirms the resolution under rule 21(4), whichever is the later.

21. Right of Appeal of rejected applicant or disciplined member

- (1) A rejected applicant or member may appeal to the association at a general meeting against a resolution of the committee under rule 10, within 7 days after notice of the resolution is served on the rejected applicant or member, by lodging with the secretary a notice to that effect.
- (2) The notice may, but need not, be accompanied by a statement of the grounds on which the rejected applicant or member intends to rely for the purposes of the appeal
- (3) On receipt of a notice from a rejected applicant or member under clause (1), the secretary must notify the committee which is to convene a general meeting of the association to be held within 28 days after the date on which the secretary received the notice.
- (4) At a general meeting of the association convened under clause (3):
 - (a) no business other than the question of the appeal is to be transacted; and
 - (b) the committee and the rejected applicant or member must be given the opportunity to state their respective cases orally or in writing, or both; and
 - (c) the members present are to vote by secret ballot on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked; and
 - (d) a member may not vote by proxy at the meeting.
- (5) If at the general meeting, the association passes a special resolution in favour of the confirmation of the resolution, the resolution is confirmed and takes effect immediately after the vote is passed.

Division 3—Grievance procedure

22. Application

- (1) The grievance procedure set out in this Division applies to disputes under these Rules between—
 - (a) a member and another member;
 - (b) a member and the Committee;
 - (c) a member and the Association.
- (2) A member must not initiate a grievance procedure in relation to a matter that is the subject of a disciplinary procedure until the disciplinary procedure has been completed.

23. Parties must attempt to resolve the dispute

The parties to a dispute must attempt to resolve the dispute between themselves within 14 days of the dispute coming to the attention of each party.

24. Appointment of mediator

- (1) If the parties to a dispute are unable to resolve the dispute between themselves within the time required by rule 23, the parties must within 10 days—
 - (a) notify the Committee of the dispute; and
 - (b) agree to or request the appointment of a mediator; and
 - (c) attempt in good faith to settle the dispute by mediation.
- (2) The mediator must be—
 - (a) a person chosen by agreement between the parties; or

- (b) in the absence of agreement—
 - (i) if the dispute is between a member and another member—a person appointed by the Committee; or
 - (ii) if the dispute is between a member and the Committee or the Association a person appointed or employed by the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria.
- (3) A mediator appointed by the Committee may be a member or former member of the Association but in any case must not be a person who—
 - (a) has a personal interest in the dispute; or
 - (b) is biased in favour of or against any party.

25. Mediation process

- (1) The mediator to the dispute, in conducting the mediation, must—
 - (a) give each party every opportunity to be heard; and
 - (b) allow due consideration by all parties of any written statement submitted by any party; and
 - (c) ensure that natural justice is accorded to the parties throughout the mediation process.
- (2) The mediator must not determine the dispute.

26. Failure to resolve dispute by mediation

If the mediation process does not resolve the dispute, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the Act or otherwise at law.

PART 4—GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE ASSOCIATION

27. Annual general meetings

- (1) The Committee must convene an annual general meeting of the Association to be held within 5 months after the end of each financial year.
- (2) Despite subrule (1), the Association may hold its first annual general meeting at any time within 18 months after its incorporation.
- (3) The Committee may determine the date, time and place of the annual general meeting.
- (4) The ordinary business of the annual general meeting is as follows—
 - (a) to confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting and of any special general meeting held since then;
 - (b) to receive and consider—
 - (i) the annual report of the Committee on the activities of the Association during the preceding financial year; and
 - (ii) the financial statements of the Association for the preceding financial year submitted by the Committee in accordance with Part 7 of the Act;
 - (c) to elect the members of the Committee;
 - (d) to appoint the financial Auditor for the current financial year;
- (5) The annual general meeting may also conduct any other business of which notice has been given in accordance with these Rules.

28. Special general meetings

- (1) Any general meeting of the Association, other than an annual general meeting or a disciplinary appeal meeting, is a special general meeting.
- (2) The Committee may convene a special general meeting whenever it thinks fit.
- (3) No business other than that set out in the notice under rule 30 may be conducted at the meeting.

Note

General business may be considered at the meeting if it is included as an item for consideration in the notice under rule 30 and the majority of members at the meeting agree.

29. Special general meeting held at request of members

- (1) The Committee must convene a special general meeting if a request to do so is made in accordance with subrule (2) by at least 10% of the total number of members.
- (2) A request for a special general meeting must—
 - (a) be in writing; and
 - (b) state the business to be considered at the meeting and any resolutions to be proposed; and
 - (c) include the names and signatures of the members requesting the meeting; and
 - (d) be given to the Secretary.
- (3) If the Committee does not convene a special general meeting within one month after the date on which the request is given to the secretary, the members making the request (or any of them) may convene the special general meeting.
- (4) A special general meeting convened by members under subrule (3)—
 - (a) must be held within 3 months after the date on which the original request was made; and
 - (b) may only consider the business stated in that request.
- (5) The Association must reimburse all reasonable expenses incurred by the members convening a special general meeting under subrule (3).

