

Proposed changes to Maitland Bridge Club Constitution in 2026

The MBC Constitution states:

31. Special resolutions

(1) A resolution is passed by an association as a special resolution:

(a) at a meeting of the association of which notice has been given to its members no later than 21 days before the date on which the meeting is held, or

(b) in such other manner as the Director-General may direct,

if it is supported by at least two-thirds of the votes cast by members of the association who, under the associations constitution, are entitled to vote on the proposed resolution.

A quorum of 15% of the MBC membership must be present at an Annual General Meeting.

Reference: Maitland Bridge Club Management Committee meeting dated 11 May 2026

7.1 Constitution – Not for Profit Status and Dissolution Clause

Motion:

A Special Resolution to vary Clause 35 of the Maitland Bridge Club Inc. Constitution (Version 02 – 29 August 2024) is to be put forward at the 2026 MBC AGM. Members will be supplied with a document which clearly shows the current Clause 35 and the reasons for amendment. This will be published 21 days before the AGM, which is to be held on Wednesday 5 August 2026, so members can make an informed vote.

Moved: Peter Bufton Seconded: Diane James Carried

Reference: Maitland Bridge Club Management Committee meeting dated 15 June 2026

7.1.2 Change to Clause 3 – Membership applications

Motion:

A Special Resolution to vary Clause 3 of the Maitland Bridge Club Inc. Constitution (Version 02 – 29 August 2024) is to be put forward at the 2026 MBC AGM. Members will be supplied with a document which clearly shows the current Clause 3 and the reasons for amendment. This will be published 21 days before the AGM, which is to be held on Wednesday 5 August 2026, so members can make an informed vote.

Moved: Krys Albert Seconded: Geoff Warren Carried

These **special resolutions** will be voted on at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 5 August 2026, commencing at 5.00 pm.

Please see Pages 2-4 for more detail about these proposed changes to the Constitution.

Proposed changes are in **red type** with explanations in the third column.

Current Clause 35 in Constitution	Proposed Change to Clause 35	Reasons for the proposed change
35. Funds - management (1) Subject to any resolution passed by the association in general meeting, the funds of the association are to be used in pursuance of the objects of the association in such manner as the committee determines. (2) All cheques, drafts, bills of exchange, promissory notes and other negotiable instruments must be signed by any 2 members of the committee or employees of the association, being members or employees authorised to do so by the committee.	<i>Additional sub-clauses to be added:</i> (3) The assets and income of Maitland Bridge Club shall be applied solely in furtherance of its objects and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the organisation except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the organisation. (4) In the event of Maitland Bridge Club being dissolved, the amount that remains after dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, shall be transferred to another organisation with similar purposes which is not carried on for the profit or gain of its individual members.	We need to add these sub-clauses to our Constitution so we can claim a NOT FOR PROFIT (NFP) status with the ATO. If we do not have the new sub-clauses 3 and 4 in Clause 35 of our Constitution, MBC will be seen as not being an active income tax exemption entity I.E. a Not For Profit entity, and thus hold a tax liability. At the end of each financial year the Public Officer has to complete a form for the tax office that states MBC is a Not for Profit Incorporated Association.

Current Clause 3 in Constitution	Proposed Change to Clause 3	Reasons for the proposed change
3. Nomination for membership (1) A nomination of a person for membership of the association: (a) must be made by a member of the association in writing in the form set out in Appendix 1 to this constitution, and (b) must be lodged with the secretary of the association. (2) As soon as practicable after receiving a nomination for membership, the secretary must refer the nomination to the committee which is to determine whether to approve or to reject the nomination. (3) As soon as practicable after the committee makes that determination, the secretary must: (a) notify the nominee, in writing, that the committee approved or rejected the nomination (whichever is applicable), and (b) if the committee approved the nomination, request the nominee to pay (within the period of 28 days after receipt by the nominee of the notification) the sum payable under this constitution by a member as joining fee and annual subscription. (4) The secretary must, on payment by the nominee of the amounts referred to in	3 Nomination for membership (1) A nomination of a person for membership of the association: (a) Must be made by a prospective member using the online Membership application form on the Maitland Bridge Club website No other changes to this clause	The Online applications are kept within the website as an ongoing record, rather than keeping paper copies. The online application forms are redirected to the email accounts of the Club Secretary and MasterPoint Secretary as soon as the application is submitted online. This streamlines processing of membership applications once the committee has approved membership. The annual affiliation/Capitation fee changes each year in line with Bridge NSW and Australian Bridge Federation fees and must be up-dated annually on the online membership application form. This cannot be done if the application form is an Appendix of the constitution.

subclause (3) (b) within the period referred to in that provision, enter or cause to be entered the nominee's name in the register of members and, on the name being so entered, the nominee becomes a member of the association. (5) Life membership may be conferred upon an ordinary member who has rendered outstanding service to the association. To be eligible for life membership a member must be nominated by one member and seconded by another. The nomination shall then be forwarded to the club committee for approval and if approved shall be referred to the next annual general meeting of the association. If approved at the annual general meeting by a simple majority of members present that member shall be a Life Member. The privileges shall be the honour and exemption from paying annual subscriptions		
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