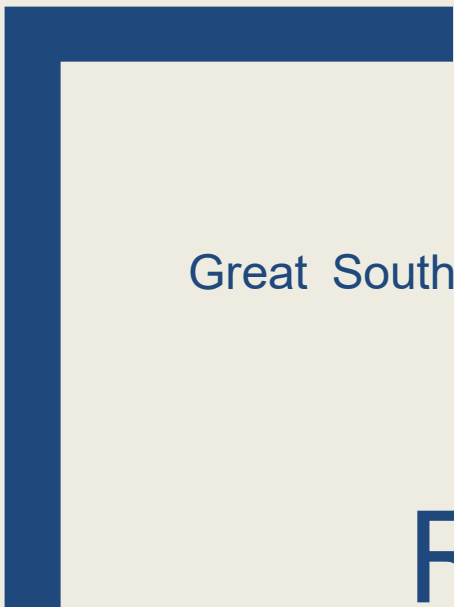




Great Southern Wine Producers Association Inc

RULES OF ASSOCIATION

GREAT
SOUTHERN
WINE
REGION



December 2025



GREAT SOUTHERN WINE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION INC. RULES OF ASSOCIATION

PART 1 — PRELIMINARY

1. Name of Association

The name of the incorporated association is the Great Southern Wine Producers Association Inc.

2. Terms used

In these rules, unless the contrary intention appears —

Act means the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015*;

Agricultural Produce Commission means the Agricultural Produce Commission established in Western Australia by the *Agricultural Produce Commission Act (1988)*

associate member means a member with the rights referred to in rule 10(6);

Association means the incorporated association to which these rules apply;

books, of the Association, includes the following —

- (a) a register;
- (b) financial records, financial statements, or financial reports, however compiled, recorded, or stored;
- (c) a document;
- (d) any other record of information;

by laws means by-laws made by the Association under rule 66;

Chair means the person holding office as the Chair of the Association;

Commissioner means the person for the time being designated as the Commissioner under section 153 of the Act;

Board means the Board of Management of the Association;

Board meeting means a meeting of the Board;

Board member means a member of the Board;

Fee for Service means the fee paid to the Agricultural Produce Commission in relation to wine production in the Great Southern

financial records include —

- (a) invoices, receipts, orders for the payment of money, bills of exchange, cheques, promissory notes, and vouchers; and
- (b) documents of prime entry; and
- (c) working papers and other documents needed to explain —
 - (i) the methods by which financial statements are prepared; and
 - (ii) adjustments to be made in preparing financial statements;

financial report, of a tier 2 association or a tier 3 association, has the meaning given in section 63 of the Act;

financial statements means the financial statements in relation to the Association required under Part 5 Division 3 of the Act;

financial year, of the Association, has the meaning given in rule 4;

general meeting, of the Association, means a meeting of the Association that all members are entitled to receive notice of and to attend;

Great Southern region means the area defined by Wine Australia's Geographical Indication Board for the Great Southern Region of Western Australia and the incorporated Geographical Indication Board regions of Albany, Denmark, Frankland River, Mount Barker, and Porongorup;

Great Southern regional wine means wine produced from grapes grown in the Great Southern region;

member means a person (including a body corporate) who is an ordinary member or an associate member of the Association;

ordinary Board member means a Board member who is not an office holder of the Association under rule 29(3);

ordinary member means a member with the rights referred to in rule 10(5);

register of members means the register of members referred to in section 53 of the Act;

rules means these rules of the Association, as in force for the time being and as amended from time to time;

Secretary means the Board member holding office as the Secretary of the Association;

special general meeting means a general meeting of the Association other than the annual general meeting;

special resolution means a resolution passed by the members at a general meeting in accordance with section 51 of the Act;

subcommittee means a subcommittee appointed by the Board under rule 49(1)(a);

tier 1 association means an incorporated association to which section 64(1) of the Act applies;

tier 2 association means an incorporated association to which section 64(2) of the Act applies;

tier 3 association means an incorporated association to which section 64(3) of the Act applies;

Treasurer means the Board member holding office as the Treasurer of the Association.

3. Objects of Association

(1) The objects of the Association are to:

- (a) Promote Great Southern regional wine on a regional, state, national, and international level.
- (b) Encourage and foster the Great Southern as a wine tourism destination.
- (c) Promote and participate in joint initiatives between members in achieving the objects.
- (d) Forge close links and co-operate with organisations and others to further the objects of the Association, including but not limited to regional food, accommodation, and tourism groups.
- (e) Support sustainable viticulture and environmental stewardship across the Great Southern region, including initiatives that promote climate resilience, biodiversity, and responsible resource use.
- (f) Encourage the dissemination and uptake of technical, marketing and research information to enhance the performance of the Great Southern regional wine industry.
- (g) Raise money and accept donations to achieve the objects of the Association including receiving and applying monies from members, sponsors, governments, or other like institutions.
- (h) Raise and donate monies to or assist any other not for profit charitable institution whether incorporated or not as the need may arise.

4. Financial year

(1) Each financial year of the Association is the period of 12 months commencing on 1 July of any calendar year and terminating on 30 June of the next calendar year.

PART 2 — ASSOCIATION TO BE NOT FOR PROFIT BODY

5. Not-for-profit body

- (1) The property and income of the Association must be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects or purposes of the Association and no part of that property or income may be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to any member, except in good faith in the promotion of those objects or purposes.
- (2) A payment may be made to a member out of the funds of the Association only if it is authorised under subrule (3).
- (3) A payment to a member out of the funds of the Association is authorised if it is —
 - (a) the payment in good faith to the member as reasonable remuneration for any services provided to the Association, or for goods supplied to the Association, in the ordinary course of business; or
 - (b) the payment of interest, on money borrowed by the Association from the member, at a rate not greater than the cash rate published from time to time by the Reserve Bank of Australia; or
 - (c) the payment of reasonable rent to the member for premises leased by the member to the Association; or
 - (d) the reimbursement of reasonable expenses properly incurred by the member on behalf of the Association.

PART 3 — MEMBERS

Division 1 — Membership

6. Eligibility for membership

- ~~(1) Any person who supports the objects or purposes of the Association is eligible to apply to become a member.~~
- (1) Any person or body corporate that supports the objects or purposes of the Association is eligible to apply for membership. Eligibility for ordinary membership requires payment of a Fee for Service to the Agricultural Produce Commission in relation to wine production in the Great Southern region.
- (2) A person or corporate body that is not eligible for ordinary membership may apply for associate membership.

7. Applying for membership

- (1) A person who wants to become a member must apply in writing to the Association.
- (2) The application must include a member's nomination of the applicant for membership.
- (3) The application must be signed by the applicant and the member nominating the applicant.
- (4) The applicant must specify in the application the class of membership, if there is more than one, to which the application relates.

