Hills Dog Club Inc
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NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS
Hills Dog Club Incorporated

A Special General Meeting is called for **Wednesday 11th November at 6:30pm** to be held in the large meeting room in the Clubhouse at Castle Hill Showground Dog Arena.

Agenda

1. A Special Resolution is called to revoke the existing Hills Dog Club Inc., Constitution (dated 17/11/2015).

   Moved by: Anne Small Seconded by: Kevin Harris

2. A Special Resolution is called to adopt in its entirety the proposed Hills Dog Club Inc. 2026 Constitution, as tabled and attached to this agenda. The proposed changes aim to ensure the Club's alignment with current NSW Fair Trading and Dogs NSW requirements

   Moved by: The Committee of the Hills Dog Club Inc.,

Explanatory Statement and Summary of Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Hills Dog Club Incorporated - *An Affiliate of the Royal New South Wales Canine Council Ltd (Dogs NSW)*

Purpose of the Constitutional Update
The Hills Dog Club Inc., Constitution was last adopted on 17/11/2015. To ensure The Club remains legally compliant, insurable, and fully aligned with our parent body, we are replacing this outdated document with the Proposed / Draft 2026 Hills Dog Club Inc.,Constitution.

This update transitions The Club into a modern governance framework designed to align our rules with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 (NSW), the 2026 NSW Fair Trading statutory mandates (including updated financial reporting thresholds and mandatory internal dispute resolution terms), and Dogs NSW affiliate regulations.

Proposed Constitution Feedback
Please feel free to provide your feedback on the Proposed/Draft Hills Dog Club Inc., Constitution for consideration in writing to infohillsdogclub@gmail.com by **Friday 6th November.**

When providing feedback, please ensure you include the following information:
- Specific rule number, and
- Include the details of your feedback for consideration

The proposed changes below modernise The Hills Dog Club governance documents, aligning them with digital communication practices, and streamline committee requirements.

Clause/Rule Number (2015 Constitution)	Proposed/Amended Rule (2026 Constitution)	Type of Change	Rationale for Change
PART I – PRELIMINARY			
Definitions **Rule 1** Definitions of "Control" (R.N.S.W.C.C. Ltd.), "Commission", and "The Act" (Associations Incorporation Act 1984).	**Definitions** **Part 1** Definitions updated: "DOGS NSW" replaces "Control"; "Act" refers to the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009* (NSW); added "ANKC Ltd", "Communication" (digital media), "Writing" (including emails/facsimiles), and "Public Officer".	Regulatory Compliance and Modernisation	**As per DOGS NSW** Updates outdated statutory references (replacing the repealed 1984 Act with the 2009 Act) and modernises terminology to recognise digital communications (emails, electronic data transfer) in club administration.
Objects **Rule 1** List of objects focusing on breeding, exhibitions, and canine citizen education.	**Objects** **Rule 2** Objects updated to include "dog sports" and competitive trials explicitly. Minor phrasing updates to align with Dogs NSW terminology.	Administrative Update	**As per DOGS NSW** Broadens the scope of The Club's activities to formally encompass modern dog sports and trials, ensuring eligibility for Dogs NSW sanctioned sporting events.
Affiliation with the Control **Rule 5** Requires a 3/4ths majority vote to apply for affiliation with the "Control" (R.N.S.W.C.C. Ltd.).	**Affiliation with DOGS NSW** **Rule 3** Maintains the 3/4ths majority requirement but updates the entity name to "DOGS NSW" and explicitly binds all Members to Dogs NSW Rules and Regulations.	Regulatory Compliance	**As per DOGS NSW** Corrects the legal name of the state governing body to Dogs NSW and reinforces the binding nature of its rules on all affiliate club Members.
PART II – MEMBERSHIP QUALITIFICATIONS			
Membership Qualifications **Rules 6 and 7** Requires a minimum of 30 voting Members, with at least half being dog owners or part-owners.	**Membership Qualifications** **Rule 4** Establishes specific minimums (e.g., 10 financial Members for Specialist/Semi-Group clubs who must also be Dogs NSW/ANKC Members).	Regulatory Compliance	**As per DOGS NSW** Aligns club Membership minimums and criteria directly with the mandatory affiliate standards set by Dogs NSW and the ANKC.

