

# 3. Special Resolution Motions

**NOTICE OF SPECIAL RESOLUTION C17 – 01**

**Submitted by: Board of Management**

Amend rule 2 of the Constitution of the Association to simplify the Objects of the Association.

## **CURRENT RULE 2**

The Association is the peak body for the administration of Little Athletics in Victoria. The objects for which the Association is established and maintained are to:

- (a) Promote and control within the State of Victoria, athletic competition for children whose ages fall within the limits defined in this Constitution;
- (b) Create a uniform entity through and by which Little Athletics in Victoria can be encouraged, conducted, promoted and administered and to be the governing body of Little Athletics in Victoria;
- (c) Promote recreational, social and community activities with emphasis on family involvement;
- (d) Encourage and assist Victorian communities to organize and conduct athletic competition and/or skill related activities for children;
- (e) Promote and encourage Little Athletics within Victoria and the conduct of competition as an affiliated member of LAA;
- (f) Adopt and accept the rules of the IAAF and abide by the interpretation of such rules, with such variations as are approved from time to time by the Association;
- (g) Assist the development of athletics in Victoria;
- (h) Affiliate and otherwise liaise with LAA, youth organisations and such other bodies as may be desirable, in the pursuit of these Objects;
- (i) Establish and affiliate Little Athletics Centres and create, maintain and control Regions and Clubs in the State of Victoria;
- (j) Act for, and represent the interests of, its Members in all matters pertaining to Little Athletics;
- (k) Control, manage and conduct Little Athletics competitions at a state level;
- (l) Select and manage Little Athletics teams to represent Victoria in national competitions inside and outside Victoria;
- (m) Encourage, conduct, promote, and administer Little Athletics throughout Victoria, through and by the Members for the mutual and collective benefit of the Members and Little Athletics;
- (n) Act in good faith and loyalty to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of the Association and Little Athletics, its standards, quality and reputation for the collective and mutual benefit of the Member and Little Athletics;
- (o) Operate with, and promote mutual trust and confidence between the Association and the Members in pursuit of these Objects;
- (p) At all times to act on behalf of, and in the interests of, the Members and Little Athletics;
- (q) Promote the economic and sporting success, strength and stability of the Association and the Members and to act interdependently with each Member in pursuit of these Objects;
- (r) Encourage, conduct, promote, advance and govern Little Athletics;
- (s) Apply the property and capacity of the Association towards the fulfilment and achievement of these Objects;
- (t) Use and protect the Association's Intellectual Property;
- (u) Purchase, take on lease or in exchange or otherwise acquire any lands, building or property, real or personal, which may be requisite for the purpose of the Association or

- conveniently used in connection with any of its Objects and to sell, demise mortgage, give in exchange or dispose of the same;
- (v) Pursue through itself or others, such commercial arrangements, including sponsorship and marketing opportunities, as are appropriate to further these Objects;
  - (w) Conduct research and training projects in the interests of the Members present and future;
  - (x) Promote market and turn to account sports equipment for Little Athletics;
  - (y) Not espouse the cause of any political party or religious beliefs and not in any way place limitations (other than age) upon children entitled to benefit from membership of the Association;
  - (z) Strive for and maintain government, commercial and public recognition of the Association as the authority for Little Athletics in Victoria;
  - (aa) Promulgate and secure uniformity in such rules and standards as may be necessary for the management of Little Athletics, Little Athletics competitions and related activities, including but not limited to the rules and coaching standards;
  - (bb) Further develop the Association and Little Athletics into an organized institution and having regards to these Objects and in conjunction with the Members, foster, regulate, organise, conduct and manage Little Athletics tournaments, competitions, events, displays and other activities;
  - (cc) Promote the health and safety of athletes, officials and other individuals participating in Little Athletics in any capacity;
  - (dd) Act as final arbiter on all matters pertaining to the conduct of Little Athletics in Victoria, including disciplinary matters;
  - (ee) Establish and conduct education and training programs for participants, coaches and officials in the implementation and interpretation of Little Athletics rules and standards;
  - (ff) Formulate and implement appropriate policies, including policies in relation to member protection, equal opportunity, equity, drugs in sport, health, safety, infectious diseases and such other matters as arise from time to time as issues to be addressed in Little Athletics;
  - (gg) Have regard to the public interest in its operation;
  - (hh) Encourage and promote performance-enhancing drug free competition;
  - (ii) give, and where appropriate, seek recognition for athletes, officials and other individuals participating in Little Athletics in any capacity to obtain awards or public recognition; and
  - (jj) Undertake and or do all things or activities which are necessary, incidental or conducive to the advancement of these Objects or any of them.