8. Dealing with membership applications

- (1) The Board must consider each application for membership of the Association and decide whether to accept or reject the application.
- (2) Subject to subrule (3), the Board must consider applications in the order in which they are received by the Association.
- (3) The Board may delay its consideration of an application if the Board considers that any matter relating to the application needs to be clarified by the applicant or that the applicant needs to provide further information in support of the application.
- (4) The Board must not accept an application unless the applicant has applied under rule 7.
- (5) The Board may reject an application even if the applicant has applied under rule 7.
- (6) The Board must notify the applicant of the Board's decision to accept or reject the application as soon as practicable after making the decision.
- (7) If the Board rejects the application, the Board is not required to give the applicant its reasons for doing so.

9. Becoming a member

An applicant for membership of the Association becomes a member when —

- (a) the Board accepts the application under Rule 8; and
- (b) the applicant pays any membership fees payable to the Association under rule 14,
and
- (c) the applicant meets the eligibility criteria under Rule 6.

10. Classes of membership

- (1) The Association consists of ordinary members and any associate members provided for under subrule (2).
- (2) The Association may have any class of associate membership approved by resolution at a general meeting, including junior membership, senior membership, honorary membership, and life membership.
- (3) The Association recognises the following classes of associate membership:
 - (a) Stakeholder Member – Individuals or organisations with a professional, strategic, or commercial interest in the Great Southern wine industry.
 - (b) Wine Appreciator Member – Individuals who support the Association's objectives and wish to engage with wine education, events, and regional promotion.
- (4) Associate members are not entitled to vote at general meetings unless otherwise specified in the rules or approved by resolution.
- (5) A person can only be an ordinary member or belong to one class of associate membership.
- (6) An individual who has not reached the age of 15 years is only eligible to be an associate member.
- (7) An ordinary member has full voting rights and any other rights conferred on members by these rules or approved by resolution at a general meeting or determined by the Board.
- (8) An associate member has the rights referred to in subrule (5) other than full voting rights.
- (9) The number of members of any class is not limited unless otherwise approved by resolution at a general meeting.

11. When membership ceases

- (1) A person ceases to be a member when any of the following takes place —
 - (a) for a member who is an individual, the individual dies;
 - (b) for a member who is a body corporate, the body corporate is wound up;
 - (c) the person resigns from the Association under rule 12;
 - (d) the person is expelled from the Association under rule 17;
 - (e) the person ceases to be a member under rule 14(4);
- (2) The Secretary must keep a record, for at least one year after a person ceases to be a member, of —
 - (a) the date on which the person ceased to be a member; and
 - (b) the reason why the person ceased to be a member.

12. Resignation

- (1) A member may resign from membership of the Association by giving written notice of the resignation to the Secretary.
- (2) The resignation takes effect —
 - (a) when the Secretary receives the notice; or
 - (b) if a later time is stated in the notice, at that later time.
- (3) A person who has resigned from membership of the Association remains liable for any fees

that are owed to the Association (the **owed amount**) at the time of resignation.

- (4) The owed amount may be recovered by the Association in a court of competent jurisdiction as a debt due to the Association.

13. Rights not transferable

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

Division 2 — Membership fees

14. Membership fees

- (1) The Board must determine the entrance fee (if any) and the annual membership fee (if any) to be paid for membership of the Association. The fees determined under subrule (1) may be different for different classes of membership.
- (2) A member must pay the annual membership fee to the Treasurer, or another person authorised by the committee to accept payments, by the date (the **due date**) determined by the committee.
- (3) If a member has not paid the annual membership fee within the period of 3 months after the due date, the member ceases to be a member on the expiry of that period.
- (4) If a person who has ceased to be a member under subrule (4) offers to pay the annual membership fee after the period referred to in that subrule has expired —
 - (a) the committee may, at its discretion, accept that payment; and
 - (b) if the payment is accepted, the person's membership is reinstated from the date the payment is accepted.

Division 3 — Register of members

15. Register of members

- (1) The Secretary, or another person authorised by the Board, is responsible for the requirements imposed on the Association under section 53 of the Act to maintain the register of members and record in that register any change in the membership of the Association.
- (2) In addition to the matters referred to in section 53(2) of the Act, the register of members must include the class of membership (if applicable) to which each member belongs and the date on which each member becomes a member.
- (3) The register of members must be kept at the Secretary's place of residence, or at another place determined by the Board.
- (4) A member who wishes to inspect the register of members must contact the Secretary to make the necessary arrangements.
- (5) If —
 - (a) a member inspecting the register of members wishes to make a copy of, or take an extract from, the register under section 54(2) of the Act; or
 - (b) a member makes a written request under section 56(1) of the Act to be provided with a copy of the register of members,

the Board may require the member to provide a statutory declaration setting out the purpose for which the copy or extract is required and declaring that the purpose is connected with the

affairs of the Association.

PART 4 — DISCIPLINARY ACTION, DISPUTES AND MEDIATION

Division 1 — Term used

16. Term used: member

In this Part —

member, in relation to a member who is expelled from the Association, includes former member.

Division 2 — Disciplinary action

17. Suspension or expulsion

- (1) The Board may decide to suspend a member's membership or to expel a member from the Association if —
 - (a) the member contravenes any of these rules; or
 - (b) the member acts detrimentally to the interests of the Association.
- (2) The Secretary must give the member written notice of the proposed suspension or expulsion at least 28 days before the Board meeting at which the proposal is to be considered by the Board.
- (3) The notice given to the member must state —
 - (a) when and where the Board meeting is to be held; and
 - (b) the grounds on which the proposed suspension or expulsion is based; and
 - (c) that the member, or the member's representative, may attend the meeting and will be given a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the Board about the proposed suspension or expulsion;
- (4) At the Board meeting, the Board must —
 - (a) give the member, or the member's representative, a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the Board about the proposed suspension or expulsion; and
 - (b) give due consideration to any submissions so made; and
 - (c) decide —
 - (i) whether or not to suspend the member's membership and, if the decision is to suspend the membership, the period of suspension; or
 - (ii) whether or not to expel the member from the Association.
- (5) A decision of the Board to suspend the member's membership or to expel the member from the Association takes immediate effect.
- (6) The Board must give the member written notice of the Board's decision, and the reasons for the decision, within 7 days after the Board meeting at which the decision is made.
- (7) A member whose membership is suspended or who is expelled from the Association may, within 14 days after receiving notice of the Board's decision under subrule (6), give written notice to the Secretary requesting the appointment of a mediator under rule 25.
- (8) If notice is given under subrule (7), the member who gives the notice and the Board are the parties to the mediation.

18. Consequences of suspension

- (1) During the period a member's membership is suspended, the member —
 - (a) loses any rights (including voting rights) arising as a result of membership; and
 - (b) is not entitled to a refund, rebate, relief, or credit for membership fees paid, or payable, to the Association.
- (2) When a member's membership is suspended, the Secretary must record in the register of members —
 - (a) that the member's membership is suspended; and
 - (b) the date on which the suspension takes effect; and
 - (c) the period of the suspension.
- (3) When the period of the suspension ends, the Secretary must record in the register of members that the member's membership is no longer suspended.

Division 3 — Resolving disputes

19. Terms used

In this Division —

grievance procedure means the procedures set out in this Division;

party to a dispute includes a person —

- (a) who is a party to the dispute; and
- (b) who ceases to be a member within 6 months before the dispute has come to the attention of each party to the dispute.