30. Notice of general meetings

- (1) The Secretary (or, in the case of a special general meeting convened under rule 29 (3), the members convening the meeting) must give to each member of the Association—
 - (a) at least 21 days' notice of a general meeting if a special resolution is to be proposed at the meeting; or
 - (b) at least 14 days' notice of a general meeting in any other case.
- (2) The notice must—
 - (a) specify the date, time and place of the meeting; and
 - (b) indicate the general nature of each item of business to be considered at the meeting; and
 - (c) if a special resolution is to be proposed—
 - (i) state in full the proposed resolution; and
 - (ii) state the intention to propose the resolution as a special resolution; and

- (d) comply with rule 31(5).
- (3) This rule does not apply to a disciplinary appeal meeting.

Note

Rule 21(4) sets out the requirements for notice of a disciplinary appeal meeting.

31. Proxies

- (1) A member may appoint another member as his or her proxy to vote and speak on his or her behalf at a general meeting other than at a disciplinary appeal meeting.
- (2) The appointment of a proxy must be in writing and signed by the member making the appointment.
- (3) The member appointing the proxy may give specific directions as to how the proxy is to vote on his or her behalf, otherwise the proxy may vote on behalf of the member in any matter as he or she sees fit.
- (4) If the Committee has approved a form for the appointment of a proxy, the member may use any other form that clearly identifies the person appointed as the member's proxy and that has been signed by the member.
- (5) Notice of a general meeting given to a member under rule 30 must—
 - (a) state that the member may appoint another member as a proxy for the meeting; and
 - (b) include a copy of any form that the Committee has approved for the appointment of a proxy.
- (6) A form appointing a proxy must be given to the Chairperson of the meeting before or at the commencement of the meeting.
- (7) A form appointing a proxy sent by post or electronically is of no effect unless it is received by the Association no later than 24 hours before the commencement of the meeting.

32. Use of technology

- (1) A member not physically present at a general meeting may be permitted to participate in the meeting by the use of technology that allows that member and the members present at the meeting to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, a member participating in a general meeting as permitted under subrule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

33. Quorum at general meetings

- (1) No business may be conducted at a general meeting unless a quorum of members is present.
- (2) The quorum for a general meeting is the presence (physically, by proxy or as allowed under rule 31) of 10% of the members entitled to vote.
- (3) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a general meeting—
 - (a) in the case of a meeting convened by, or at the request of, members under rule 29—the meeting must be dissolved;

Note

If a meeting convened by, or at the request of, members is dissolved under this subrule, the business that was to have been considered at the meeting is taken to have been dealt with. If members wish to have the business reconsidered at another special meeting, the members must make a new request under rule 29.

- (b) in any other case—
 - (i) the meeting must be adjourned to a date not less than 7 and not more than 21 days after the adjournment; and
 - (ii) notice of the date, time and place to which the meeting is adjourned must be given at the meeting and confirmed by written notice given to all members as soon as practicable after the meeting.
- (4) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the time to which a general meeting has been adjourned under subrule (3)(b), the members present at the meeting (if not fewer than 5) may proceed with the business of the meeting as if a quorum were present.

34. Adjournment of general meeting

- (1) The Chairperson of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of a majority of members present at the meeting, adjourn the meeting to another time at the same place or at another place.
- (2) Without limiting subrule (1), a meeting may be adjourned—
 - (a) if there is insufficient time to deal with the business at hand; or
 - (b) to give the members more time to consider an item of business.

Example

The members may wish to have more time to examine the financial statements submitted by the Committee at an annual general meeting.

- (3) No business may be conducted on the resumption of an adjourned meeting other than the business that remained unfinished when the meeting was adjourned.
- (4) Notice of the adjournment of a meeting under this rule is not required unless the meeting is adjourned for 15 days or more, in which case notice of the meeting must be given in accordance with rule 30.

35. Voting at general meeting

- (1) On any question arising at a general meeting—
 - (a) subject to subrule (3), each member who is entitled to vote has one vote; and
 - (b) members may vote personally or by proxy; and
 - (c) except in the case of a special resolution, the question must be decided on a majority of votes.
- (2) If votes are divided equally on a question, the Chairperson of the meeting has a second or casting vote.
- (3) If the question is whether or not to confirm the minutes of a previous meeting, only members who were present at that meeting may vote.
- (4) This rule does not apply to a vote at a disciplinary appeal meeting conducted under rule 21.

