



PARENTS OF VISION IMPAIRED (NZ) INCORPORATED



CONSTITUTION and RULES PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES 2020

2012 Constitution listed as stated first, followed by the rationale for the change, then the proposed changes. Proposed changes are listed in numerical order.

1. Change to Section 3

3.1 PVI will adapt the Logo of the Blind Union as its Logo. The Annual General Meeting may adopt another Logo to be used by the Society subject to Intellectual Property and or Copyright approval.

After a period of consultation with members during 2018-2019, PVI developed a logo that reflected the needs and stated values of the membership.

Proposed change:

3.1 PVI will design and utilise their own logo. Changes to the logo will be approved at Board level for use by PVI subject to Intellectual Property and Copyright approval.

2. Change to Section 4

4.8 The Purpose of PVI is to be beneficial to the Community.

Items 4.1 to 4.7 all begin with "To..." The proposed grammatical change will bring 4.8 into line with the rest of the Constitutional comments in this section.

Proposed change:

4.8 To be beneficial to the Community

3. Changes to section 6.

6.3 Members will be a parent/care giver of a child who has a vision impairment which entitles them to:-

- A Enrol with the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind.
- B Enrol with a Visual or Sensory Resource Centre of the Blind and Low Vision Education Network of New Zealand.
- C Or as determined by the PVI Board

Name changes have occurred for the Royal Foundation of the Blind which is now Blind Low Vision New Zealand. Proposed changes will update these names and re-word C) to better reflect correct grammar.

Proposed change:

6.3 Members will be a parent/caregiver of a child who has a vision impairment which entitles them to:

6.3.1 Enrol with the Blind Low Vision New Zealand.

6.3.2 Enrol with a Visual or Sensory Resource Centre of the Blind and Low Vision Education Network of New Zealand.

6.3.3 Be a member at the PVI Board's discretion.

6.7 The Award of "Life membership" maybe recommended by the Board and voted on at the AGM

Proposed changes are suggested to add clarity to the wording of this clause.

Proposed change:

6.7 The award of "Life Membership" may be conferred upon the recommendation of the Board and voted on at the AGM

4. Changes to Section 7:

7.1 The PVI Board at its discretion may recommend to a Special General Meeting that a member's membership be terminated if the member's actions are considered to be inconsistent with the purpose of the organisation and this Constitution. The member has the right to be heard or make submissions at the Special General Meeting before a decision is made by the membership at the Special General Meeting to terminate membership.

The use of the word "and" requires both elements to be present. This is not the intended use of this clause. Changing the wording to begin with "regarding" removes the suggestion of pre-determination and further clarifies the intent of this clause.

Proposed change:

7.1 The PVI Board, at its discretion, may recommend to a Special General Meeting that a member's membership be terminated if the member's actions are considered to be inconsistent with the purpose of the organisation or this Constitution. The member has the right to be heard or make submissions at the Special General Meeting before a decision is made by the membership at the Special General Meeting regarding the recommendation to terminate membership

5. Changes to Section 8:

8.7.2 All nominees are required to meet the criteria as set out in Section 16 of the Charities Act 2005

The proposed change is for completeness and precludes the need to amend the PVI Constitution for minor changes to Section 16 of the Charities Act 2005.

Proposed change:

8.7.2 All nominees are required to meet the criteria as set out in Section 16 of the Charities Act 2005 and its amendments.

8.7.4 A profile will be available on the PVINZ website and circulated by email to members at their last known email address in the first instance unless a member requests this information by post.

Proposed changes are for clarity and consistency. Throughout the document, PVI is referred to as PVI, and this needs to be consistent. And, also for consistency, "A profile" as in 8.7.4 above should be "The resume" – reflecting the word used in 8.7.3."

Proposed change:

8.7.4 The resume provided by the person nominated will be available on the PVI website and circulated by email to members at their last known email address in the first instance unless a member requests this information by post.

8.7.5 New clause:

The previous SGM proposed a change to the Constitution to include the clause that if there are no prior nominations for a position, that nominations shall be taken from the floor during the AGM

Proposed change:

8.7.5 If there are no nominees for a vacant Board Representative position then, during the AGM, nominations shall be taken from the floor.

6. Changes to Section 9:

9.4 2 Tangata Whenua of Maori descent will be elected by members at the PVI AGM and may be elected from any region.

Proposed changes are for clarity, tidiness, and completeness of the wording.

Proposed change:

9.4 Two (2) Tangata Whenua of Māori descent will be elected by members at the PVI AGM and may be elected from any region. The nomination of these members will be as set out in 8.7 above.

9.5 1 representative "Anywhere in New Zealand" will be elected by members at the PVI AGM and this representative may be elected from any region.

Proposed changes are for clarity, tidiness, and completeness.

Proposed change:

9.5 One (1) representative named “Anywhere in New Zealand” will be elected by members at the PVI AGM and this representative may be elected from any region. The nomination of this member will be as set out in 8.7 above

9.6 Regional representatives may only represent the region they reside in. Only members living in that same region may vote for that Regional representative.

The wording here is unclear. Proposed changes are to clarify the meaning and intent of this clause.

Proposed change:

9.6 Regional Board Representatives may only represent the region they reside in. Only members living in that same region may vote for that Regional Board Representative.

9.7 Should no Tangata Whenua descendant be elected at the AGM, the Board are to use their best endeavours to appoint Tangata Whenua representatives to fill any vacant positions.

Proposed changes for clarity, tidiness and completeness.

Proposed change:

9.7 Should no Tangata Whenua representative be elected at the AGM, the Board are to use their best endeavours to co-opt a Tangata Whenua representative or representatives to fill any vacant positions.

7. Changes to Section 12:

12.2 Co-opted members will not have voting rights.

Following from the 2019 SGM, it was proposed that co-opted PVI members should have full voting rights for the Board. Therefore we have proposed the following change:

12.2 Co-opted members of the Board who are members of PVI will have full voting rights. Co-opted members of the Board who are not members of PVI will not have voting rights.

8. Changes to Section 16

16.2 PVI is registered with the Charities Commission. This means prospective Board Candidates have to adhere to the criteria as determined by the Charities Commission under Section 16 of the Charities Act 2005 and any amendments thereto.

Proposed change: Delete 16.2 as it is covered in 8.7.2

9. Changes to Section 19:

19.2 At least three months prior to any Annual General Meeting or Special Meeting, notice of such alterations, repeal or additions shall have been sent to each member by the Secretary by email to their last known email address in the first instance unless a member requests the information by post.

Proposed change is to add another clause to reflect that this notice will be posted on the PVI website.

Proposed new clause:

19.3 The notice referred to in 19.2 above will also be posted on the PVI website.