

Queensland Go Society – Constitution Adopted May 2014

1. The Queensland Go Society (“the society”) is an unincorporated association for the purposes of:
 - a. facilitating the playing of the ancient oriental game of go in Queensland,
 - b. being the peak body for the sport of go in Queensland, and
 - c. holding an annual Queensland Go Championship.
2. The society has three classes of membership: voting members, life members, and registered members.
3. Voting members are go players who attend a Queensland Championship and pay the registration fee to compete as set by the tournament director, and only those players.
 - a. Voting members may opt not to compete in the tournament, but do not pay less money.
 - b. Voting membership continues until the beginning of the next Queensland Championship, and may be renewed by attending that tournament and paying the registration fee to compete.
 - c. Voting members have all the privileges and rights of registered members.
 - d. Voting members may be suspended by the general secretary (subject to appeal to a general meeting at the next tournament of the society) and expelled by a two-thirds majority vote of a general meeting. Suspended members pending appeal may still vote at general meetings.
 - e. The society will maintain a public web page listing all the current, voting members.
4. Life members are voting members granted perpetual membership in recognition.
 - a. Life memberships are created by two-thirds vote of a general meeting of the society.
 - b. Life members do not pay any club fees or tournament registration fees.
 - c. Despite rule 3, life members have all the rights and privileges of voting members.
 - d. Life members may not be suspended nor expelled for any reason.
5. Registered members are all the go players in Queensland and environs that are known to the society.
 - a. Registered members have supplied their name and rank and email address to the society.
 - b. The society will track the tournament games played by registered members and maintain a public web page listing the current rankings and ratings of all members.
 - c. The society will maintain an email list for announcements with all registered members on it.
 - d. The society will maintain a separate email list for discussion amongst registered members.
 - e. Players may deregister themselves by notifying the general secretary in email.
 - f. The general secretary may at their discretion amend or delete a player’s registration.
6. The society has chapters, which meet to play go.
 - a. A chapter has a known and advertised meeting place in Queensland or on the Internet.
 - b. A chapter has a convener, who is a player chosen from the chapter by the chapter.
 - c. A chapter exists when the council is told of a convenor and at least 4 other registered members who play at a venue, and the council or a general meeting votes to recognise it.
 - d. A chapter is dissolved when no registered members other than the convener are willing to play there anymore. A general meeting may by two-thirds vote expel a chapter from the society.
 - e. The convener will set playing fees for a chapter’s meetings from time to time.
 - f. A chapter does not have the right to obligate the society in any way, especially financially.
 - g. Other than the above, chapters may govern themselves as they see fit.
7. The society holds tournaments.
 - a. There will be no more than 15 months between adjacent Queensland Go Championships.
 - b. The society will hold a stock of boards and equipment for the Queensland Go Championship.
 - c. Chapters may ask to use the society’s boards and stones and clocks at other tournaments.
 - d. The general secretary (or a delegate) will, if they consent to the loan, bring the requested items to these other tournaments and take all of them back to safe storage afterwards.
 - e. If borrowed tournament equipment does not come back intact, the chapter will make it good.
 - f. The secretary will keep an inventory of the equipment, and show it to general meetings.
8. The society is run from day to day by a general secretary.
 - a. The general secretary is elected (or re-elected) by the society in general meeting.
 - b. The term of a general secretary starts from the end of the Queensland Championship at which they are elected. The term ends at the end of the next Queensland Championship.
 - c. The general secretary has the control and management of the society’s affairs and assets, subject to direction by majority vote of the society in general meeting, or the council.
 - d. If there is no secretary, a general meeting will elect one as soon as possible.
9. The society’s money is held in a bank account or like instrument.
 - a. After any event or tournament all the society’s net income must be deposited in this account.
 - b. All net expenditure of the society will come from this account. There is no petty cash.
 - c. Transacting on this account will require one and only one signatory, the general secretary.

- d. The expenditure and income of the society, and the balance of the account, will be reported to each council meeting and general meeting.
 - e. Statements from the bank corroborating these reports, and receipts for expenditure where practicable, will be kept available for any voting member to inspect at general meetings.
10. The society may have a president separate from the general secretary.
- a. The society may elect a president at its annual general meeting to preside over the club.
 - b. The meeting must decide to elect a president in a separate vote from the election.
 - c. If there is no separate president, then the general secretary will also be the president.
11. The society may have a treasurer separate from the general secretary.
- a. The society may elect a treasurer at its annual general meeting to administer rule 9.
 - b. The meeting must decide to elect a treasurer in a separate vote from the election.
 - c. If there is no separate treasurer, the general secretary will also be the treasurer.
12. The society governs itself through general meetings.
- a. The annual general meeting of the society is during lunchtime of the last day of the Queensland Championship, between rounds.
 - b. The annual general meeting must elect a general secretary and choose where and when the next Queensland Championship is going to be. Any other general business is also in order.
 - c. A special general meeting must be called by the council if a convener of one or more chapters or one-third of the voting members ask the secretary to do so, in writing.
 - d. A special general meeting will be held at the next convenient chapter meeting or tournament, and in any case within one month of being asked for. All members will be invited by email.
 - e. The president (or if there is no president, the general secretary) chairs all general meetings.
 - f. If there is no other chair present, willing and able, the meeting will elect one.
 - g. The chair gets one deliberative vote and one casting vote on all issues.
 - h. At a general meeting, only voting members may:
 - i. Nominate or be nominated for office.
 - ii. Move or amend a motion, including motions of no confidence to impeach an officer.
 - iii. Propose a life member or second a proposal.
 - iv. Vote on anything.
 - v. Chair the meeting.
 - i. Registered members, or with the leave of the meeting any other interested guest, may listen and speak at any general meeting they are present at.
 - j. Quorum for a general meeting is half of the current voting membership. If there is not quorum, the meeting will adjourn and reconvene with a quorum equal to the number of councilors.
 - k. The society will maintain a public web page with the agendas and minutes of its general meetings, including all the reports tabled at them, and a copy of these rules.
13. The society has a council.
- a. The council settles disputes between chapters and advises the general meetings.
 - b. All officers mentioned in this constitution and elected by a general meeting are councilors.
 - c. Such officers may be sacked by a two-thirds vote of any general meeting, for any or no reason. If sacked, they lose their office and their seat on the council, but not membership.
 - d. The convener of each chapter is also a councilor. They may only be sacked by their chapter.
 - e. Councilors may resign by email notice to the council or verbal notice to a general meeting.
 - f. Despite rule 3, councilors have the privileges and rights of voting members while on council.
 - g. The president (or if there is none, the general secretary) chairs meetings of the council.
 - h. If there is no other chair present, willing and able, the council will elect one.
 - i. Each councilor, even if multiply eligible, gets only one vote.
 - j. The council will meet as it sees fit, but must meet at least once before each general meeting.
 - k. Quorum at a meeting of council is all the councilors.
14. Transition considerations.
- a. The existing Gold Coast Go Club (at Helensvale) is a founding chapter of the society.
 - b. The existing Brisbane Go Club (at Greenslopes) is a founding chapter of the society.
 - c. Cecil Kuo 2d is the initial and only life member of the society.
 - d. Any competitor at the 2014 Queensland State Go Championships will, after the adoption of this constitution by the BGC General Meeting, be considered a voting member of the society.
 - e. All the cash assets, boards, stones, clocks and sundry other equipment belonging to the Brisbane Go Club before this constitution was adopted, will afterwards belong to the society.
15. The society may end itself by a majority vote at a general meeting with all the voting members present.
- a. Any restrictions on disposition of the assets that would apply to a tax-exempt club, apply here.