36. Special resolutions

A special resolution is passed if not less than three quarters of the members voting at a general meeting (whether in person or by proxy) vote in favour of the resolution.

Note

In addition to certain matters specified in the Act, a special resolution is required—

- (a) to remove a committee member from office;
- (b) to alter these Rules, including changing the name or any of the purposes of the Association.

37. Determining whether resolution carried

- (1) Subject to subsection (2), the Chairperson of a general meeting may, on the basis of a show of hands, declare that a resolution has been—
 - (a) carried; or
 - (b) carried unanimously; or
 - (c) carried by a particular majority; or
 - (d) lost—

and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting is conclusive proof of that fact.

- (2) If a poll (where votes are cast in writing) is demanded by three or more members on any question—
 - (a) the poll must be taken at the meeting in the manner determined by the Chairperson of the meeting; and
 - (b) the Chairperson must declare the result of the resolution on the basis of the poll.
- (3) A poll demanded on the election of the Chairperson or on a question of an adjournment must be taken immediately.
- (4) A poll demanded on any other question must be taken before the close of the meeting at a time determined by the Chairperson.

38. Minutes of general meeting

- (1) The Committee must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each general meeting.
- (2) The minutes must record the business considered at the meeting, any resolution on which a vote is taken and the result of the vote.
- (3) In addition, the minutes of each annual general meeting must include—
 - (a) the names of the members attending the meeting; and
 - (b) proxy forms given to the Chairperson of the meeting under rule 31(6); and
 - (c) the financial statements submitted to the members in accordance with rule 27(4)(b)(ii); and
 - (d) the certificate signed by two committee members certifying that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Association; and
 - (e) any audited accounts and auditor's report or report of a review accompanying the financial statements that are required under the Act.

PART 5—COMMITTEE

Division 1—Powers of Committee

39. Role and powers

- (1) The business of the Association must be managed by or under the direction of a Committee.
- (2) The Committee may exercise all the powers of the Association except those powers that these Rules or the Act require to be exercised by general meetings of the members of the Association.
- (3) The Committee may—
 - (a) appoint and remove staff;
 - (b) establish subcommittees consisting of members with terms of reference it considers appropriate.

40. Delegation

- (1) The Committee may delegate to a member of the Committee, a subcommittee or staff, any of its powers and functions other than—
 - (a) this power of delegation; or
 - (b) a duty imposed on the Committee by the Act or any other law.
- (2) The delegation must be in writing and may be subject to the conditions and limitations the Committee considers appropriate.
- (3) The Committee may, in writing, revoke a delegation wholly or in part.
- (4) The Committee will establish sub-committees, the members of which must abide by the following:
 - (a) Sub-Committee members must exercise their powers and discharge their duties—
 - (i) with reasonable care and diligence
 - (ii) in good faith in the best interests of the Association; and
 - (iii) for a proper purpose.
 - (b) Sub-Committee members must not make improper use of—
 - (i) their position; or
 - (ii) information acquired by virtue of holding their position—

so as to gain an advantage for themselves or any other person or to cause detriment to the Association.

- (5) The Committee shall establish the following Sub-Committees.
 - (a) Program Sub-Committee
 - (b) Technical Sub-Committee

each of which shall consist of at least five (5) members, the majority of whom shall not be Committee members.

- (c) Other sub-committees as the Committee sees fit, each of which shall consist of at least three (3) members, with at least one member being a member of the Committee.
- (6) The Committee must establish clear roles and responsibilities of each sub-committee.

Division 2—Composition of Committee and duties of members

41. Composition of Committee

The Committee consists of—

- (a) a Chairperson; and
- (b) a Vice-Chairperson; and
- (c) a Secretary; and
- (d) a Treasurer; and
- (e) not less than one (1) and not more than five (5) ordinary members elected under rule 50.

42. General Duties

- (1) As soon as practicable after being elected or appointed to the Committee, each committee member must become familiar with these Rules and the Act.
- (2) The Committee is collectively responsible for ensuring that the Association complies with the Act and that individual members of the Committee comply with these Rules.
- (3) Committee members must exercise their powers and discharge their duties with reasonable care and diligence.
- (4) Committee members must exercise their powers and discharge their duties—
 - (a) in good faith in the best interests of the Association; and
 - (b) for a proper purpose.
- (5) Committee members and former committee members must not make improper use of—
 - (a) their position; or
 - (b) information acquired by virtue of holding their position—

so as to gain an advantage for themselves or any other person or to cause detriment to the Association.

Note

See also Division 3 of Part 6 of the Act which sets out the general duties of the office holders of an incorporated association.

(6) In addition to any duties imposed by these Rules, a committee member must perform any other duties imposed from time to time by resolution at a general meeting.

43. Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

- (1) Subject to subrule (2), the Chairperson or, in the Chairperson's absence, the Vice-Chairperson is the Chairperson for any general meetings and for any committee meetings.
- (2) If the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson are both absent, or are unable to preside, the Chairperson of the meeting must be—
 - (a) in the case of a general meeting—a member elected by the other members present; or
 - (b) in the case of a committee meeting—a committee member elected by the other committee members present.

44. Secretary

(1) The Secretary must perform any duty or function required under the Act to be performed by the secretary of an incorporated association.

Example

Under the Act, the secretary of an incorporated association is responsible for lodging documents of the association with the Registrar.

- (2) The Secretary must—
 - (a) maintain the register of members in accordance with rule 18; and
 - (b) keep custody of the common seal (if any) of the Association and, except for the financial records referred to in rule 67(3), all books, documents and securities of the Association in accordance with rules 68 and 73; and
 - (c) subject to the Act and these Rules, provide members with access to the register of members, the minutes of general meetings and other books and documents; and
 - (d) perform any other duty or function imposed on the Secretary by these Rules.
- (3) The Secretary must give to the Registrar notice of his or her appointment within 14 days after the appointment.

45. Treasurer

- (1) The Treasurer must—
 - (a) receive all moneys paid to or received by the Association and issue receipts for those moneys in the name of the Association; and
 - (b) ensure that all moneys received are paid into the account of the Association within 5 working days after receipt; and
 - (c) make any payments authorised by the Committee or by a general meeting of the Association from the Association's funds; and
 - (d) ensure cheques are signed by at least 2 committee members.
- (2) The Treasurer must—
 - (a) ensure that the financial records of the Association are kept in accordance with the Act; and
 - (b) coordinate the preparation of the financial statements of the Association and their certification by the Committee prior to their submission to the annual general meeting of the Association.
- (3) The Treasurer must ensure that at least one other committee member has access to the accounts and financial records of the Association.

Division 3—Election of Committee members and tenure of office

46. Who is eligible to be a Committee member

A member is eligible to be elected or appointed as a committee member if the member—

- (a) is 18 years or over; and
- (b) is entitled to vote at a general meeting.

47. Positions to be declared vacant

- (1) This rule applies to—
 - (a) the first annual general meeting of the Association after its incorporation; or
 - (b) any subsequent annual general meeting of the Association, after the annual report and financial statements of the Association have been received.

(2) The Chairperson of the meeting shall declare those positions on the Committee vacant Subject to Rule 52, subrule (1), and hold elections for those positions in accordance with rules 48 to 51.

48. Nominations

- (1) Prior to the election of each position, the Chairperson of the meeting must call for nominations to fill that position.
- (2) An eligible member of the Association may—
 - (a) nominate himself or herself; or
 - (b) with the member's consent, be nominated by another member.
- (3) A member who is nominated for a position and fails to be elected to that position may be nominated for any other position for which an election is yet to be held.

49. Election of Chairperson etc.

- (1) At the annual general meeting, separate elections must be held for each of the following positions—
 - (a) Chairperson;
 - (b) Vice-Chairperson;
 - (c) Secretary;
 - (d) Treasurer.
- (2) If only one member is nominated for the position, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare the member elected to the position.
- (3) If more than one member is nominated, a ballot must be held in accordance with rule 54.
- (4) On his or her election, the new Chairperson must take over as Chairperson of the meeting.

50. Election of ordinary members

- (1) The Committee shall comprise the office-bearers of the Association and not not less than one (1) and not more than five (5) ordinary members each of whom shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- (2) A single election may be held to fill all of those positions.
- (3) If the number of members nominated for the position of ordinary committee member is less than or equal to the number to be elected, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare each of those members to be elected to the position.
- (4) If the number of members nominated exceeds the number to be elected, a ballot must be held in accordance with rule 51.

51. Ballot

- (1) If a ballot is required for the election for a position, the Chairperson of the meeting must appoint a member to act as returning officer to conduct the ballot.
- (2) The returning officer must not be a member nominated for the position.
- (3) Before the ballot is taken, each candidate may make a short speech in support of his or her election.
- (4) The election must be by secret ballot.
- (5) The returning officer must give a blank piece of paper to—

- (a) each member present in person; and
- (b) each proxy appointed by a member.

Example

If a member has been appointed the proxy of 5 other members, the member must be given 6 ballot papers—one for the member and one each for the other members.