Register of Members **Rules 13** Requires a physical register of Members to be kept at the office and made available for inspection.	**Register of Members** **Rule 7** Allows Members to request that personal information (other than their name) be withheld from inspection. Explicitly prohibits using register information for unsolicited contact.	Regulatory Compliance (Privacy)	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Aligns with modern privacy laws and NSW Fair Trading guidelines under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*, protecting Members' private contact details from misuse.
Application for Membership **Rules 6-11** Applications submitted to the first General Meeting for approval by a 3/4ths majority.	**Application for Membership** **Rule 8** Maintains the 3/4ths majority approval at a General Meeting but streamlines the process, clarifying the status of "Provisional Members" during the application processing period.	Procedural Change	**As per DOGS NSW** Clarifies the transition from applicant to provisional Member, protecting The Club's liability and establishing clear rights before formal general meeting approval.
Termination of Membership **Rule 12** Lists standard grounds for cessation, including non-payment of fees by the third Tuesday in March.	**Termination of Membership** **Rule 9** **Adds a clause:** termination if a Member, in the opinion of the committee, is guilty of acting in a manner detrimental to the aims, rules, or objects of the Association.	Procedural Change	**As per DOGS NSW Template and HDC Constitution** Provides the committee with a clear mechanism to protect The Club's integrity and safety from Members acting detrimentally, subject to natural justice and appeal rules.
New Rule **(Not in 2015 text)** No explicit clause regarding the transferability of Membership rights.	**Membership Entitlements Not Transferable** **Rule 10** Explicitly states that Membership rights, privileges, and obligations cannot be transferred and will be terminated upon cessation of Membership.	New Insertion	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Standard governance clause required by the Dogs NSW template and NSW Fair Trading to prevent the unauthorised transfer of voting rights or Memberships.

Privileges of Membership **Rules 15-16** Lists rights to vote, run for office, exhibit, and participate in training under adult supervision.	**Privileges of Membership** **Rule 12** Adds specific provisions: only financial Members are entitled to train on training sessions; guests may train on a casual basis at committee discretion if they are Members of a state/national governing body.	Administrative Update	**As per DOGS NSW and Previous HDC Constitution** Protects The Club's public liability insurance by ensuring only financial Members or approved, insured guests (affiliated with state bodies) utilise training grounds and equipment.
Disciplining of Members **Rule 18 - 23** Basic disciplinary clause (referencing old rules).	**Disciplining of Members** **Rules 15, 16, 17** Splits discipline into comprehensive sections: Conduct of Members, Resolution of Disputes, Disciplining of Members, and Right of Appeal.	Regulatory Compliance	**Combined DOGS NSW, Fair Trading and Justice Connect Details** Implements the mandatory, legally robust dispute resolution and disciplinary framework required by NSW Fair Trading and Dogs NSW. This ensures natural justice is served and protects The Club from legal challenges.
PART III – THE COMMITTEE			
Powers, Constitution, Membership **Rule 24 - 26** Committee consists of Office Bearers, 4 to 6 Members, plus Publicity Officer, Show Secretary, Trial Secretary, Chief Instructor, and optional Assistant positions No age, residency, or financial status restrictions are explicitly detailed for committee eligibility.	**Constitution of the Committee** **Rule 18** Retains the exact same structure and the prohibition on holding multiple office bearer roles. **New Eligibility**: All positions must be held by financial Members. Office Bearers must be Members/associate Members of DOGS NSW. **New Statutory Rule**s: Inclusion that Office Bearers need to be at least 18 years of age and a resident in New South Wales.	Amendment and Addition	**As per DOGS NSW, Fair Trading and Previous HDC Constitution** Maintains the core executive structure of The Club under updated terminology and legal requirements. Restricts committee eligibility to financial Members, mandates NSW residency and a minimum age of 18 to comply with state association laws, and ensures Office Bearers are affiliated with DOGS NSW for regulatory alignment.
Powers, Constitution, Membership **Rule 24-26** The Committee shall manage and have entire control of the affairs of The Club subject to the Rules.	**Functions and Powers of the Committee** **Rule 19** Formally separates "Functions" and "Powers" into dedicated clauses.	Restructure and Clarification	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Splits the committee's authority into distinct "Functions" and "Powers" clauses to align with modern corporate governance standards and the *Associations Incorporation Act.*

