

**CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF
THE AUSTRALIAN LACROSSE REFEREES ASSOCIATION**

1. NAME

The organisation shall be called the national body of the "Australian Lacrosse Referees Association" hereinafter referred to as "A.L.R.A. - National".

- 1.1 The address of A.L.R.A. - National shall be as determined by the Executive from time to time.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The provision of referees as required for all trial, interclub, premiership, championship, tournament and international lacrosse matches as arranged or sanctioned by a State Lacrosse Association and/or the Australian Lacrosse Association Limited (ALA).
- 2.2 To promote new membership.
- 2.3 To recognise the role and duties of the ALA, its National Technical Committee (or its equivalent) and to work in conjunction with those bodies towards the attainment of uniformity of interpretation of the Rules and Laws of Lacrosse.
- 2.4 To recognise the role and duties of the ALA appointed Australian Referee in Chief and his subordinate State Chief Referees.
- 2.5 To maintain an accurate record of referees, their accreditation, grading, addresses and phone numbers.
- 2.6 To maintain affiliation with the ALA.
- 2.7 To provide an administrative, communicative and social base for all members and affiliated bodies.
- 2.8 To provide any certificates, medallions, etc. deemed necessary to recognise the achievements of its members.

3. MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Full membership of A.L.R.A. - National shall be open to all practising referees, referee officials (including members of the National Technical committee or its equivalent), and administrators of A.L.R.A. State Associations. These persons must be financial members of their respective A.L.R.A. State Associations and have paid any actual subscription set by that A.L.R.A. State Association.

Membership shall entitle them to attend any meeting or function of A.L.R.A. - National.

Life members shall have all the rights of a full member.

Associate members may be any persons who in the opinion of the executive would be of benefit in promoting the objects of A.L.R.A. - National and who would uphold the constitution. Their nomination and acceptance will be by a majority vote at an Annual or Special General Meeting of A.L.R.A. - National.

(Associate members' fees to be at the discretion of the respective A.L.R.A. State Association or the executive of A.L.R.A. - National as applicable.)

Associate Members of A.L.R.A. State Associations shall be considered automatic Associate Members of A.L.R.A. - National.

3.2 Life Membership

A Member of A.L.R.A. - National may be elected to Life Membership of A.L.R.A. - National by a majority vote at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of A.L.R.A. - National. No more than one Life Member shall be elected in any one calendar year. Each A.L.R.A. State Association shall be entitled to nominate no more than one person in each calendar year for consideration of election to Life Membership of A.L.R.A. - National. (See appendix for criteria of Life Membership).

Life Members of A.L.R.A. State Associations shall be considered automatic Life Members of A.L.R.A. - National.

3.3 Affiliation

Any Lacrosse oriented body may apply to A.L.R.A. - National for affiliation. Acceptance will be subject to a majority vote at an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting of A.L.R.A. - National.

Affiliate Members of A.L.R.A. State Associations shall be considered automatic Affiliate Members of A.L.R.A. - National.

All forms of membership shall have automatic transference from A.L.R.A State Association to A.L.R.A. State Association, subject to that person being financial in their former A.L.R.A. State Association.

4. RESIGNATION

4.1 A member in any form may resign by giving written notice thereof to the Secretary of the A.L.R.A. State Association or a Director of A.L.R.A. - National.

5. EXPULSION

5.1 The expulsion of any referee, official, member or affiliate member shall be the responsibility of the respective A.L.R.A. State Association.

6. OFFICE BEARERS

6.1 The office bearers of A.L.R.A. - National shall be known as the Executive and shall consist of one Director from each A.L.R.A. State Association. One member of the Executive shall be chosen by the Executive to be the Convenor.

6.2 It is preferable that the Directors be members of their respective A.L.R.A. State Association Executive or Committee and be actively involved in the operation of their A.L.R.A. State Association. It is also desirable that Directors have access to a facsimile facility, or email. The Directors shall be elected by their respective A.L.R.A. State Association.

6.3 Terms of Office

Each Director shall be elected by the respective A.L.R.A. State Association prior to January 1st each year and shall hold office for one calendar year. Any one person cannot serve more than three years consecutively as a Director.

The Convenor shall be elected by the Executive at its first meeting in each calendar year and shall hold office for the ensuing year.

6.4 Vacancies

Should a temporary or permanent vacancy occur within A.L.R.A. - National, the position shall be filled by the A.L.R.A. State Association whose Director position has become vacant within 30 days of notification from A.L.R.A. - National.

7.0 DUTIES

7.1 Convenor

1. To chair all meetings of A.L.R.A. - National.
2. To be responsible for all correspondence/communication on behalf of A.L.R.A. - National
3. To keep minutes of all meetings of A.L.R.A. - National and issue said minutes to all Directors and A.L.R.A. State Associations. Meetings may be conducted by personal representation or by party telecommunication methods.
4. To receive and distribute all items received from the ALA, or it's National Technical Committee (or equivalent) to all Directors and A.L.R.A. State Associations without delay.
5. To keep the ALA informed of the operation, decisions and recommendations of A.L.R.A. - National.
6. To collate and maintain a list of current referees, officials, members, associate members, life members, affiliated bodies, A.L.R.A. State Association Committees and their Executives.