## **RULE 2 IF AMENDED**

The Association is the peak body for the administration of Little Athletics in Victoria. The objects for which the Association is established and maintained are to:

- (a) As an affiliated member of ALA, promote and lead activities related to Little Athletics competition and other athletic skills within Victoria, for children whose ages fall within the limits defined in this Constitution;
- (b) Promote Little Athletics as a recreational, social and community activity for all participants, including families, irrespective of cultural or religious differences, in an inclusive and safe environment;
- (c) Encourage and assist Affiliated Centres and other Victorian communities to organise and conduct activities, related to athletic competition and other athletic skills, for children, including establishing and conducting education and training programs for children, coaches and officials;
- (d) Work with other similar sporting, community and government bodies to develop and grow Little Athletics and athletics in Victoria;
- (e) Manage and conduct Little Athletics competitions at a state level, including maintaining competition rules and standards; and select and manage Little Athletics teams to represent Victoria in national competitions;

- (f) Formulate and implement appropriate policies on such matters as arise from time to time as issues to be addressed in Little Athletics;
- (g) Continue to develop the financial, governance and strategic sustainability of the Association;
- (h) Have regard to the public interest in its operation;
- (i) Apply the property, including intellectual property, and income of the Association towards the fulfillment and achievement of these Objects; and
- (j) Undertake and do all things or activities which are necessary, incidental or conducive to the advancement of these Objects or any of them.

#### **REASON**

The current rule 2 of the Constitution contains thirty six Objects, a number of which are repetitive. The Board considers that it is appropriate to simplify the Objects of the Association into ten principles-based Objects that align with current expectations and obligations.

The Board notes that the Constitutions of Australian Little Athletics, Little Athletics Queensland, Little Athletics WA, Little Athletics SA and Little Athletics ACT have a similar, simple Objects rule to that being proposed by the Board.

#### **BOM COMMENT**

See above.

<b>MOTION: C17-01</b>		PASSED – Amended ( )		LOST		LAPSED
SECONDED				WITHDRAWN		
Comments:						

Amend various rules of the Constitution of the Association to correct clear typographical and syntax errors.

**CURRENT RULES 4, 6.5(c), 6.6(a), (c), and (d), 6.10 and 7(a)**

“Annual Subscriptions” means the annual fees payable by each category of Member as determined by the Board under **rule 6.10**.

4.2(j) a reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other statutory instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements or any of them (whether of the same or any legislative authority having jurisdiction);

6.5(c) As soon as is practicable after the receipt of an application under **rule 6.2(a)**, the CEO shall refer the application to the Board who shall determine whether to approve or decline the application.

6.6(a) To be eligible for membership as a Competitive Member or an Associate Associate Member, the applicant must be a natural person and meet any other criteria set by the Board or set out in the Regulations from time to time.

6.6(c) If a person satisfies the criteria set by the rule 6.6, they shall be deemed a Competitive Member or an Associate Member (as applicable), subject always to this Constitution and in particular **rules 6.6(c) and (d)** below.

6.6(d) The CEO may, in their discretion, refer any application for membership as a Competitive Member or an Associate Member to the Board for review. The Board may, in its discretion, determine whether to approve or decline the application.