Members in General Meeting can overrule a decision (except account payments) by a 3/4ths majority, or instruct a review by a simple majority.	Confirms the Committee is subject to the Act, the Regulations, and General Meeting resolutions. Retains the mechanism where a General Meeting can overrule a Committee decision (except account payments) by a 3/4ths majority, or instruct a review by a simple majority.		
Election of Office Bearers and Committee **Rules 37** Office Bearers and Committee elected annually at the AGM. Take office at the General Meeting held in the month following the AGM. Outgoing Office Bearers retain office until that following month's meeting	**Terms of Office of Committee Members** **Rule 21** and Election of Officer Bearers and Committee **Rule 20** Committee Members hold office for 12 months until the close of the AGM at which they are elected (taking office immediately). **Mandatory Handover:** Vacating committee Members must deliver all Club documents and property in their possession to the Public Officer within 14 days of leaving office. Failure to do so is flagged as an offense under the Act.	Amendment and Addition	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Shifts the handover of power to occur immediately at the close of the AGM (rather than the following month). Introduces a strict, legally binding 14-day window to return club property to prevent loss of assets and historical information.
Meetings of Committee **Rules 27, 28, 30-34** Details meeting scheduling, 48-hour notice, chairperson selection, conflict of interest voting exclusions, and the validity of acts despite minor appointment defects.	**Meetings procedure and Quorum of the Committee** **Rule 23** Retains these procedural rules in full, maintaining the 48-hour notice period, chairperson protocols and conflict of interest exclusions.	Terminology	**As per DOGS NSW** Preserves established administrative procedures while updating references from "Association" to "Club" and "Chairman" to "Chairperson".
Meetings of Committee **Rule 27 - 36** Committee Members absent for 3 consecutive meetings without leave vacate office. Casual vacancies are filled by the committee until confirmed at the next General Meeting.	**Grounds on which or reasons for which the office of Committee Members is to become vacant** **Rule 22** Retains the 3-meeting absence vacancy rule. Modifies casual vacancy appointments: the committee-appointed replacement holds office until the next AGM (removing the requirement for interim General Meeting confirmation). Mandates that resignations must be in writing.	Procedural Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW** Simplifies the casual vacancy process by removing the need for immediate General Meeting confirmation, and formalises governance by requiring all resignations to be submitted in writing.