- (6) If the ballot is for a single position, the voter must write on the ballot paper the name of the candidate for whom they wish to vote.
- (7) If the ballot is for more than one position—
 - (a) the voter must write on the ballot paper the name of each candidate for whom they wish to vote:
 - (b) the voter must not write the names of more candidates than the number to be elected.
- (8) Ballot papers that do not comply with subrule (7)(b) are not to be counted.
- (9) Each ballot paper on which the name of a candidate has been written counts as one vote for that candidate.
- (10) The returning officer must declare elected the candidate or, in the case of an election for more than one position, the candidates who received the most votes.
- (11) If the returning officer is unable to declare the result of an election under subrule (10) because 2 or more candidates received the same number of votes, the returning officer must—
 - (a) conduct a further election for the position in accordance with subrules (4) to (10) to decide which of those candidates is to be elected; or
 - (b) with the agreement of those candidates, decide by lot which of them is to be elected.

Examples

The choice of candidate may be decided by the toss of a coin, drawing straws or drawing a name out of a hat.

52. Term of office

- (1) The term of office of a Committee member shall be three (3) years.
- (2) Subject to subrule (4) and rule 53,
 - (a) at each Annual General Meeting, one third (if a fraction, rounded up to the next highest whole number) of the Committee members elected must retire.
 - (b) the Committee members to retire must be those who have been longest in office since the Committee member was last elected or re-elected. As between Committee members who have held office for the same period, those to retire must be as agreed between those Committee members or failing agreement, determined by lot in accordance with a procedure determined by the Committee.
- (3) A committee member may be re-elected.
- (4) A general meeting of the Association may—
 - (a) by special resolution remove a committee member from office; and
 - (b) elect an eligible member of the Association to fill the vacant position in accordance with this Division.

- (5) A member who is the subject of a proposed special resolution under subrule (4)(a) may make representations in writing to the Secretary or Chairperson of the Association (not exceeding a reasonable length) and may request that the representations be provided to the members of the Association.
- (6) The Secretary or the Chairperson may give a copy of the representations to each member of the Association or, if they are not so given, the member may require that they be read out at the meeting at which the special resolution is to be proposed.

53. Vacation of office

- (1) A committee member may resign from the Committee by written notice addressed to the Committee.
- (2) A person ceases to be a committee member if he or she—
 - (a) ceases to be a member of the Association; or
 - (b) fails to attend 3 consecutive committee meetings (other than special or urgent committee meetings) without leave of absence under rule 64; or
 - (c) otherwise ceases to be a committee member by operation of section 78 of the Act.

Note

A Committee member may not hold the office of secretary if they do not reside in Australia.

54. Filling casual vacancies

- (1) The Committee may appoint an eligible member of the Association to fill a position on the Committee that—
 - (a) has become vacant under rule 53; or
 - (b) was not filled by election at the last annual general meeting.
- (2) If the position of Secretary becomes vacant, the Committee must appoint a member to the position within 14 days after the vacancy arises.
- (3) Rule 52 applies to any committee member appointed by the Committee under subrule (1) or (2).
- (4) The Committee may continue to act despite any vacancy in its membership.

Division 4—Meetings of Committee

55. Meetings of Committee

- (1) The Committee must meet at least 4 times in each year at the dates, times and places determined by the Committee.
- (2) The date, time and place of the first committee meeting must be determined by the members of the Committee as soon as practicable after the annual general meeting of the Association at which the members of the Committee were elected.
- (3) Special committee meetings may be convened by the Chairperson or by any 4 members of the Committee.

56. Notice of meetings

- (1) Written notice of each committee meeting must be given to each committee member no later than 7 days before the date of the meeting.
- (2) Notice may be given of more than one committee meeting at the same time.

- (3) The notice must state the date, time and place of the meeting.
- (4) If a special committee meeting is convened, the notice must include the general nature of the business to be conducted.
- (5) The only business that may be conducted at the meeting is the business for which the meeting is convened.

57. Urgent meetings

- (1) In cases of urgency, a meeting can be held without notice being given in accordance with rule 56 provided that as much notice as practicable is given to each committee member by the quickest means practicable.
- (2) Any resolution made at the meeting must be passed by an absolute majority of the Committee.
- (3) The only business that may be conducted at an urgent meeting is the business for which the meeting is convened.

58. Procedure and order of business

- (1) The procedure to be followed at a meeting of a Committee must be determined from time to time by the Committee.
- (2) The order of business may be determined by the members present at the meeting.

59. Use of technology

- (1) A committee member who is not physically present at a committee meeting may participate in the meeting by the use of technology that allows that committee member and the committee members present at the meeting to clearly and simultaneously communicate with each other.
- (2) For the purposes of this Part, a committee member participating in a committee meeting as permitted under subrule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, is taken to have voted in person.

60. Quorum

- (1) No business may be conducted at a Committee meeting unless a quorum is present.
- (2) The quorum for a committee meeting is four (4) members personally present (in person or as allowed under rule 59).
- (3) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a committee meeting—
 - (a) in the case of a special meeting—the meeting lapses;
 - (b) in any other case—the meeting must be adjourned to a date no later than 14 days after the adjournment and notice of the time, date and place to which the meeting is adjourned must be given in accordance with rule 56.