6.10 All Members, including Affiliated Centres, must reapply for membership each Affiliation Year through the procedures set out in this Constitution or by the Board from time to time. The Board is not obliged to accept any membership renewal made under this Constitution and may accept or reject a renewal application. If it rejects an application the Board is not obliged to give reasons for its decisions.

7(a) The Annual Subscriptions payable by Members or categories of Members to the Association, the benefits which apply, the time for, and manner of payment, shall be determined by the Board of Management. Where the increase in Annual Subscription exceeds 10% it must be ratified by the members at a General Meeting.

**RULES 4, 6.5(c), 6.6(a) and (c), 6.10 and 7(a) IF AMENDED**

“Annual Subscriptions” means the annual fees payable by each category of Member as determined by the Board under **rule 7(a)**.

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4.2(j) A reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other statutory instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements or any of them (whether of the same or any legislative authority having jurisdiction);

6.5(c) As soon as is practicable after the receipt of an application under **rule 6.5(b)**, the CEO shall refer the application to the Board who shall determine whether to approve or decline the application.

6.6(a) To be eligible for membership as a Competitive Member or an Associate Member, the applicant must be a natural person and meet any other criteria set by the Board or set out in the Regulations from time to time.

6.6(c) If a person satisfies the criteria set by the rule 6.6, they shall be deemed a Competitive Member or an Associate Member (as applicable), subject always to this Constitution and in particular **rule 6.6(d)** below.

6.6(d) the CEO may, in his discretion, refer any application for membership as a Competitive Member or an Associate Member to the Board for review. The Board may, in its discretion, determine whether to approve or decline the application.

6.10 All Members, excluding Honorary Members, but including Affiliated Centres, must reapply for membership each Affiliation Year through the procedures set out in this Constitution or by the Board from time to time. The Board is not obliged to accept any membership renewal made under this Constitution and may accept or reject a renewal application. If it rejects an application, the Board is not obliged to give reasons for its decision.

7(a) The Annual Subscriptions payable by Members, or categories of Members, to the Association, the benefits that apply to each category, and the time for, and manner of payment of, subscriptions, shall be determined by the Board. Where an increase in Annual Subscription exceeds 10%, the Members must ratify the increase at a General Meeting.

#### **REASON**

The Board considers that the changes to the definition of “Annual Subscriptions”, and to rules 4.2(j), 6.5(c), 6.6(a), (c) and (d) are self-explanatory.

The main change to rule 6.10 ensures that Honorary Members do not need to reapply annually for membership of the Association, something that was clearly never intended.

The definition of the “Board” in rule 4 clearly refers to a body consisting of the Directors under rule 16.2. Apart from rule 7(a) (a reference to the Board of Management), the concept of the Board as so defined is used everywhere in the Constitution. The Board considers that it is appropriate to change this reference in rule 7(a) to maintain consistency with the defined concept.

#### **BOM COMMENT**

See above.

<b>MOTION: C17-02</b>		PASSED – Amended ( )		LOST		LAPSED
SECONDED				WITHDRAWN		
Comments:						

Amend rule 16.4(a) of the Constitution of the Association to add up to two appointed Directors. Also amend rules 16.4(a), 17(b), 18.1(a), 18.1(b) and 18.2 to delete the requirement for Elected Directors to be Associate Members or Honorary Members. Finally, add a new rule 16.6 to deal with the appointment of independent Directors.

**CURRENT RULES 16.4(a), 17(b), 18.1(a), 18.1(b) and 18.2**

16.4(a) The Board shall consist of seven Elected Directors who must all be Associate Members or Honorary Members and who shall be elected in accordance with **rule 17**.