Meetings of Committee (Notice and Quorum) **Rules 27 - 36** Meetings held at places/times determined by the Committee. Quorum is not less than 1/2 of the Committee (present in person or via electronic communication devices). Decisions binding via electronic devices if agreed to by all Members. No minimum notice period specified.	**Meetings Procedure and Quorum** **Rule 23** **Notice Period:** Secretary must give at least 48 hours oral or written notice of meetings, specifying the general nature of business. Urgent business requires unanimous consent. **Technology Use:** Committee meetings may be held at two or more venues using any technology that gives Members a reasonable opportunity to participate. Quorum remains at least 1/2 of the committee.	Amendment and Addition	**As per DOGS NSW** Establishes a mandatory 48-hour notice period for committee meetings to ensure fair notice, and explicitly permits the use of technology to host multi-venue/virtual meetings.
Sub-Committees **Rule 43** Members in General Meeting appoint sub-committees on recommendation of the Committee. General Meeting may remove Members and set the quorum. Sub-committees can co-opt Members with General Meeting consent.	**Delegation by Committee to Sub-committee** **Rule 24** **and Voting and Decisions** **Rule 25** Retains general sub-committee appointment rules but adds extensive statutory clauses Specifies that delegated functions must be exercised in accordance with the instrument of delegation. Confirms the Committee may continue to exercise any delegated function, can revoke delegations in writing, and that sub-committee acts have the same force and effect as Committee acts.	Addition	**As per DOGS NSW and Fair Trading** Strengthens the legal framework of delegation, clarifying how the main Committee retains ultimate oversight, responsibility, and the power over sub-committees.
Election of Office Bearers and Committee **Rules 40-42** Nominations received in writing and/or from the floor at the AGM.	**Election of Officer Bearers and Committee** **Rule 26** **Details procedures for insufficient nominations**: candidates are deemed elected, further nominations are taken from the floor, and any remaining unfilled seats are treated as casual vacancies.	Addition	**As per DOGS NSW and Fair Trading** Provides clear, step-by-step procedures on how to handle unfilled vacancies (treating them as casual vacancies) and details the formal ballot-counting process.

Ballot held if nominations exceed vacancies; otherwise, Chairman declares nominees elected. No procedures detailed for when there are insufficient nominations	**Establishes formal ballot counting:** Returning Officer and scrutineers count votes in the presence of the President/Vice-President and candidates. Tied votes are resolved by a simple majority vote of Members at the AGM. Ballot papers must be sealed and kept for 90 days.		
New Rule **(Not in 2015 text)** *No equivalent clause.* No mechanism was provided in the committee section for the removal of a committee Member by the Membership.	**Removal of a Member of the Committee** **Rule 27** **Removal of Committee Members**: Members in a General Meeting may remove any committee Member before their term expires via resolution, and appoint a replacement until the next AGM. **Right of Reply**: The affected Member may submit written representations (of reasonable length) to the Secretary or President, and has the right to have these representations sent to Members or read aloud at the meeting.	New Rule	**As per DOGS NSW** Establishes a transparent, democratic, and contractually fair process for the Membership to remove a committee Member before their term expires, including a right-of-reply.
Duties of the Secretary **Rule 38** Secretary performs usual functions and must keep: Register of Members, Register of Judges, Minutes of all meetings, all necessary records, and a complete record of show/trial awards.	**Duties of Secretary** **Rule 28** Secretary must lodge their official address with the Association as soon as practicable after appointment. Must keep minutes of all appointments of office-bearers/committee Members, names of attendees, and all proceedings of committee and general meetings. Minutes must be signed by the chairperson of the meeting or the succeeding meeting. Public Officer Liaison: Must ensure copies of all required documentation are provided to the Public Officer for official reporting under the Act.	Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW and Fair Traiding** Modernises the Secretary's role by focusing on core statutory minutes and record-keeping, while delegating specific show/judge registries to operational roles.