20. Application of Division

The procedure set out in this Division (the grievance procedure) applies to disputes —

- (a) between members; or
- (b) between one or more members and the Association.

21. Parties to attempt to resolve dispute

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

22. How grievance procedure is started

- (1) If the parties to a dispute are unable to resolve the dispute between themselves within the time required by rule 21, any party to the dispute may start the grievance procedure by giving written notice to the Secretary of —
 - (a) the parties to the dispute; and
 - (b) the matters that are the subject of the dispute.
- (2) Within 28 days after the Secretary is given the notice, a Board meeting must be convened to consider and determine the dispute.
- (3) The Secretary must give each party to the dispute written notice of the Board meeting at which the dispute is to be considered and determined at least 7 days before the meeting is held.

- (4) The notice given to each party to the dispute must state —
 - (a) when and where the Board meeting is to be held; and
 - (b) that the party, or the party's representative, may attend the meeting and will be given a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the Board about the dispute.
- (5) If —
 - (a) the dispute is between one or more members and the Association; and
 - (b) any party to the dispute gives written notice to the Secretary stating that the party —
 - (i) does not agree to the dispute being determined by the Board; and
 - (ii) requests the appointment of a mediator under rule 25,the Board must not determine the dispute.

23. Determination of dispute by Board

- (1) At the Board meeting at which a dispute is to be considered and determined, the Board must —
 - (a) give each party to the dispute, or the party's representative, a reasonable opportunity to make written or oral (or both written and oral) submissions to the Board about the dispute; and
 - (b) give due consideration to any submissions so made; and
 - (c) determine the dispute.
- (2) The Board must give each party to the dispute written notice of the Board's determination, and the reasons for the determination, within 7 days after the Board meeting at which the determination is made.
- (3) A party to the dispute may, within 14 days after receiving notice of the Board's determination under subrule (1)(c), give written notice to the Secretary requesting the appointment of a mediator under rule 25.
- (4) If notice is given under subrule (3), each party to the dispute is a party to the mediation.

Division 4 — Mediation

24. Application of Division

- (1) This Division applies if written notice has been given to the Secretary requesting the appointment of a mediator —
 - (a) by a member under rule 17(7); or
 - (b) by a party to a dispute under rule 22(5)(b)(ii) or 23(3).
- (2) If this Division applies, a mediator must be chosen or appointed under rule 25.

25. Appointment of mediator

- (1) The mediator must be a person chosen —
 - (a) if the appointment of a mediator was requested by a member under rule 17(7) — by agreement between the Member and the Board; or
 - (b) if the appointment of a mediator was requested by a party to a dispute under rule 22(5)(b)(ii) or 23(3) — by agreement between the parties to the dispute.

- (2) If there is no agreement for the purposes of subrule (1)(a) or (b), then, subject to subrules (3) and (4), the Board must appoint the mediator.
- (3) The person appointed as mediator by the Board must be a person who acts as a mediator for another not-for-profit body, such as a community legal centre, if the appointment of a mediator was requested by —
 - (a) a member under rule 17(7); or
 - (b) a party to a dispute under rule 22(5)(b)(ii); or
 - (c) a party to a dispute under rule 23(3) and the dispute is between one or more members and the Association.
- (4) The person appointed as mediator by the Board may be a member or former member of the Association but must not —
 - (a) have a personal interest in the matter that is the subject of the mediation; or
 - (b) be biased in favour of or against any party to the mediation.

26. Mediation process

- (1) The parties to the mediation must attempt in good faith to settle the matter that is the subject of the mediation.
- (2) Each party to the mediation must give the mediator a written statement of the issues that need to be considered at the mediation at least 5 days before the mediation takes place.
- (3) In conducting the mediation, the mediator must —
 - (a) give each party to the mediation every opportunity to be heard; and
 - (b) allow each party to the mediation to give due consideration to any written statement given by another party; and
 - (c) ensure that natural justice is given to the parties to the mediation throughout the mediation process.
- (4) The mediator cannot determine the matter that is the subject of the mediation.
- (5) The mediation must be confidential, and any information given at the mediation cannot be used in any other proceedings that take place in relation to the matter that is the subject of the mediation.
- (6) The costs of the mediation are to be paid by the party or parties to the mediation that requested the appointment of the mediator.

27. If mediation results in decision to suspend or expel being revoked

If —

- (a) mediation takes place because a member whose membership is suspended or who is expelled from the Association gives notice under rule 17(7); and
- (b) as the result of the mediation, the decision to suspend the member's membership or expel the member is revoked,

that revocation does not affect the validity of any decision made at a Board meeting or general meeting during the period of suspension or expulsion.

PART 5 — BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Division 1 — Powers of Board

28. Board of Management

- (1) The Board of Management (Board) members are the persons who, as the Board of the Association, have the power to manage the affairs of the Association.
- (2) Subject to the Act, these rules, the by-laws (if any), and any resolution passed at a general meeting, the Board has power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done for the proper management of the affairs of the Association.
- (3) The Board must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the Association complies with the Act, these rules, and the by-laws (if any).

Division 2 — Composition of Board and duties of members

29. Board members

- (1) The Board members consist of —
 - (a) the office holders of the Association; and
 - (b) at least three ordinary Board member.

~~The Board must determine the maximum number of members who may be ordinary Board members.~~

- (2) The Board will comprise no less than (7) seven and no more than (9) nine Board members.
- (3) The following are the office holders of the Association —
 - (a) the Chair
 - (b) the Deputy Chair
 - (c) the Secretary
 - (d) the Treasurer
- (4) A person may be a Board member if the person is —
 - (a) an individual who has reached 18 years of age; and
 - (b) an ordinary member.

~~— A person must not hold 2 or more of the offices mentioned in subrule (3) at the same time.~~

- (5) A person must not hold more than one office mentioned in subrule (3) at the same time, unless otherwise approved by resolution at a general meeting. In such cases, the roles of Deputy Chair and Secretary may be held concurrently by one Board member.
- (6) Board membership will comprise at least representation from the following industry sectors:
 - (a) One member from a large sized producer. A large sized producer for the purposes of this clause shall be a producer that pays a Fee for Service to the Agricultural Produce Commission for not less than 500 tonnes of wine grapes in a calendar year.
 - (b) One member from a medium sized producer. A medium sized producer for the purposes of this clause shall be a producer that pays a Fee for Service to the Agricultural Produce Commission for not less than 100 tonnes of wine grapes and not more than 500 tonnes of wine grapes in a calendar year.
 - (c) One member from a small sized producer. A small sized producer for the purposes of this clause shall be a producer that pays a Fee for Service to the Agricultural Produce Commission for less than 100 tonnes of wine grapes in a calendar year.