17(b) Nominations of candidates for election as Elected Directors, shall be: (i) made in writing on the form provided by the Association from time to time (if any), but in any case it must be accompanied by; (a) the written consent of the nominee; (b) proof that their nomination is consented to by an Affiliated Centre or Region; with such proof being as required from time to time and set out in the Regulations; (ii) an Associated Member or Honorary Member and must provide details confirming that they meet any qualifications set out in the Regulations from time to time under **rule (b)**; and (iii) delivered to the CEO by the date specified on the call for nominations.

18.1(a) For the purposes of this Constitution, the office of a Director becomes vacant if the Director: (b) In the case of an Elected Director, ceases to be an Associate Member or Honorary Member.

18.2 In the event of a casual vacancy in the office of any Elected Director, the Board may appoint an appropriate Associate Member or Honorary Member to the vacant office and the person so appointed may continue in office up to the end of the term of the Elected Director they are replacing.

**RULES 16.4(a), 16.6, 17(b), 18.1(a), 18.1(b) and 18.2 IF AMENDED**

16.4(a) The Board shall consist of seven Elected Directors who must all be elected in accordance with **rule 17** and up to two Directors appointed by the Board.

**16.6 Appointed Directors**

(a) The Board may appoint up to two independent Directors.

(b) A Director may be appointed for a term of up to two years, the term of which will be determined by the Board. An appointed Director can only be reappointed for another term of up to two years.

(c) At the end of their terms, Directors appointed by the Board can nominate for election as Elected Directors according to the process set out in **rule 17**.

(d) Consistent with the process in **rule 16.5**, Directors appointed by the Board under this rule, who are subsequently elected as Elected Directors at the end of their terms, cannot serve as a Director for more than six consecutive years.

17(b) Nominations of candidates for election as Elected Directors shall be made in writing on the form provided by the Association from time to time (if any), must be accompanied by the written consent of the nominee, and delivered to the CEO by the date specified on the call for nominations.

18.1 For the purposes of this Constitution, the office of a Director become vacant if the Director:  
(c).....

18.2 In the event of a casual vacancy in the office of any Elected Director, the Board may appoint an appropriate person to the vacant office, and the person so appointed may continue in office up to the end of the term of the Elected Director they are replacing.

#### **REASON**

The Board considers that it is appropriate to increase the size of the Board from seven Elected Directors, by adding up to two independent Directors to be appointed by the Board, and to delete the requirement for Elected Directors to be Associate or Honorary Members. The Board considers that this will allow for a wider range of skills to be present on the Board to deal with the increasing demands of its work.

The Board is proposing an amendment to rule 16.4 and the addition of a new rule 16.6. These proposals will enable the Board to appoint independent Directors for a term of up to two years. A Director appointed under the proposed rule 16.6 will not be eligible for reappointment under that rule. However, at the end of their terms under rule 16.6, independent Directors appointed by the Board can nominate for election as Elected Directors under the process set out in rule 17. Consistent with the terms of rule 16.5, a Director appointed under rule 16.6 cannot serve as an appointed Director and Elected Director for a period of more than six consecutive years.

The Board also considers that requiring Elected Directors to be Associate or Honorary Members effectively limits the range of possible nominees for Director positions to parents or relatives of Competitive Members. The Board considers that this restriction should be removed to allow for anyone to nominate for election as a Director. If Elected Directors do not need to be Associate Members or Honorary Members, then it follows that: Affiliated Centres or Regions should not need to consent under Rule 17(b) to nominations for election as Directors; not being an Associate Member or Honorary Member should not be a reason under rule 18.1 for any office of Director to be vacated; and the Board can appoint any appropriate person to a casual vacancy in the office of an Elected Director under rule 18.2.

If this amendment is passed, the Board is also proposing an associated amendment to rule 19.2(a) of the Constitution (Procedure at Board Meetings) to increase the quorum at Board meetings from four to five Directors.

Finally, the Board notes that, under rule 7 of the Constitution of the Australian Little Athletics Incorporated (ALA), the Board of ALA may appoint up to two Independent Directors. The Board is the governing body of ALA.