Duties of the Treasurer **Rule 39** Treasurer receives all monies, pays into bank, keeps books/financial statements for auditors, prepares annual balance sheet, submits financial statements, produces cash books/bank statements upon request, keeps vouchers, and keeps a property inventory.	**Duties of Treasurer** **Rule 29** **Accounting Standards**: Financial records must be prepared according to Australian Accounting Standards and audited to Australian Auditing Standards. **Reporting**: Must provide a summary of financial affairs, financial statements, and the auditor's report to the Public Officer for lodgement with the NSW Fair Trading (administered by the Commissioner for Fair Trading) within 1 month of the AGM. **Funds Sources**: All money must be deposited as soon as practicable without deduction, and receipts must be issued. **Funds Management:** Funds must be used in pursuance of club objects. All cheques and negotiable instruments must be signed by any two (2) authorised committee Members or employees.	Amendment and Addition	**As per DOGS NSW and Fair Traiding** Elevates financial accountability by mandating compliance with Australian Accounting and Auditing Standards, and formalises strict cash-handling and dual-signature protocols.
New Rule **(Not in 2015 text)** *No equivalent clause.* The role, appointment, and statutory obligations of the Public Officer were not defined in this part	**Appointment and Vacancy of Public Officer** **Rule 30** **Appointment and Vacancy of Public Office**r: Club must appoint a Public Officer (aged 18+, NSW resident) at each AGM. Position can be held by a committee Member but does not have to be. **Reporting**: Must notify the Director-General of appointment details (name, DOB, address) within 28 days, and any address changes within 28 days. **Vacancy**: Vacates office upon death, written resignation, removal by General Meeting resolution, bankruptcy, or leaving NSW. Vacating Public Officer must deliver all club documents to a committee Member within 14 days. Committee must fill vacancy within 28 days.	New Rule	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Formally integrates the statutory role, eligibility, and reporting duties of the Public Officer to ensure absolute compliance with NSW Fair Trading requirements.

New Rule **(Not in 2015 text)** *No equivalent clause.* No committee register was mandated in the 2015 text	**Register of Committee Members** **Rule 32** **Register of Committee Members:** The Club must maintain a register of committee Members containing their name, residential address, date of taking office, and date of vacating office. Register must be kept in NSW at The Club's main premises or official address, and updated within 1 month of any change. **Privacy Control**: Register must be available for inspection by any person at reasonable hours, provided written consent has been given by the relevant committee Members.	New Rule	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Adds a mandatory statutory register of committee Members' details, ensuring compliance with state record-keeping laws while protecting privacy via a written consent requirement for inspection.
PART IV – GENERAL MEETINGS			
Annual General Meeting – Holding Of **Rule 44** Subsequent AGMs held within 6 months of the financial year-end. First AGM held within 18 months of incorporation and within two (2) months after the expiration of the first Financial Year.	**General Meetings: Annual General Meetings - holding of** **Rule 36** Retains rule that subsequent AGMs must be held within 6 months of the financial year-end. **First AGM Timeline**: Extends the period to hold the first AGM to within three (3) months (previously 2 months) after the expiration of the first Financial Year.	Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Extends the deadline to hold the first AGM from 2 months to 3 months following the end of the first financial year, providing more practical preparation time.

Annual General Meeting – Calling Of **Rules 45 and 46** Convened on date/place/time as Committee thinks fit. **Business**: appoint Returning Officer/scrutineers, confirm preceding AGM minutes, receive/adopt balance sheets and accounts, receive ballot results, appoint auditor, transact notified business. Minutes read at next General Meeting.	**General Meetings: Annual General Meetings - Calling of Holding of, Calling of and Business at** **Rule 35** AGM must be explicitly specified as such in the convening notice. **Agenda updated to include**: confirming minutes of the preceding AGM *and any subsequent Special General Meeting*; receiving committee reports on activities during the last financial year; and receiving/considering financial statements/reports required under the Act.	Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Refines the standard AGM agenda to explicitly include receiving committee activity reports and financial statements as required by modern legislation.
General and Special General Meeting **Rules 47 - 52** SGM convened by Secretary at direction of President, Committee, or written request of 5 Members. Only business set out in the notice can be transacted. No specific formatting or submission rules for the 5-Member request.	**General Meetings: Special General Meetings - calling of** **Rule 36** Retains the rule that an SGM can be requested by 5 Members. **New Requisition Standards:** The written request must state the exact purpose(s) of the meeting, be signed by the requesting Members, and be lodged with the Secretary. It may consist of multiple similar documents.	Addition	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Formalises the SGM requisition process for Members (requiring signatures and stated purposes) to prevent ambiguous or unauthorised meeting requests.
General and Special General Meeting **Rules 47 - 52** General Meetings of The Club shall be held at least bi-monthly.	**General Meetings: General Meeting of Members** **Rule 37** **Frequency**: Removes the restrictive "bi-monthly" requirement; meetings are held upon such day/time/place as determined by Members or convened under the constitution. **Technology Use:** Explicitly permits General Meetings to be held at two or more venues using any technology approved by the	Amendment and Addition	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Removes the rigid "bi-monthly" meeting frequency constraint to offer scheduling flexibility, and permits the use of technology to hold hybrid or virtual General Meetings.