61. Voting

- (1) On any question arising at a committee meeting, each committee member present at the meeting has one vote.
- (2) A motion is carried if a majority of committee members present at the meeting vote in favour of the motion.
- (3) Subrule (2) does not apply to any motion or question which is required by these Rules to be passed by an absolute majority of the Committee.

- (4) If votes are divided equally on a question, the Chairperson of the meeting has a second or casting vote.
- (5) Voting by proxy is not permitted.

62. Conflict of interest

- (1) A committee member who has a material personal interest in a matter being considered at a committee meeting must disclose the nature and extent of that interest to the Committee.
- (2) The member—
 - (a) must not be present while the matter is being considered at the meeting; and
 - (b) must not vote on the matter.

Note

Under section 81(3) of the Act, if there are insufficient committee members to form a quorum because a member who has a material personal interest is disqualified from voting on a matter, a general meeting may be called to deal with the matter.

- (3) This rule does not apply to a material personal interest—
 - (a) that exists only because the member belongs to a class of persons for whose benefit the Association is established; or
 - (b) that the member has in common with all, or a substantial proportion of, the members of the Association.

63. Minutes of meeting

- (1) The Committee must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each committee meeting.
- (2) The minutes must record the following—
 - (a) the names of the members in attendance at the meeting;
 - (b) the business considered at the meeting;
 - (c) any resolution on which a vote is taken and the result of the vote;
 - (d) any material personal interest disclosed under rule 62.

64. Leave of absence

- (1) The Committee may grant a committee member leave of absence from committee meetings for a period not exceeding 3 months.
- (2) The Committee must not grant leave of absence retrospectively unless it is satisfied that it was not feasible for the committee member to seek the leave in advance.

PART 6—FINANCIAL MATTERS

65. Source of funds

The funds of the Association may be derived from joining fees, subscriptions, donations, fund-raising activities, grants, interest and any other sources approved by the Committee.

66. Management of funds

- (1) The Association must open an account with a financial institution from which all expenditure of the Association is made and into which all of the Association's revenue is deposited.
- (2) Subject to any restrictions imposed by a general meeting of the Association, the Committee may approve expenditure on behalf of the Association.

- (3) The Committee may authorise the Treasurer to expend funds on behalf of the Association (including by electronic funds transfer) up to a specified limit without requiring approval from the Committee for each item on which the funds are expended.
- (4) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by 2 committee members.
- (5) All funds of the Association must be deposited into the financial account of the Association no later than 5 working days after receipt.
- (6) With the approval of the Committee, the Treasurer may maintain a cash float provided that all money paid from or paid into the float is accurately recorded at the time of the transaction.

67. Financial records

- (1) The Association must keep financial records that—
 - (a) correctly record and explain its transactions, financial position and performance; and
 - (b) enable financial statements to be prepared as required by the Act.
- (2) The Association must retain the financial records for 7 years after the transactions covered by the records are completed.
- (3) The Treasurer must keep in his or her custody, or under his or her control—
 - (a) the financial records for the current financial year; and
 - (b) any other financial records as authorised by the Committee.

68. Financial statements

- (1) For each financial year, the Committee must ensure that the requirements under the Act relating to the financial statements of the Association are met.
- (2) Without limiting subrule (1), those requirements include—
 - (a) the preparation of the financial statements;
 - (b) if required, the review or auditing of the financial statements;
 - (c) the certification of the financial statements by the Committee;
 - (d) the submission of the financial statements to the annual general meeting of the Association;
 - (e) the lodgement with the Registrar of the financial statements and accompanying reports, certificates, statements and fee.

69. Public Fund

- (1) The Association, at a time determined by the Committee, shall establish and maintain a public trust fund compliant with the requirements of Subdivision 30-F of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 as amended or replaced from time to time.
- (2) The principal purpose of the fund shall be, "To promote community radio broadcasting and the broadcast, performance and understanding of music, particularly Australian music and Christian music".
- (3) The public shall be invited to contribute to the fund.
- (4) The fund shall be called the "Albury Wodonga Christian Broadcasters Fund".