7. To receive and bank all monies of A.L.R.A. - National in an interest bearing cheque account and to pay all accounts by cheque after approval of the Executive.
8. To keep an accurate record of receipts and expenditure, and at the Annual General Meeting present a statement, together with a balance sheet for the period between Annual General Meetings.
9. To prepare a budget for presentation to the Annual General Meeting of A.L.R.A. - National so that recommendation can be made for the annual fee nominated by section 8.1.

7.2 A.L.R.A.-National Executive

1. To conduct the business of A.L.R.A. - National.
2. To do all things deemed desirable to carry out the objectives of A.L.R.A. - National.
3. To appoint and set guidelines for sub-committees as and where deemed necessary.

8.0 FINANCE

- 8.1 An annual fee, set each year at the Annual General Meeting, shall become due and payable by each member A.L.R.A. State Association on the first day of March in each year. In the event of a member association being in arrears and failing to pay after having required by notice to do so, the Directors representing the financial A.L.R.A. State Associations may by a majority vote elect to suspend the membership of that A.L.R.A. State Association until the fee is paid.
- 8.2 An annual fee, set each year at the Annual General Meeting, shall become due and payable by each affiliated body on the first day of March in each year. In the event of an affiliated body being in arrears and failing to pay after having been required by notice to do so, the Executive may by a majority vote to elect to suspend the membership of that affiliated body until the fee is paid. The fee shall be set to cover the estimated costs of administration and communication for the coming year.
- 8.3 Any loss incurred by A.L.R.A. - National in carrying out its objectives shall be borne equally by all member State Associations. A.L.R.A. - National shall not budget to operate at a loss.
- 8.4 All accounts shall be agreed to by a simple majority of the Executive before being paid.
- 8.5 The funds of A.L.R.A. - National shall be deposited in the name of A.L.R.A. - National in an interest bearing cheque account at a bank, Building Society or Credit union as determined from time to time by the Executive.

- 8.6 Cheque account signatories shall be the Convenor and the President and Treasurer of the A.L.R.A. State Association of which the convenor is a member. The convenor and one other to sign.
- 8.7 A.L.R.A. - National shall be responsible for all costs associated with conducting its business.
- 8.8 An Auditor may be appointed annually by the Executive.

9.0 MEETINGS

- 9.1 The Executive shall meet/communicate as often as is deemed necessary provided that the interval between such meetings/communications is no greater than 6 weeks.
- 9.2 The Annual General Meeting shall be held at the time and place determined by the Directors of A.L.R.A. - National at their first meeting of each calendar year. The Convenor, or if not present, one of the Directors, or if no Directors are present then a person appointed by them shall chair the meeting and appoint a minute secretary. The minutes shall be forwarded to each Director and A.L.R.A. State Association as soon as possible following the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.3 Special General Meetings shall be held when deemed necessary. Thirty (30) days notice in writing of any Special General Meeting shall be forwarded to each Director and A.L.R.A. State Association. The Special General meeting may be held by personal representation, or by using party telecommunication services. A Special General Meeting may be requested by any one A.L.R.A. State Association.
- 9.4 Voting at Annual General or Special General Meetings shall be one vote for each Director (or their proxy) and one vote for each A.L.R.A. State Association Delegate. Decisions shall require a majority vote. Tied votes shall be resolved in the negative.
- 9.5 Directors or Delegates representing unfinancial A.L.R.A. State Associations shall not be entitled to vote.
- 9.6 Decisions made at Annual General, Special General or Executive Meetings shall be binding on all members and A.L.R.A. State Associations.
- 9.7 Affiliated bodies to A.L.R.A. - National shall have right of attendance and voice at Annual General or Special General Meetings but no voting rights.
- 9.8 A quorum at Executive Meetings of A.L.R.A. - National shall consist of all Directors.

9.9 A quorum at Annual General Meetings and Special General Meetings shall consist of all Directors (or their proxies) and all A.L.R.A. State Association Delegates (or their proxies)(One from each member A.L.R.A. State Association).

10. RULES AND BYLAWS

10.1 A.L.R.A. - National may at any time make Rules for the furtherance of the objects of its business provided that such rules not be inconsistent with this Constitution - and may from time to time repeal, amend, or alter any such Bylaws and Rules.

10.2 Member State Associations shall have the power to make local domestic Bylaws and Rules for the furtherance of the objects of A.L.R.A. - National and for the conduct of its own business - provided that all such Bylaws be not inconsistent with this constitution - and may from time to time repeal, amend, or alter any such Bylaws and Rules.

11 ALTERATIONS TO THIS CONSTITUTION

No clause of this Constitution shall be altered, amended or repealed without the consent of a three quarters majority of votes cast at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose of which not less than thirty (30) days written notice setting out the proposed alterations, amendments or repeal shall be given to each Director and each A.L.R.A. State Association.

12 DISSOLUTION

12.1 A.L.R.A. - National shall be dissolved by a three quarters majority of votes cast at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose of which not less than thirty (30) days written notice detailing the reasons for such dissolution shall be given to each Director and each AL.R.A. State Association. Surplus funds shall be distributed as decided by that meeting.

APPENDIX 1 –

By-Law 1 – Life Membership criteria

Life membership is awarded to any member of A.L.R.A. National for outstanding service to lacrosse officiating at a National level.

Nominations for Life Membership shall be submitted to the Convenor of A.L.R.A. National in writing at least 1 month before the Annual General Meeting.

All nominations shall be referred to a Life membership sub-committee of: A Life member of each A.L.R.A. State Association, chaired by the convenor of A.L.R.A. National.

Any approved nomination shall then be submitted to the Annual General Meeting.