(7) Independent Skill-Based Board Members

- (a) Appointment and Purpose In addition to the office holders and ordinary Board members outlined in subrules (1) and (2), the Board may appoint up to two independent Board members based on their professional expertise, strategic insight, or governance experience relevant to the Association's objectives.
- (b) Eligibility Criteria Independent skill-based Board members must not be current producers or fee-paying members of the Association and must demonstrate qualifications or experience in one or more of the following areas:
 - (i) Agricultural economics or regional development
 - (ii) Legal, regulatory, or policy frameworks relevant to horticulture
 - (iii) Financial oversight, audit, or risk management
 - (iv) Stakeholder engagement, governance, or succession planning
 - (v) Marketing, export strategy, or industry innovation

(c) Nomination Process for Independent Board Members

- (i) The Board shall issue a public call for nominations at least 60 days prior to the intended appointment date, outlining desired skill sets and eligibility criteria.
- (ii) Nominations may be submitted by any Board member, industry stakeholder, or external party, accompanied by a curriculum vitae and a statement of interest.
- (iii) All nominations must be received no later than 30 days before the appointment date.

(d) Selection Process

- (i) A Selection Panel comprising the Chair, one office holder, and one ordinary Board member shall review all nominations.
- (ii) Final appointments must be ratified by a resolution of the Board and recorded in the Association's minutes.

(e) Tenure and Review

- (i) Independent skill-based Board members shall serve a term of up to two years, renewable once subject to Board review.
- (ii) The Board shall review the relevance and performance of each independent member biennially to ensure continued alignment with the Association's strategic needs.

(8) The Board reserves the right to appoint a Chair independent to the Association and the wine industry if to do so is in the best interests of the Association

(9) An independent Chair may be remunerated an amount to be determined from time to time if such payment is authorised by a resolution of the Association

(10) An independent Chair will not have the right to vote

30. Chair

- (1) It is the duty of the Chair to consult with the Secretary regarding the business to be conducted at each Board meeting and general meeting.
- (2) The Chair has the powers and duties relating to convening and presiding at Board meetings and presiding at general meetings provided for in these rules

31. Secretary

The Secretary has the following duties —

- (a) dealing with the Association's correspondence;
- (b) consulting with the Chair regarding the business to be conducted at each Board meeting and general meeting;
- (c) preparing the notices required for meetings and for the business to be conducted at meetings;
- (d) unless another member is authorised by the Board to do so, maintaining on behalf of the Association the register of members, and recording in the register any changes in the membership, as required under section 53(1) of the Act;
- (e) maintaining on behalf of the Association an up-to-date copy of these rules, as required under section 35(1) of the Act;
- (f) unless another member is authorised by the Board to do so, maintaining on behalf of the Association a record of Board members and other persons authorised to act on behalf of the Association, as required under section 58(2) of the Act;
- (g) ensuring the safe custody of the books of the Association, other than the financial records, financial statements, and financial reports, as applicable to the Association;
- (h) maintaining full and accurate minutes of Board meetings and general meetings;
- (i) carrying out any other duty given to the Secretary under these rules or by the Board.
- (j) The Board reserves the right to appoint the Executive Officer to perform some of the duties of the Secretary

32. Treasurer

The Treasurer has the following duties —

- (a) ensuring that any amounts payable to the Association are collected and issuing receipts for those amounts in the Association's name;
- (b) ensuring that any amounts paid to the Association are credited to the appropriate account of the Association, as directed by the Board;
- (c) ensuring that any payments to be made by the Association that have been authorised by the Board or at a general meeting are made on time;
- (d) ensuring that the Association complies with the relevant requirements of Part 5 of the Act;
- (e) ensuring the safe custody of the Association's financial records, financial statements, and financial reports, as applicable to the Association;
- (f) if the Association is a tier 1 association, coordinating the preparation of the Association's financial statements before their submission to the Association's annual general meeting;
- (g) if the Association is a tier 2 association or tier 3 association, coordinating the preparation of the Association's financial report before its submission to the Association's annual general meeting;
- (h) providing any assistance required by an auditor or reviewer conducting an audit or review of the Association's financial statements or financial report under Part 5 Division 5 of the Act;
- (i) carrying out any other duty given to the Treasurer under these rules or by the Board;
- (j) The Board reserves the right to appoint the Executive Officer to perform some of the duties of the Treasurer

Division 3 — Election of Board members and tenure of office

33. How members become Board members

A member becomes a Board member if the member —

- (a) is elected to the Board at a general meeting; or
- (b) is appointed to the Board by the Board to fill a casual vacancy under rule 38.

34. Nomination of Board members

- (1) At least 42 days before an annual general meeting, the Secretary must send written notice to all the members —
 - (a) calling for nominations for election to the Board; and
 - (b) stating the date by which nominations must be received by the Secretary to comply with subrule (2).
- (2) A member who wishes to be considered for election to the Board at the annual general meeting must nominate for election by sending written notice of the nomination to the Secretary at least 28 days before the annual general meeting.
- (3) The written notice must include a statement by another member in support of the nomination.
- (4) A member may nominate for one specified position of office holder of the Association or to be an ordinary Board member.
- (5) A member whose nomination does not comply with this rule is not eligible for election to the Board unless the member is nominated under rule 35(2) or 36(2)(b).

35. Election of Office Bearers

- (1) At an annual general meeting, a separate election must be held for the positions of Chair and Deputy Chair of the Association if those positions have been declared vacant.
- (2) If there is no nomination for a position, the Chair of the meeting may call for nominations from the ordinary members at the meeting.
- (3) If only one member has nominated for a position, the Chair of the meeting must declare the member elected to the position.
- (4) If more than one member has nominated for a position, the ordinary members at the meeting must vote in accordance with procedures that have been determined by the Board to decide who is to be elected to the position.
- (5) Each ordinary member present at the meeting may vote for one member who has nominated for the position.
- (6) A member who has nominated for the position may vote for himself or herself.
- (7) The Deputy Chair must be elected at the first Board meeting following the Annual General Meeting, unless otherwise resolved by the members.
- (8) Notwithstanding any other provision in these rules, the positions of Secretary and Treasurer will be appointed by the Board by a majority vote, from the ordinary Board membership.
- (9) The Board must formally appoint individuals to these roles from among the ordinary Board members.
- (10) Ensure appointments are minuted and recorded in the register of office holders (per Section 58 of the Act).
- (11) On the member's election, the new Chair of the Association may take over as the Chair of the meeting.

36. Election of ordinary Board members

- (1) At the annual general meeting, the Association must decide by resolution the number of ordinary Board members (if any) to hold office for the next year.
- (2) If the number of members nominating for the position of ordinary Board member is not greater than the number to be elected, the Chair of the meeting —
 - (a) must declare each of those members to be elected to the position; and
- (3) may call for further nominations from the ordinary members at the meeting to fill any positions remaining unfilled after the elections under paragraph (a). If —
 - (a) the number of members nominating for the position of ordinary Board member is greater than the number to be elected; or
 - (b) the number of members nominating under subrule (2)(b) is greater than the number of positions remaining unfilled,the ordinary members at the meeting must vote in accordance with procedures that have been determined by the Board to decide the members who are to be elected to the position of ordinary Board member.
- (4) A member who has nominated for the position of ordinary Board member may vote in accordance with that nomination.

