

PROGRESS REPORT: 2020 CONSTITUTION

The draft 2020 Constitution has now been published to the RSL Queensland website for consideration by members prior to the 2020 RSL Queensland AGM. We urge all Sub Branches to review this document and determine their position for the upcoming AGM vote by your delegates.

This is an important moment in the history of our organisation – while we have been representing veteran interests for more than 100 years, we are embarking on a bold new vision to grow our influence and advocacy across Australia. This will enable us to serve veterans and their families and ensure RSL Queensland remains relevant.

To do this, we need to continue evolving to meet the public expectations of us as a member organisation and modern charity. Our Constitution is a crucial part of the puzzle that will enable us to deliver on our mission.

Member feedback throughout the consultation process has enabled the development of a Constitution which:

- Incorporates strengthened delegate processes to ensure Sub Branches remain able to vote on key issues affecting the League's future
- Strengthens and grows our critical Sub Branch network
- Aligns membership eligibility to enable growth into the future
- Ensures members retain their voice and influence across the organisation.

Some of the feedback received indicates some confusion about specific content contained in the Constitution. To help members and Sub Branches in the review process, we've made a comparison document available on the website – this is a summary of the changes between the current (2015) Constitution and the proposed 2020 Constitution.

The adjacent Quick Facts also summarises some frequently asked questions received by the Constitution Working Party.

www.rslqld.org/constitution

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE DRAFT 2020 CONSTITUTION

WHAT CHANGES HAVE BEEN INCORPORATED INTO THE PROPOSED DRAFT?

The Constitution Working Party has considered all feedback submitted, using the current 2015 RSL Queensland Constitution as a base. The broad themes of changes to the document include: the make-up of the Board, changes to ensure consistency with the RSL National Constitution, and changes to membership eligibility to require only one day of service (in line with the new DVA definition).

WHAT IS THE PROPOSED MAKE-UP OF THE BOARD?

Under the proposed 2020 Constitution, the Board will comprise eight mandatory roles: three Executives (State President, Deputy State President and Vice State President), four Directors directly elected by members and one State Council President who is the chair of the Council of District Presidents. The State Council is a Board Sub Committee with the remit to focus on issues at District level.

These eight mandatory roles must all be members of RSL Queensland. Should it be deemed (as a result of a Board skills evaluation analysis carried out by an independent governance firm) there is a skills gap across the eight mandatory roles, the Board may also appoint up to two additional (and optional) Directors, who will preferably be drawn from the membership. The additional two Directors will only be appointed if there is a skills gap identified within the mandatory Board roles, and to ensure RSL Queensland's Board has the right skills and expertise to provide ongoing strategic oversight and steward the organisation into the future.

HOW WILL DIRECTORS BE SELECTED?

Seven of the eight mandatory roles will be elected directly by Sub Branch delegates at RSL Queensland AGMs. To transition to the new Board, the existing Executive will be appointed, and members can nominate for the other four Director positions after the AGM. Districts and Sub Branches will then vote on those four Director positions, which will come up for election every three years.

The State Council President will be chosen from the 10 elected District Presidents as their committee Chair.

If required to be appointed, the two optional Director roles will be sourced from within the RSL Queensland membership. However, if the required skills and expertise cannot be identified from within the membership, the role/s may be more widely advertised.

HOW IS THE SKILL GAP DETERMINED?

The required Board skills and expertise are determined by the organisation's strategy, which was finalised in late 2019 and is available on the RSL Queensland website and covered in-depth in the last edition of *RSL News*.

Based on our 2025 strategy, a Board skills matrix is currently being developed, for review by the Board Nomination and Remuneration Committee and recommendation to the Board.

WHEN WILL BOARD POSITION DESCRIPTIONS BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS?

It is anticipated these will be published in early May for all members to consider their eligibility for the available Director positions, should the Constitution be adopted at the 2020 AGM.