- (5) Save for any legislative changes or directions of the Australian Taxation Office to the contrary:
 - (a) The fund shall be administered by a management committee, the majority of whom, because of their tenure of some public office or their professional standing, have an underlying community responsibility, as distinct from obligations solely in regard to the cultural objectives of the Association.
 - (b) There shall be at least three members of the committee and the majority of the members shall have one or more of the following qualifications and may or may not be members of the Association:
 - Justices of the Peace
 - Members of the clergy
 - Church authorities
 - Trustees or board members of a non-profit school or college
 - Judges/Magistrates
 - Solicitors
 - Accountants (must be CPA, ASA, NIA or ICA registered)
 - Directors/Senior Executives of large companies (must be listed on the Australian Stock Exchange)
 - Medical practitioners and other professional persons (must belong to a professional body, which has a professional code of ethics and rules of conduct, e.g. Medical Registration Board)
 - Teachers in senior positions:
 - School principals
 - Senior academics (professors, deans, principal lecturers, as well as appointments made by chancellors)
 - Persons holding Public or Elected Office:

Mayors

Town Clerks

Councillors

Members of Parliament

- People who hold (or have held) other public positions (i.e. appointments made by Government Ministers)
- People with honours (AO, AM, OBE etc)
- (c) Gifts and deductible contributions to the fund shall be kept separate from any other Association funds and held in a separate financial institution account and the fund shall have its own accounting records and procedures.
- (d) All gifts and deductible contributions to the fund and interest accruing thereon, shall be credited to and kept in the fund. (Grants shall not be credited to the fund. Sponsorships and payments by a business in exchange for promotional or advertising services shall not be credited to the fund).
- (e) Money in the fund shall only be used to further the principal purpose.
- (f) Investment of monies in the fund shall be made in accordance with guidelines for public funds as specified by the Australian Taxation Office.

- (g) No monies in the fund or assets of the fund shall be distributed to members of the managing committee of the fund or members or office bearers of the Association except as reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses incurred on behalf of the fund or proper remuneration for administrative services to the fund.
- (h) The Department responsible for the administration of the Register of Cultural Organisations shall be notified of any proposed amendments or alterations to provisions for the fund, for it to assess the effect of any amendments on the fund's continuing Deductible Gift Recipient status.
- (i) Receipts for gifts to the fund shall state:
 - a. the name of the fund and that the receipt is for a gift made to the public fund;
 - b. the Australian Business Number of the Association;
 - c. the fact that the receipt is for a gift; and
 - d. any other matter required to be included on the receipt pursuant to the requirements of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.
- (j) The Committee may decide at any time to wind up or dissolve the fund.
- (k) If upon the winding-up or dissolution of the fund there remains after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property or funds, the property or funds shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Association, office bearers of the Association or members of the committee, but shall be given or transferred to some other fund, authority or institution having objects similar to the objects of this fund, and whose rules shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income among its or their members, such fund, authority or institution to be eligible for tax deductibility of donations under Subdivision 30-B, section 30-100, of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* and listed on the Register of Cultural Organisations maintained under the Act.
- (l) Any reference herein to the *Income Tax Assessment Act* or the requirements of the Australian Tax Office shall include any amendment or replacement of that Act or those requirements from time to time.

PART 7—GENERAL MATTERS

70. Common seal

- (1) The Association may have a common seal.
- (2) If the Association has a common seal—
 - (a) the name of the Association must appear in legible characters on the common seal;
 - (b) a document may only be sealed with the common seal by the authority of the Committee and the sealing must be witnessed by the signatures of two committee members:
 - (c) the common seal must be kept in the custody of the Secretary.

71. Registered address

The registered address of the Association is—

(a) the address determined from time to time by resolution of the Committee; or

(b) if the Committee has not determined an address to be the registered address—the postal address of the Secretary.

72. Notice requirements

- (1) Any notice required to be given to a member or a committee member under these Rules may be given—
 - (a) by handing the notice to the member personally; or
 - (b) by sending it by post to the member at the address recorded for the member on the register of members; or
 - (c) by email or facsimile transmission.
- (2) Subrule (1) does not apply to notice given under rule 57.
- (3) Any notice required to be given to the Association or the Committee may be given—
 - (a) by handing the notice to a member of the Committee; or
 - (b) by sending the notice by post to the registered address; or
 - (c) by leaving the notice at the registered address; or
 - (d) if the Committee determines that it is appropriate in the circumstances—
 - (i) by email to the email address of the Association or the Secretary; or
 - (ii) by facsimile transmission to the facsimile number of the Association.

73. Custody and inspection of books and records

- (1) Members may on request inspect free of charge—
 - (a) the register of members;
 - (b) the minutes of general meetings;
 - (c) subject to subrule (2), the financial records, books, securities and any other relevant document of the Association, including minutes of Committee meetings.

Note

See note following rule 18 for details of access to the register of members.