#### **BOM COMMENT**

See above.

<b>MOTION: C17-03</b>		PASSED – Amended ( )		LOST		LAPSED
SECONDED				WITHDRAWN		
Comments:						

Amend rule 19.2(a) of the Constitution of the Association to replace the word 'Four' with the word 'Five'.

#### **CURRENT RULE 19.2(a)**

Four Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the Board.

#### **RULE 19.2(a) IF AMENDED**

Five Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the Board.

#### **REASON**

If the Meeting passes the Special Resolution to amend rule 16.4(a), and to add a new rule 16.6, to increase the size of the Board by up to two appointed Directors, and to delete the requirement for Elected Directors to be Associate Members or Honorary Members, the Board considers that it is appropriate to amend rule 19.2(a) to increase the size of the quorum required at Board meetings from four to five Directors.

This amendment will maintain the usual understanding that a quorum represents more than 50% of the members of a committee or meeting.

#### **BOM COMMENT**

See above.

<b>MOTION: C17-04</b>		PASSED – Amended ( )		LOST		LAPSED
SECONDED				WITHDRAWN		
Comments:						



Amend various definitions in rule 4 of the Constitution of the Association, with consequential amendments in other rules, to deal with the governance and administration of the Board, Directors and Delegates of Affiliated Centres.

**CURRENT RULES 4, 9.1, 16.5, and 20.2(f)**

“Associate Director” means a person elected or appointed to a standing committee under **rule 20.2**.

“Associate Members” means any person, not being a Competitive Member, who meets the criteria for membership as an “Associate Member” which are set out in the Regulations from time to time. Such persons will generally be parents of Competitive Members, officials of Little Athletic events, directors/officers.

“Committee” means any committee of the Board created under **rule 20.2** from time to time and it includes any Standing Committee.

“Delegate” means a representative of an Affiliated Centre appointed by that Affiliated Centre to represent the Affiliated Centre at General Meetings. The Delegate must be an Associate Member or an Honorary Member but cannot be a Director.

“Director” means a member of the Board and includes the Elected Directors but does not include Associate Directors unless specified.

“President” means the president of the Association appointed in accordance with **rule 17** from time to time.

9.1(b)(iii) Unless the Region or the Finance Director on the Board recommends it after due investigation.

9.1(c) Upon receiving such notice from an Affiliated Centre or receiving the recommendation from the Region or the Finance Director, the Board may take any steps it deems necessary or appropriate to:.....

16.5(b) To ensure rotational terms and Board continuity, the President and Competition Director will be elected in odd numbered years, and the Finance Director and Education Director will be elected in even-numbered years.

16.5(d) In the event that a General Director nominates and is elected to the position of President, Finance Director, Competition Director or Education Director then that member’s term of office in one of these roles shall recommence at that election and then be subject to rule 16.5(c).

20.2(f) Associate Directors may be appointed in accordance with the Regulations for each standing committee established under rule 20.2(c).

## **RULES 4, 9.1, 16.5, and 20.2(f) IF AMENDED**

Definition of “Associate Director” deleted.

“Associate Member” means any natural person, not being a Competitive Member, who meets the criteria for membership as an “Associate Member” which are set out in the Regulations from time to time. Such persons are not limited to parents or relatives of Competitive Members or officials of Little Athletic events.

“Committee” means any committee of the Board created under **rule 20.2** from time to time.

“Delegate” means a representative of an Affiliated Centre appointed by that Affiliated Centre to represent the Affiliated Centre at General Meetings. The Delegate cannot be a Director.

“Director” means a member of the Board, and includes the Elected Directors and appointed Directors.

“President” means the Elected Director elected by the Board at the first Board meeting following an Annual General Meeting, to serve as President of the Association.

9.1(b)(iii) Unless the Region or the CEO recommends it to the Board after due investigation.

9.1(c) Upon receiving such notice from an Affiliated Centre or receiving the recommendation from the Region or the CEO, the Board may take any steps it deems necessary or appropriate to:.....