Standard agenda items (apologies, minutes, reports, correspondence, motions, etc.). No provision for electronic/technology-assisted general meetings	committee that gives Members a reasonable opportunity to participate.		
Notice of General Meetings **Rules 53 and 57** Quorum for all General Meetings is not less than five (5) Members present in person. If a quorum is not present after 15 minutes from the appointed time, the meeting lapses.	**General Meetings: Quorum for General Meetings** **Rule 39** Retains the 5-Member quorum threshold but extends the waiting period to 30 minutes. **Adjournment Protocol**: If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes, Member-requisitioned meetings dissolve. Other meetings adjourn to the following week, where a minimum of three (3) present Members will constitute a quorum.	Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Establishes a clear failure-of-quorum protocol and allows a reduced quorum of 3 Members at rescheduled meetings to prevent organisational paralysis (where decisions are unable to made or changes implemented).
Notice of General Meetings **Rules 53 - 57** Notice of 7 days required for all meetings. Notice sent by post or Electronic Data Transfer. Allows a single annual notice in February for all scheduled meetings of the financial year.	**General Meetings: Notice of Meeting** **Rule 38** Increases standard notice to 14 days (21 days for Special Resolutions). Notice methods expanded to include: clubhouse noticeboards, club website, and modern electronic communication. Detailed "deemed service" timelines are added. All meetings must start by 8:00 p.m.	Amendment and Addition	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Doubles the standard notice period to improve Member participation, sets a late-start limit, and modernises communication channels to reflect digital practices.
Procedure at Meetings **Rules 60 and 62** Decisions made by majority vote. Voting in the first instance is by show of hands, or by division/ballot if required by any single Member No proxy voting allowed.	**General Meetings: Making of Decisions and Voting** **Rule 42 and 43** Decisions determined by show of hands unless a written ballot is directed by the Chairperson or requested by five (5) or more Members. Voting on Special Resolutions is explicitly permitted to be given personally, by post, or by electronic communication.	Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Simplifies voting procedures by removing outdated "divisions," protects meeting efficiency by raising the written ballot request threshold to 5 Members, and introduces secure digital/postal voting options for Special Resolutions.

Procedure at Meetings **Rules 60 and 62** Detailed rules for Chairperson duties and Member conduct. Requires Members to physically "rise" (stand) to address the meeting and "resume his seat" upon finishing.	**General Meetings: Procedure At Meetings and Members Conduct** **Rule 44, 45 and 46** Retains procedural rules and Chairperson powers. Incorporates the "Code of Conduct" into the Chairperson's enforcement duties. Removes physical requirements to "rise" or "resume seat."	Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW** Integrates modern conduct standards into meeting enforcement and improves accessibility for Members with mobility limitations by removing outdated physical protocols.
Notice of Motion **Rules 69 and 77** Detailed rules governing how motions and amendments are moved, debated, tabled, or shelved spread across multiple individual clauses.	**General Meetings: Motions** **Rule 47** Consolidates all rules regarding motions, amendments, and procedural debates (such as moving to the next business) under a single, streamlined section. New clauses allowing Members in a General Meeting to make or amend operational regulations (shows, trials, newsletter, etc.) by simple majority. Explicitly states that the Constitution must be read subject to the Rules of DOGS NSW.	Structural	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Clarifies the mechanism for creating operational regulations and formally establishes The Club's legal subordination to its parent body, DOGS NSW.
Special Resolution **Rule 78** Special Resolution requires 21 days' notice and a three-fourths (3/4ths) majority. Refers to the "Commission" for alternative passing methods.	**General Meetings: Procedure at Meeting for Special Resolution** **Rule 45** Retains the 21-day notice and 75% majority requirement.' Updates terminology from "three-fourths" to "75%" and replaces "Commission" with "governing body(s)".	Terminology	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Modernises the language to reflect standard drafting percentages and updates references to the appropriate regulatory authorities.
PART IV – ADMINISTRATION/MISCELLANEOUS			