- (2) The Committee may refuse to permit a member to inspect records of the Association that relate to confidential, personal, employment, commercial or legal matters or where to do so may be prejudicial to the interests of the Association.
- (3) The Committee must on request make copies of these rules available to members and applicants for membership free of charge.
- (4) Subject to subrule (2), a member may make a copy of any of the other records of the Association referred to in this rule and the Association may charge a reasonable fee for provision of a copy of such a record.
- (5) For purposes of this rule—

relevant documents means the records and other documents, however compiled, recorded or stored, that relate to the incorporation and management of the Association and includes the following—

- (a) its membership records;
- (b) its financial statements;

- (c) its financial records;
- (d) records and documents relating to transactions, dealings, business or property of the Association.

74. Winding up and cancellation

- (1) The Association may be wound up voluntarily by special resolution.
- (2) In the event of the winding up or the cancellation of the incorporation of the Association, the surplus assets of the Association must not be distributed to any members or former members of the Association.
- (3) Subject to the Act and any court order made under section 133 of the Act, the surplus assets must be given to a body that has similar purposes to the Association and which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.
- (4) The body to which the surplus assets are to be given must be decided by special resolution.

75. Indemnity

Every Committee member, Councillor, Agent, Auditor and other Officer for the time being of the Association shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Association against any liability incurred by such officer in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in such officer's favour or in which such officer is acquitted or in connection with any application under the code in which relief is granted to such officer by the Court in respect of any negligence, default, breach of duty, or breach of trust.

76. Confidential Information

Every Officer, Committee member, Manager, Secretary, or other Officer or any Volunteer employed or engaged in the business of the Association and having access to records, accounts, transactions or other information relating to the affairs of the Association shall sign a declaration pledging themselves not to reveal other than to the Committee and not to use for their business or private purpose any of the information relating to such matters which may thereby come to their knowledge except when required to do so by the Committee or by any meeting or under a duty imposed by any Statute or Court of Law.

77. Public Statements

No public statement may be made in the name of the Association or of the Association's broadcasting stations by any member regarding any of the activities of the Association, except a statement approved by the Committee or by a person or persons appointed by the Committee to make such a statement.

78. Alteration of Rules

These Rules may only be altered by special resolution of a general meeting of the Association.

Note

An alteration of these Rules does not take effect unless or until it is approved by the Registrar. If these Rules (other than rule 1, 2 or 3) are altered, the Association is taken to have adopted its own rules, not the model rules.

Statement of Faith

We believe:

- (i) that the 66 books of the Bible are the Word of God, divinely inspired in all parts¹ without error in its origin² and the sole authority for doctrine and practice³;
- (ii) in the one Triune God⁴, eternally existent as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit⁵, who created the physical universe and man in His own image, by His direct and immediate spoken word⁶ during the six days of creation⁷;
- (iii) that Satan is a real personality⁸ and an evil presence in the world;
- (iv) in the pre-existence⁹, incarnation, virgin birth¹⁰, sinless nature and life¹¹, miracles¹², substitutionary death¹³, bodily resurrection¹⁴, ascension to heaven¹⁵, and personal bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ¹⁶:
- (v) in the total depravity of the nature of man¹⁷ and the entrance of death into the world through his fall in the Garden of Eden¹⁸, and the absolute inability of man to save himself from eternal punishment by his own works¹⁹.
- (vi) in the regeneration of man by the grace of God²⁰ and the work of the Holy Spirit²¹, with salvation from sin being available to whoever comes to Christ through faith in His finished work on the cross²²:
- (vii) in the spiritual relationship of all believers with the Lord Jesus Christ²³ and witnessing to His saving grace²⁴ and living a life of good works²⁵ and service, through the ministry of the Holy Spirit²⁶.

¹ 2 Tim 3:16-17; ² Psalm 19:7-9; ³ Matt 7:21; 7:24; James 1:22-25; ⁴ Isaiah 45:5; 1 Cor 8:4; ⁵ Matt 28:19-20; John 1:18; 10:30; ⁶ Gen 1:1-27; ⁷ Gen 1:1; 1:31; ⁸ Rev 12:7-9; ⁹John 1:1; ¹⁰ Luke 1:30-35; ¹¹ Luke 4:1-13; ¹² Luke 4:40; ¹³ 1 Peter 2:24; Rom 5:18-19; ¹⁴ Acts 2:24; 1 Cor 15:3-5; ¹⁵ Acts 2:29-36; ¹⁶ Mark 13:26; Acts 1:9-11; Rev 19:11-16; ¹⁷ Rom 7:5; ¹⁸ Rom 5:12; ¹⁹ Eph 2:8-9; Psalm 127:1-2; ²⁰ John 3:3-8; Rom 6:1-11; ²¹ 1 Peter 1:1-2; ²² Acts 26:17; Eph 2:8; 1 Peter 1:3; ²³ Rom 8:17; ²⁴ Eph 6:10-20; ²⁵ Eph 2:10; John 14:12-1`3; ²⁶ 1 Cor 12:4-7.