16.5(b) To ensure rotational terms and Board continuity, three Directors will be elected in odd-numbered years, and the other four Directors will be elected in even-numbered years.

Rule 16.5(d) deleted.

Rule 20.2(f) deleted.

### **REASON**

The changes proposed to various definitions in rule 4, and the consequential changes proposed elsewhere in the Constitution, largely deal with the governance and administration of the Board and Directors. An associated proposal also widens the range of persons who may be Delegates for Affiliated Centres at a General Meeting of the Association.

The definition of the “Board” in rule 4 clearly refers to a body consisting of the Directors under rule 16.2. Rule 16.1 gives the management of the business and affairs of the Association to the Board, while Rule 16.2 then sets out that, if the Board considers it appropriate, in order to further the Objects of the Association, it may allocate Directors to specific portfolios, with specific responsibilities, as determined at the discretion of the Board.

This indicates that the guiding principle associated with Part IV of the Constitution, dealing with the Board and Directors, is that the Board, as one decision making body, is responsible for the governance and oversight of the affairs of the Association, subject to a general discretion given to the Board to allocate specific policy and executive responsibilities to individual Directors if considered appropriate. This is also consistent with the definition of ‘committee’ in section 3 of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* (Vic) (the Association has been incorporated under this Act).

The Board considers that certain aspects of Part IV, and its associated definitions, are inconsistent with the guiding principle referred to above, and should be changed.

First, given the general discretionary nature of the allocation of specific policy and executive responsibilities, the Board considers that it is unnecessary, and unduly limiting, for there to be permanent Standing Committees (see definition of “Committee” in rule 4 and rule 20.2(f)) and some specific Director roles (see the reference to Competition Director, Finance Director and Education Director in rules 9.1(b) and (c) and 16.5(b) and (d)). The Board is proposing that those rules be either deleted or amended to remove the references to Standing Committees and specific Director roles. As part of this change, the Board is also proposing to delete the definition of “Associate Director” in rule 4, and to delete rule 20.2(f), to remove the unnecessary link between Standing Committees and Associate Directors.

If passed, these changes will enable the Board, in its general discretion, to allocate any specific policy and executive responsibilities to Directors, and to establish committees, based on the strategic priorities of the Association in any given year. The changes will not affect the terms of office of Elected Directors set out in rules 16.5(a) and (c), but will provide that 3 Directors are elected in odd-numbered years, and that 4 Directors are elected in even-numbered years.

Second, the Board also proposes to change the definition of “President” in rule 4, to align with best practice of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), so that the Board will elect one of the Elected Directors each year to the position of President (chair of the Board under rule 19.3(a) and the Association delegate to the ALA AGM under clause 6.1.2.2 of the ALA Constitution).

Finally, the Board proposes to change the definitions of “Associate Member” and “Delegate” in rule 4 to widen the range of persons who may be Delegates for

Affiliated Centres at a General Meeting (GM) of the Association. As the Board is proposing in a separate amendment that those who can nominate for election as

Directors not be limited to Associate Members, the Board sees no reason why appointed Delegates at a GM should similarly be limited to Associate Members.

The concept of “Associate Member” would remain in the Constitution, as it is part of the wider concept of “Member” in rule 4, which links to important governance concepts in rules 6.1(d) (attendance at GMs), 6.9 (the effects of membership), 6.10 (renewal of membership), 7 (subscriptions), 8 (register of members), 9 (resignation of members), 10 (discipline of members), 11 (Annual GMs), 21 (grievance procedures between members) and 30 (rights of members to inspect the Constitution and the minutes of GMs).

#### **BOM COMMENT**

See above.