37. Term of office

- (1) The term of office of a Board member begins when the member —
 - (a) is elected at an annual general meeting or under subrule 36(3)(b); or
 - (b) is appointed to fill a casual vacancy under rule 40.
- (2) Subject to rule 39, each Board member elected at a general meeting will hold office until the annual general meeting held two years after that member's election.
- (3) Subject to rule 39, each Board member appointed to fill a casual vacancy under rule 40 will hold office until the next annual general meeting.
- (4) A Board member may be re-elected.

38. Resignation and removal from office

- (1) A Board member may resign from the Board by written notice given to the Secretary or, if the resigning member is the Secretary, given to the Chair.
- (2) The resignation takes effect —
 - (a) when the notice is received by the Secretary or Chair; or
 - (b) if a later time is stated in the notice, at the later time.
- (3) At a general meeting, the Association may by resolution —
 - (a) remove a Board member from office; and
 - (b) elect a member who is eligible under rule 29(4) to fill the vacant position.
- (4) A Board member who is the subject of a proposed resolution under subrule (3)(a) may make written representations (of a reasonable length) to the Secretary or Chair and may ask that the representations be provided to the members.
- (5) The Secretary or Chair may give a copy of the representations to each member or, if they are not so given, the Board member may require them to be read out at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be considered.

39. When membership of Board ceases

A person ceases to be a Board member if the person —

- (a) dies or otherwise ceases to be a member; or
- (b) resigns from the Board or is removed from office under rule 38; or
- (c) becomes ineligible to accept an appointment or act as a Board member under section 39 of the Act;
- (d) becomes permanently unable to act as a Board member because of a mental or physical disability; or
- (e) fails to attend 3 consecutive Board meetings, of which the person has been given notice, without having notified the Board that the person will be unable to attend.

40. Filling casual vacancies

- (1) The Board may appoint a member who is eligible under rule 29(4) to fill a position on the Board that —
 - (a) has become vacant under rule 39; or
 - (b) was not filled by election at the most recent annual general meeting or under rule 38(3)(b).
- (2) If the position of Secretary becomes vacant, the Board must appoint a member who is eligible under rule 29(3) to fill the position within 14 days after the vacancy arises.
- (3) Subject to the requirement for a quorum under rule 47, the Board may continue to act despite any vacancy in its membership.
- (4) If there are fewer Board members than required for a quorum under rule 47, the Board may act only for the purpose of —
 - (a) appointing Board members under this rule; or
 - (b) convening a general meeting.

41. Validity of acts

The acts of a Board or subcommittee, or of a Board member or member of a subcommittee, are valid despite any defect that may afterwards be discovered in the election, appointment or qualification of a Board member or member of a subcommittee

Division 4 — Board meetings

42. Board meetings

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

43. Notice of Board meetings

- (1) Notice of each Board meeting must be given to each Board member at least 48 hours before the time of the meeting.
- (2) The notice must state the date, time and place of the meeting and must describe the general

nature of the business to be conducted at the meeting.

- (3) Unless subrule (4) applies, the only business that may be conducted at the meeting is the business described in the notice.
- (4) Urgent business that has not been described in the notice may be conducted at the meeting if the Board members at the meeting unanimously agree to treat that business as urgent.

44. Procedure and order of business

- (1) The Chair or, in the Chair's absence, the Deputy Chair must preside as Chair of each Board meeting.
- (2) If the Chair and Deputy Chair are absent or are unwilling to act as Chair of a meeting, the Board members at the meeting must choose one of them to act as Chair of the meeting.
- (3) The procedure to be followed at a Board meeting must be determined from time to time by the Board.
- (4) The order of business at a Board meeting may be determined by the Board members at the meeting.
- (5) A member or other person who is not a Board member may attend a Board meeting if invited to do so by the Board.
- (6) A person invited under subrule (5) to attend a Board meeting —
 - (a) has no right to any agenda, minutes or other document circulated at the meeting; and
 - (b) must not comment about any matter discussed at the meeting unless invited by the Board to do so; and
 - (c) cannot vote on any matter that is to be decided at the meeting.

45. Use of technology to be present at Board meetings

- (1) The presence of a Board member at a Board meeting need not be by attendance in person but may be by that Board member and each other Board member at the meeting being simultaneously in contact by telephone or other means of instantaneous communication.
- (2) A member who participates in a Board meeting as allowed under subrule (1) is taken to be present at the meeting and, if the member votes at the meeting, the member is taken to have voted in person.

46. Quorum for Board meetings

- (1) Subject to rule 40(4), no business is to be conducted at a Board meeting unless a quorum is present.
- (2) At a Board meeting, 3 Board members with voting rights being present constitutes a quorum.
- (3) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a Board meeting —
 - (a) in the case of a special meeting — the meeting lapses; or
 - (b) otherwise, the meeting is adjourned to the same time, day, and place in the following week.
- (4) If —
 - (a) a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the commencement time of a Board meeting held under subrule (3)(b); and
 - (b) at least 2 Board members with voting rights are present at the meeting, those members present are taken to constitute a quorum.

47. Voting at Board meetings

- (1) Each Board member present at a Board meeting has one vote on any question arising at the meeting.
- (2) A motion is carried if a majority of the Board members present at the Board meeting vote in favour of the motion.
- (3) If the votes are divided equally on a question, the question will be resolved in the negative.
- (4) A vote may take place by the Board members present indicating their agreement or disagreement or by a show of hands, unless the Board decides that a secret ballot is needed to determine a particular question.
- (5) If a secret ballot is needed, the Chair of the meeting must decide how the ballot is to be conducted.

48. Minutes of Board meetings

- (1) The Board must ensure that minutes are taken and kept of each Board meeting.
- (2) The minutes must record the following —
 - (a) the names of the Board members present at the meeting;
 - (b) the name of any person attending the meeting under rule 44(5);
 - (c) the business considered at the meeting;
 - (d) any motion on which a vote is taken at the meeting and the result of the vote.
- (3) The minutes of a Board meeting must be entered in the Association's minute book within 30 days after the meeting is held.
- (4) The Chair must ensure that the minutes of a Board meeting are reviewed and signed as correct by —
 - (a) the Chair of the meeting; or
 - (b) the Chair of the next Board meeting.
- (5) When the minutes of a Board meeting have been signed as correct, they are, until the contrary is proved, evidence that —
 - (a) the meeting to which the minutes relate was duly convened and held; and
 - (b) the matters recorded as having taken place at the meeting took place as recorded; and
 - (c) any appointment purportedly made at the meeting was validly made.

Division 5 — Subcommittees and subsidiary offices

49. Subcommittees and subsidiary offices

- (1) To help the Board in the conduct of the Association's business, the Board may, in writing, do either or both of the following —
 - (a) appoint one or more subcommittees;
 - (b) create one or more subsidiary offices and appoint people to those offices.
- (2) A subcommittee may consist of the number of people, whether or not members, that the Board considers appropriate.
- (3) A person may be appointed to a subsidiary office whether or not the person is a member.
- (4) Subject to any directions given by the Board —

- (a) a subcommittee may meet and conduct business as it considers appropriate; and
- (b) the holder of a subsidiary office may carry out the functions given to the holder as the holder considers appropriate.