Alteration of Objects and Rules **Rule 82** Statement of Objects and Rules may be altered, rescinded, or added to only by a Special Resolution of The Club, requiring a three-fourths (75%) majority.	**Alterations to Constitution and Change of Name, Objects and Constitution** **Rule 48** Retains the 75% majority threshold for Special Resolutions. Explicitly mandates that applications for registration of a change in the Association's Name, Aims, Objects, or Constitution must be submitted to NSW Fair Trading (administered by the Commissioner for Fair Trading) in accordance with Section 10 of the Act.	Addition and Clarification	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Formalises the statutory requirement to register constitutional amendments with NSW Fair Trading under Section 10 of the Act, ensuring regulatory compliance.
Alteration of Objects and Rules **Rule 82** Subject to the prior written consent of the Control (DOGS NSW) being first obtained, the Statement of Objects and Rules may be altered, rescinded, or added to.	**Alterations to Constitution** **Rule 48** Retains the requirement for DOGS NSW consent. Adds a strict 14-day notice period: amendments to proposals (excepting minor wording changes that do not affect substance) will not be entertained unless submitted in writing to the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the meeting.	Amendment and Procedural	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Establishes a clear timeline and procedure for submitting constitutional amendments, preventing last-minute, unapproved substantial alterations on the meeting floor.
New Rule **(Not in 2015 text)**	**Lodgement of Documents** **Rule 59** New rule requiring the Public Officer to lodge specific documents with the Director-General within one (1) month of the AGM: a financial summary, financial statements, the auditor's report, and a document setting out the terms of any related AGM resolutions. Prescribed fees must be paid for lodgement to be valid.	New Rule	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Aligns the constitution with modern statutory reporting obligations, ensuring transparent and timely financial disclosures to the regulatory authority.
Funds – Source **Rule 80** Funds derived from entrance fees, annual subscriptions, donations, and other committee-determined sources. Money deposited as soon as practicable to The Club's Bank Account. Receipts issued where appropriate.	**Funds - Source** **Rule 54** Retains core funding sources. Updates bank terminology to "bank or other authorised deposit-taking institution account." Mandates that all money received must be deposited "without deduction" and that an appropriate receipt must be issued "as soon as practicable."	Terminology and Governance	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Modernises banking terminology and strengthens financial controls by requiring gross deposits (without unauthorised deductions) and prompt receipting.