<b>MOTION: C17-05</b>	PASSED – Amended ( )	LOST	LAPSED
SECONDED		WITHDRAWN	
Comments:			

Amend rule 4 of the Constitution of the Association to amend the definitions of “Affiliation Year” and “Competitive Member” to align age groups for Competitive Members in Victoria, as from the 2018-2019 summer season, with the changes made to clause 25.1 of the Constitution of Australian Little Athletics (ALA) at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 15 October 2016.

**CURRENT RULE 4**

“Affiliation Year” means the period which commences on 1 October of any year and concludes on 30 September the following year.

“Competitive Member” means shall consist of those children who are five (5) years of age or older and who are sixteen (16) years of age or younger (including those children who turn sixteen (16) during the Affiliation Year) at the commencement of any Affiliation Year and who are registered with the Association (through an Affiliated Centre or Club) and participate in Little Athletics and/or skill related activities organised and conducted by the Association or any of its Members. For the avoidance of doubt, a child may be registered as a Competitive Member during the Affiliation Year upon attaining five (5) years of age.

**RULE 4 IF AMENDED**

“Affiliation Year” means the period which commences on 1 October of any year and concludes on 30 September the following year.

“Competitive Member” means shall consist of those children who are five (5) years of age or older and who are sixteen (16) years of age or younger (including those children who turn sixteen (16) during the Affiliation Year) at the commencement of any Affiliation Year and who are registered with the Association (through an Affiliated Centre or Club) and participate in Little Athletics and/or skill related activities organised and conducted by the Association or any of its Members. For the avoidance of doubt, a child may be registered as a Competitive Member during the Affiliation Year upon attaining five (5) years of age.

Note: The above definitions of “Affiliation Year” and “Competitive Member” cease to apply straight after the finish of the 2018 Australian Little Athletics Championships.

“Affiliation Year” means the period determined by the Board from time to time, as set out in the Regulations.

“Competitive Member” means a child who is five (5) years of age or older, and who is sixteen (16) years of age or younger, at the end of the calendar year in which the summer season commences, and who is registered with the Association (through an Affiliated Centre or Club) and participates in Little

Athletics and/or skill related activities organised and conducted by the Association or any of its Members. For the avoidance of doubt, a child may be registered as a Competitive Member during the calendar year in which that child attains five (5) years of age.

Note: These definitions of “Affiliation Year” and “Competitive Member” come into effect for the 2018-2019 summer season and following seasons, straight after the finish of the 2018 Australian Little Athletics Championships.

**REASON**

In 2016, ALA decided that it would seek to change its yearly anniversary date to align with other athletics organisations, schools and Athletics Australia (AA), so that athletes would compete in the same age group in competitions in the period up to the end of December. The intention was that Little Athletes would retain their age groups for the duration of the summer season from October to March, as is the current practice.

At its AGM on 15 October 2016, the Executive of ALA brought forward a motion to amend clause 25.1 of the ALA Constitution to change the ALA age groups from being based on the age of a child at the beginning of the summer season on 1 October to the age of a child at 31 December in the calendar year in which the summer season commences. A separate motion was listed to align implement-throwing weights in the ALA Standard Rules for Competition (SRC) with the schools specifications for the affected age groups. The intention was that the changes would operate from the 2017-2018 season. An amendment was passed at the AGM to change the operative date to the 2018-2019 season, to allow for transitional rules to be fully developed for children born between 1 October and 31 December.

Under clause 3.1.2 of the ALA Constitution and By-Law 12/3, each State Association affiliated with ALA is required to abide by the Constitution, Rules (including the SRC) and By-Laws of ALA. Accordingly, the practical intention behind the change to clause 25.1 was to require each State Association, as part of its affiliation with ALA, to do what is needed within its sphere of operations to give effect to the tenor of the change. For Little Athletics Victoria, a change is needed to two definitions in rule 4 of the Constitution of the Association to bring about that change.

#### **BOM COMMENT**

See above.

<b>MOTION: C17-06</b>		PASSED – Amended ( )		LOST		LAPSED
SECONDED				WITHDRAWN		
Comments:						