50. Delegation to subcommittees and holders of subsidiary offices

- (1) In this rule —**non-delegable duty** means a duty imposed on the Board by the Act or another written law.
- (2) The Board may, in writing, delegate to a subcommittee or the holder of a subsidiary office the exercise of any power or the performance of any duty of the Board other than —
 - (a) the power to delegate; and
 - (b) a non-delegable duty.
- (3) A power or duty, the exercise or performance of which has been delegated to a subcommittee or the holder of a subsidiary office under this rule, may be exercised or performed by the subcommittee or holder in accordance with the terms of the delegation.
- (4) The delegation may be made subject to any conditions, qualifications, limitations, or exceptions that the Board specifies in the document by which the delegation is made.
- (5) The delegation does not prevent the Board from exercising or performing at any time the power or duty delegated.
- (6) Any act or thing done by a subcommittee or by the holder of a subsidiary office, under the delegation has the same force and effect as if it had been done by the Board.
- (7) The Board may, in writing, amend or revoke the delegation.

PART 6 — GENERAL MEETINGS OF ASSOCIATION

51. Annual general meeting

- (1) The Board must determine the date, time, and place of the annual general meeting.
- (2) If it is proposed to hold the annual general meeting more than 6 months after the end of the Association's financial year, the Secretary must apply to the Commissioner for permission under section 50(3)(b) of the Act within 4 months after the end of the financial year.
- (3) 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 if the minutes of that meeting have not yet been confirmed;
 - (b) to receive and consider —
 - (i) the Board's annual report on the Association's activities during the preceding financial year; and
 - (ii) if the Association is a tier 1 association, the financial statements of the Association for the preceding financial year presented under Part 5 of the Act; and
 - (iii) if the Association is a tier 2 association or a tier 3 association, the financial report of the Association for the preceding financial year presented under Part 5 of the Act;
 - (iv) if required to be presented for consideration under Part 5 of the Act, a copy of the report of the review or auditor's report on the financial statements or financial report;
 - (c) to elect the office holders of the Association and other Board members;

- (d) if applicable, to appoint or remove a reviewer or auditor of the Association in accordance with the Act;
 - (e) to confirm or vary the entrance fees, subscriptions, and other amounts (if any) to be paid by members.
- (4) Any other business of which notice has been given in accordance with these rules may be conducted at the annual general meeting.

52. Special general meetings

- (1) The Board may convene a special general meeting.
- (2) The Board must convene a special general meeting if at least 10 per cent of the members require a special general meeting to be convened.
- (3) The members requiring a special general meeting to be convened must —
 - (a) make the requirement by written notice given to the Secretary; and
 - (b) state in the notice the business to be considered at the meeting; and
 - (c) each sign the notice.
- (4) The special general meeting must be convened within 28 days after notice is given under subrule (3)(a).
- (5) If the Board does not convene a special general meeting within that 28 day period, the members making the requirement (or any of them) may convene the special general meeting.
- (6) A special general meeting convened by members under subrule (5) —
 - (a) must be held within 3 months after the date the original requirement was made; and
 - (b) may only consider the business stated in the notice by which the requirement was made.
- (7) The Association must reimburse any reasonable expenses incurred by the members convening a special general meeting under subrule (5).

53. Notice of general meetings

- (1) The Secretary or, in the case of a special general meeting convened under rule 52(5), the members convening the meeting, must give to each member —
 - (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 the meeting is the annual general meeting, include the names of the members who have nominated for election to the Board under rule 34(2); and
 - (d) if a special resolution is proposed —
 - (i) set out the wording of the proposed resolution as required by section 51(4) of the Act; and
 - (ii) state that the resolution is intended to be proposed as a special resolution; and
 - (iii) comply with rule 54(7).

54. Proxies

- (1) Subject to subrule (2), an ordinary member may appoint an individual who is an ordinary member as his or her proxy to vote and speak on his or her behalf at a general meeting.
- (2) An ordinary member may be appointed the proxy for not more than 5 other members.
- (3) The appointment of a proxy must be in writing and signed by the member making the appointment. The member appointing the proxy may give specific directions as to how the proxy is to vote on his or her behalf.
- (4) If no instructions are given to the proxy, the proxy may vote on behalf of the member in any matter as the proxy sees fit.
- (5) If the Board has approved a form for the appointment of a proxy, the member may use that form or any other form —
 - (a) that clearly identifies the person appointed as the member's proxy; and
 - (b) that has been signed by the member.
- (6) Notice of a general meeting given to an ordinary member under rule 54 must —
 - (a) state that the member may appoint an individual who is an ordinary member as a proxy for the meeting; and
 - (b) include a copy of any form that the Board has approved for the appointment of a proxy.
- (7) A form appointing a proxy must be given to the Secretary before the commencement of the general meeting for which the proxy is appointed.
- (8) A form appointing a proxy sent by post or electronically is of no effect unless it is received by the Association not later than 24 hours before the commencement of the meeting.

55. Use of technology to be present at general meetings

- (1) The presence of a member at a general meeting need not be by attendance in person but may be by that member and each other member at the meeting being simultaneously in contact by telephone or other means of instantaneous communication.
- (2) Digital Participation and Voting at General Meetings
 - (a) Digital Attendance A member may be present at a general meeting via telephone, video conferencing, or other real-time digital communication platforms, provided all participants can simultaneously hear and be heard.
 - (b) Digital Voting Rights A member participating digitally is deemed present and may vote on resolutions via secure electronic means. Votes cast electronically shall carry the same weight and validity as votes cast in person.
 - (c) Secure Electronic Ballots
 - (i) The Association shall implement a secure electronic voting system for AGMs and special meetings, ensuring confidentiality, auditability, and member authentication.
 - (ii) Electronic ballots must be accessible to all eligible voting members at least 7 days prior to the meeting and remain open until the conclusion of the relevant agenda item.
 - (iii) Results of electronic ballots shall be recorded in the meeting minutes and verified by the Secretary or appointed Returning Officer.
- (3) Proxy Voting Procedures
 - (i) A member may appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf by submitting a signed

proxy form (physical or digital) to the Secretary no later than 48 hours before the meeting.

- (ii) Proxy appointments must specify the scope of authority and any voting instructions.
- (iii) A proxy may vote electronically if the appointing member is not present, subject to verification by the Secretary.

(4) Voting Integrity and Dispute Resolution

- (i) The Board shall ensure that all digital voting systems comply with best-practice standards for security and transparency.
- (ii) Any disputes regarding electronic or proxy voting shall be referred to the Chair, whose decision shall be final unless overturned by resolution at a subsequent general meeting.

(5) Review and Update

- (i) The Board shall review digital voting protocols annually to ensure continued relevance, accessibility, and security.
- (ii) Amendments to digital voting procedures must be approved by resolution at a general meeting.