Funds – Management **Rule 81** Funds used in pursuance of Club Objects as determined by Members. Cheques and negotiable instruments signed by the Treasurer (or Assistant Treasurer) and any one authorised Office Bearer. Payments of $200 or more can be paid by cheque, BPAY, or Electronic Data Transfer.	**Funds - Management** **Rule 55** Retains the $200 threshold for electronic/cheque payments. **Signatory Update**: Requires all cheques to be signed by any two (2) Members of the committee who have been authorised by the committee, removing the mandatory requirement for the Treasurer/Assistant Treasurer to be one of the signatories.	Amendment	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Provides administrative flexibility by allowing any two committee-authorised Members to sign cheques, reducing operational bottlenecks when the Treasurer is unavailable.
Show Secretary and Trial Secretary **Rules 85 and 86** Members may appoint a Show Secretary and a Trial Secretary. Duties determined in General Meeting. Secretary keeps the register and records requested under Rule 38(b) and (e) in lieu of the Secretary.	**Show Secretary and Trial Secretary** **Rule 63 and 64** Retains the appointment framework. Explicitly details the records to be kept, including: a complete record of awards made at all exhibitions/shows conducted by the Association, and a register of persons appointed as Judges.	Clarification	**As per DOGS NSW** Clearly defines the record-keeping duties of the Show and Trial Secretaries to ensure historical awards and judge registries are accurately maintained.
Audit and Auditor **Rule 92** Auditor appointed annually at the AGM. Casual vacancies filled by the Committee. Auditor cannot be an Office Bearer, committee Member, or employee. Auditor must be registered under the Companies (NSW) Code.	**Audit and Auditor** **Rule 49** Retains core appointment and conflict-of-interest rules. Updates statutory reference: the Auditor must be registered as defined by the Companies Act, 1961, of the State of New South Wales.	Terminology	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Updates statutory references to reflect the correct historical and legal framework governing registered auditors in New South Wales.

Club Newsletter **Rule 94** Publication of a Club Newsletter may be authorised by simple majority in the General Meeting under terms determined by Members.	**Club Newsletter** **Rule 51** Retains the authorisation framework but explicitly adds that the newsletter may be distributed in electronic form.	Modernisation	**As per DOGS NSW** Modernises operations by explicitly permitting digital distribution of the newsletter, reducing printing and postage costs.
Judges **Rule 96** Judges elected by simple majority in General Meeting from panels approved by the Control (DOGS NSW). Requires 1 month's notice specifying the shows.	**Judges** **Rule 58** Retains the election and notice framework. Adds a contingency clause: in the case of unavoidable absences, a replacement judge may be appointed from the enrolled judges panel.	Addition	**As per DOGS NSW** Establishes a practical, rapid-response protocol for appointing replacement judges in the event of unexpected absences, preventing show cancellations.
Inspection of Books **Rule 98** Records, books, and other documents of The Club open to inspection by Members free of charge at any reasonable hour.	**Inspection of Books etc** **Rule 56** Explicitly defines which documents are open to inspection: financial documents, the constitution, and minutes of all committee and general meetings. Explicitly excludes the Members register from general Member inspection.	Governance and Privacy	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Protects Member privacy and ensures compliance with modern data protection standards by restricting access to the Membership register, while clarifying access to financial and governance records.
Service of Notices **Rule 99** Notices served personally, by post, or by Electronic Data Transfer. Postal notices deemed served the day following posting. Special Resolution voting forms must be returned by 4:30 p.m. on the Friday prior to the meeting.	**Service of Notices** **Rule 65** Updates "Electronic Data Transfer" to "Electronic Communication." Deemed service for electronic notices is set to the date of transmission (email). Retains the Friday 4:30 p.m. return deadline for postal/electronic Special Resolution votes.	Modernisation	**As per DOGS NSW and NSW Fair Trading** Modernises notice delivery terminology and establishes clear legal timelines for when electronic transmissions (such as emails) are deemed officially served.

New Rule **(Not in 2015 text)** **Rule 102 - Surplus Property**	**Winding Up and Dissolution** **Rule 66** New comprehensive rules: Association cannot dissolve except via a special meeting with a three-quarters (75%) majority vote. Surplus property cannot be distributed to Members; it must go to a similar institution. Distribution must be approved by NSW Fair Trading. Government-supplied property/grants must be returned. Aggrieved persons may appeal to the Supreme Court.	New Rule and Change	**As per DOGS NSW, NSW Fair Trading and HDC Requirements** Establishes a highly secure legal framework for winding up and dissolution. Protects the Association's assets by setting a 75% prohibiting distribution to Members, and aligning with NSW Fair Trading and DOGS NSW regulations.