

AWiA comparative table: Constitutional reform

The new constitution adapts the recommended ACNC version – whilst tweaking content so it meets our needs. We have removed detail – such as role description and timing of notices – which is better dealt with flexibly through AWiA policies and procedures.

Note: Words **in bold type** in the new constitution are further defined in clause 70 of the constitution.

Item	Current constitution	2021 reform	Comment
Values and purpose?	Amended in 2018	Unchanged	The values and purposes were included in the 'Memorandum of Association' at the front of the 'Articles of Association'. In the new version, they are included in the one document.
Members	3. listed types of membership	10-15 General membership. Leaves it open to the Board to assess application and can decline for 'no reason'.	Categories of membership, fee, branches can all be guided through Membership policy.
Meetings	9-15 General meetings require personal attendance/voting	18-19, 21, 25 Allows membership to request a meeting. Allows use of 'technology', use of proxies Quorum remains 10 (36-37) 31 allows 'circular resolutions' for decisions.	Updated to good practice
Elections of Directors	17-19 Prescriptive detail for structure of board and election of directors.	Introduces fluidity and flexibility to the appointment of directors. 20.2.e Refers to election of Directors. 39.2 Members may elect directors at general meeting. 41.4 Directors are elected for a three year term. One third of the Directors retire each three years. Maximum term of nine years	Leadership is vested in the Board to identify their mix of skills and roles.

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Executive	Directors vote amongst themselves to appoint the executive members (President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary	Directors vote amongst themselves for which roles they are best suited to. For example, the President does not need to be the chair person.	
Financial reports	21 Requires an auditor	Appointment of auditor is optional	
Resolving differences	7 Disciplinary process	16-17 Revised process including use of mediation.	Updated to ACNC 'good practice'

Policy documents

- Role Description
- Forms – Application for Membership, Proxy, Membership Register, Standing Agenda for Board Meetings, Notice informing members of meetings