56. Presiding member and quorum for general meetings

- (1) The Chair or, in the Chair's absence, the deputy Chair must preside as Chair of each general meeting.
- (2) If the Chair and deputy Chair are absent or are unwilling to act as Chair of a general meeting, the Board members at the meeting must choose one of them to act as Chair of the meeting.
- (3) No business is to be conducted at a general meeting unless a quorum is present.
- (4) At a general meeting, 10 per cent of all members of the Association present in person or by proxy constitute a quorum
- (5) If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the notified commencement time of a general meeting —
 - (a) in the case of a special general meeting — the meeting lapses; or
 - (b) in the case of the annual general meeting — the meeting is adjourned to —
 - (i) the same time and day in the following week; and
 - (ii) the same place, unless the Chair specifies another place at the time of the adjournment or written notice of another place is given to the members before the day to which the meeting is adjourned.
- (6) If —
 - (a) a quorum is not present within 30 minutes after the commencement time of an annual general meeting held under subrule (5)(b); and at least 2 ordinary members are present at the meeting, those members present are taken to constitute a quorum.

57. Adjournment of general meeting

- (1) The Chair of a general meeting at which a quorum is present may, with the consent of a majority of the ordinary 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.
- (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 14 days or more, in which case notice of the meeting must be given in accordance with rule 53.

58. Voting at general meeting

- (1) On any question arising at a general meeting —
 - a. Subject to subrule (6), each ordinary member has one vote unless the member may also vote on behalf of a body corporate under subrule (2);
 - b. Ordinary members may vote:
 - i. personally (in person or via digital attendance as per Rule 55);
 - ii. by proxy in accordance with subrules (2)–(4); or
 - iii. by secure electronic ballot, where such a system is implemented under Rule 55.
- (2) An ordinary member that is a body corporate may, in writing, appoint an individual — whether or not that individual is a member — to vote on its behalf at a particular general meeting or at all general meetings, as specified in the appointment document.
- (3) A copy of the appointment document must be submitted to the Secretary no later than 48 hours before the relevant general meeting.
- (4) The appointment remains valid until —
 - a. the conclusion of the general meeting(s) to which it applies; or
 - b. it is revoked by the body corporate and written notice of revocation is received by the Secretary.
- (5) Except in the case of a special resolution, a motion is carried if a majority of the ordinary members present (including those participating digitally or voting electronically) vote in favour of the motion.
- (6) If votes are divided equally on a question, the question is resolved in the negative.
- (7) If the question is whether to confirm the minutes of a previous general meeting, only members who were present (physically or digitally) at that meeting may vote.
- (8) To be eligible to vote at a general meeting — whether in person, digitally, by proxy, or electronically — an ordinary member must:
 - a. have been an ordinary member at the time notice of the meeting was issued under Rule 54; and
 - b. have paid all fees or other monies due to the Association.

59. When special resolutions are required

- (1) A special resolution is required if it is proposed at a general meeting —
 - (a) to affiliate the Association with another body; or
 - (b) to request the Commissioner to apply to the State Administrative Tribunal under section 109 of the Act for the appointment of a statutory manager.

- (2) Subrule (1) does not limit the matters in relation to which a special resolution may be proposed.

60. Determining whether resolution carried

- (1) In this rule —

poll means the process of voting in relation to a matter that is conducted in writing.

- (2) Subject to subrule (4), the Chair of a general meeting may, on the basis of general agreement or disagreement or by 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.
- (3) If the resolution is a special resolution, the declaration under subrule (2) must identify the resolution as a special resolution.
- (4) If a poll is demanded on any question by the Chair of the meeting or by at least 3 other ordinary members present in person or by proxy —
- (a) the poll must be taken at the meeting in the manner determined by the Chair;
 - (b) the Chair must declare the determination of the resolution on the basis of the poll.
- (5) If a poll is demanded on the election of the Chair or on a question of an adjournment, the poll must be taken immediately.
- (6) If a poll is demanded on any other question, the poll must be taken before the close of the meeting at a time determined by the Chair.
- (7) A declaration under subrule (2) or (4) must be entered in the minutes of the meeting, and the entry is, without proof of the voting in relation to the resolution, evidence of how the resolution was determined.

61. Minutes of general meeting

- (1) The Secretary, or a person authorised by the Board from time to time, must take and keep minutes 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 record —
- (a) the names of the ordinary members attending the meeting; and
 - (b) any proxy forms given to the Chair of the meeting under rule 53(8); and
 - (c) the financial statements or financial report presented at the meeting, as referred to in rule 51(3)(b)(ii) or (iii); and
 - (d) any report of the review or auditor's report on the financial statements or financial report presented at the meeting, as referred to in rule 51(3)(b)(iv).
- (4) The minutes of a general meeting must be entered in the Association's minute book within 30 days after the meeting is held.
- (5) The Chair must ensure that the minutes of a general meeting are reviewed and signed as correct by —
- (a) the Chair of the meeting; or
 - (b) the Chair of the next general meeting.
- (6) When the minutes of a general meeting have been signed as correct, they are, in the

absence of evidence to the contrary, taken to be proof that —

- (a) the meeting to which the minutes relate was duly convened and held; and
- (b) the matters recorded as having taken place at the meeting took place as recorded; and
- (c) any election or appointment purportedly made at the meeting was validly made.

PART 7 — FINANCIAL MATTERS

62. Source of funds

The funds of the Association may be derived from Fees for Service collected on the Association's behalf by the Agricultural Produce Commission, entrance fees, annual subscriptions, donations, fund-raising activities, grants, interest, and any other sources approved by the Board.

63. Control of funds

- (1) The Association must open an account in the name of the Association with a financial institution from which all expenditure of the Association is made and into which all funds received by the Association are deposited.
- (2) Subject to any restrictions imposed at a general meeting, the Board may approve expenditure on behalf of the Association.
- (3) The Board may authorise the Treasurer to expend funds on behalf of the Association up to a specified limit without requiring approval from the Board for each item on which the funds are expended.
- (4) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments of the Association must be signed by —
 - (a) 2 Board members; or
 - (b) one Board member and a person authorised by the Board.
- (5) All funds of the Association must be deposited into the Association's account within 5 working days after their receipt.

64. Financial statements and financial reports

- (1) For each financial year, the Board must ensure that the requirements imposed on the Association under Part 5 of the Act relating to the financial statements or financial report of the Association are met.
- (2) Without limiting subrule (1), those requirements include —
 - (a) if the Association is a tier 1 association, the preparation of the financial statements; and
 - (b) if the Association is a tier 2 association or tier 3 association, the preparation of the financial report; and
 - (c) if required, the review or auditing of the financial statements or financial report, as applicable; and
 - (d) the presentation to the annual general meeting of the financial statements or financial report, as applicable; and
 - (e) if required, the presentation to the annual general meeting of the copy of the report of the review or auditor's report, as applicable, on the financial statements or financial report.

PART 8 — GENERAL MATTERS

65. By-laws

- (1) The Association may, by resolution at a general meeting, make, amend, or revoke by-laws.
- (2) By-laws may —
 - (a) provide for the rights and obligations that apply to any classes of associate membership approved under rule 10(2); and
 - (b) impose restrictions on the Board's powers, including the power to dispose of the association's assets; and
 - (c) impose requirements relating to the financial reporting and financial accountability of the association and the auditing of the association's accounts; and
 - (d) provide for any other matter the association considers necessary or convenient to be dealt with in the by-laws.
- (3) A by-law is of no effect to the extent that it is inconsistent with the Act, the regulations, or these rules.
- (4) Without limiting subrule (3), a by-law made for the purposes of subrule (2)(c) may only impose requirements on the Association that are additional to, and do not restrict, a requirement imposed on the Association under Part 5 of the Act.
- (5) At the request of a member, the Association must make a copy of the by-laws available for inspection by the member.

66. Executing documents and common seal

- (1) The Association may execute a document without using a common seal if the document is signed by —
 - (a) 2 Board members; or
 - (b) one Board member and a person authorised by the Board.
- (2) If the Association has a common seal —
 - (a) the name of the Association must appear in legible characters on the common seal; and
 - (b) a document may only be sealed with the common seal by the authority of the Board and in the presence of —
 - (i) 2 Board members; or
 - (ii) one Board member and a person authorised by the Board,and each of them is to sign the document to attest that the document was sealed in their presence.
- (3) The Secretary must make a written record of each use of the common seal.
- (4) The common seal must be kept in the custody of the Secretary or another Board member authorised by the Board.

67. Giving notices to members

- (1) Definitions In this rule:
 - (i) *Recorded* means recorded in the register of members or in the member's approved communication preferences.

- (ii) *Digital notice* means any written communication delivered via electronic means, including email, member portals, or other secure digital platforms.

(2) **Valid Notice Delivery** A notice or other document required to be given to a member under these rules is taken not to have been given unless it is in writing and delivered by one or more of the following methods:

- (a) Delivered by hand to the recorded physical address of the member;
- (b) Sent by prepaid post to the recorded postal address of the member;
- (c) Sent by facsimile or electronic transmission to a recorded number or electronic address;
- (d) Published via a secure member portal or dashboard, provided the member has consented to receive notices in this manner;
- (e) Distributed via email newsletter or bulk email system, provided the member has opted in to receive communications through that channel.

(3) **Consent and Communication Preferences** Members may nominate or update their preferred method of receiving notices at any time by written notice to the Secretary or via the Association's member portal. The Association must maintain a register of each member's current communication preferences.

(4) **Receipt and Timing of Notices** based on delivered via digital means are deemed received:

- (a) Immediately upon successful transmission, if sent by email or facsimile;
- (b) Within 24 hours of publication, if posted to a secure member portal;
- (c) Within 5 business days, if sent by prepaid post.

(5) **Accessibility and Equity** Members who do not consent to digital communications shall continue to receive notices via post or hand delivery. All notices must be made available in accessible formats upon request.

68. Custody of books and securities

- (1) Subject to subrule (2), the books and any securities of the Association must be kept in the Secretary's custody or under the Secretary's control.
- (2) The financial records and, as applicable, the financial statements or financial reports of the Association must be kept in the Treasurer's custody or under the Treasurer's control.
- (3) Subrules (1) and (2) have effect except as otherwise decided by the Board.
- (4) The books of the Association must be retained for at least 7 years.

69. Record of office holders

The record of Board members and other persons authorised to act on behalf of the Association that is required to be maintained under section 58(2) of the Act must be kept in the Secretary's custody or under the Secretary's control.

70. Inspection of records and documents

- (1) Subrule (2) applies to a member who wants to inspect —
 - (a) the register of members under section 54(1) of the Act; or
 - (b) the record of the names and addresses of Board members, and other persons authorised to act on behalf of the Association, under section 58(3) of the Act; or
 - (c) any other record or document of the association.

- (2) The member must contact the Secretary to make the necessary arrangements for the inspection.
- (3) The inspection must be free of charge.
- (4) If the member wants to inspect a document that records the minutes of a Board meeting, the right to inspect that document is subject to any decision the Board has made about minutes of Board meetings generally, or the minutes of a specific Board meeting, being available for inspection by members.
- (5) The member may make a copy of or take an extract from a record or document referred to in subrule (1)(c) but does not have a right to remove the record or document for that purpose.
- (6) The member must not use or disclose information in a record or document referred to in subrule (1)(c) except for a purpose —
 - (a) that is directly connected with the affairs of the Association; or
 - (b) that is related to complying with a requirement of the Act.

71. Publication by Board members of statements about Association business prohibited

A Board member must not publish, or cause to be published, any statement about the business conducted by the Association at a general meeting or Board meeting unless —

- (a) the Board member has been authorised to do so at a Board meeting; and
- (b) the authority given to the Board member has been recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting at which it was given.

72. Distribution of surplus property on cancellation of incorporation or winding up

- (1) In this rule —**surplus property**, in relation to the Association, means property remaining after satisfaction of —
 - (a) the debts and liabilities of the Association; and
 - (b) the costs, charges, and expenses of winding up or cancelling the incorporation of the Association,
 but does not include books relating to the management of the Association.
- (2) On the cancellation of the incorporation or the winding up of the Association, its surplus property must be distributed as determined by special resolution by reference to the persons mentioned in section 24(1) of the Act.

73. Alteration of rules

If the Association wants to alter or rescind any of these rules, or to make additional rules, the Association may do so only by special resolution and by otherwise complying with Part 3 Division 2 of the Act.

Appendix 1

Scope of Delegated Duties

Aligned to the Great Southern Wine Producers Association Inc. - RULES OF ASSOCIATION

A. Secretary Functions

- Maintain and securely store minutes of Board and General Meetings
- Manage correspondence and official communications
- Maintain register of members and ensure compliance with statutory reporting
- Prepare and distribute notices of meetings and agendas

B. Treasurer Functions

- Oversee day-to-day financial transactions and bookkeeping
- Prepare monthly financial reports and annual financial statements
- Manage bank accounts and payment authorisations within approved thresholds
- Liaise with external auditors or accountants as required

2. Reporting Obligations

- **Monthly Reports:** EO to submit financial and operational reports to the Board, including:
 - Income and expenditure summary
 - Bank reconciliation
 - Membership updates
 - Compliance checklist
- **Annual Reports:** EO to assist in preparation of audited financial statements and statutory filings
- **Meeting Minutes:** EO to circulate draft minutes within 7 days of meetings for Board approval

3. Oversight Mechanisms

- **Board Review:**
 - Monthly review of EO reports at Board meetings
 - Quarterly performance check-in with Chair and Deputy Chair
- **Financial Sign-Off Thresholds:**
 - EO may authorise payments up to \$2,000 without prior Board approval outside of a budgeted expense.
 - Payments above \$2,000 require dual sign-off from Treasurer and Chair
- **Audit Trail:**
 - All financial transactions must be logged and accessible for audit
 - EO to maintain version-controlled records of minutes and correspondence

4. Conditions & Limitations

- Delegation does not absolve the Secretary or Treasurer of their statutory responsibilities
- EO must act in accordance with the Constitution, Board policies, and relevant legislation
- This delegation may be reviewed, amended, or revoked by Board resolution

Approved by Board Resolution on: [10th December, 2025]

Signed by:

Chair: 

Executive Officer: 