

STATEMENT OF PURPOSES AND RULES

OF

THE WOMEN BARRISTERS' ASSOCIATION

With amendments to 28 May 2003

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STATEMENT OF PURPOSES
OF
THE WOMEN BARRISTERS' ASSOCIATION

The purposes for which the Association is established are to -

- (a) promote awareness, discussion and resolution of issues which particularly affect women;
- (b) identify, highlight and eradicate discrimination against women in law and in the legal system;
- (c) advance equality for women at the Bar and the legal profession generally; and to
- (d) provide a professional and social network for women barristers.

RULES OF WOMEN BARRISTERS' ASSOCIATION

1. Name

The name of the Association is "The Women Barristers' Association".

2. Interpretation

In these Rules unless there be something in the subject matter or context inconsistent therewith the words and expressions following shall have the meanings set opposite them respectively -

"By-Laws" shall mean by-laws and regulations from time to time made by the Committee in accordance with **Rule 24(4)**;

"Association" shall mean the Women Barristers' Association;

"Committee" shall mean the committee of management of the Association constituted in accordance with **Rule 17**;

"General Meeting" shall mean a general meeting of members convened in accordance with **Rule 28**;

"member" shall mean all members of the Association and includes honorary members;

"month" shall mean calendar month;

"Register" shall mean the register of members kept by the Secretary in accordance with **Rule 4**;

"Secretary" shall include any person acting as such or as the public officer of the Association with the authority of the Committee; and

"special resolution" shall have the same meaning as in Section 29 of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981*.

Headings shall not form part of these **Rules** nor be taken into account in the interpretation hereof.

The singular includes the plural and vice versa and any word or expression importing the female gender and includes the male and neuter genders.

A reference to a statute includes all subordinate legislation and regulations made there under and any amendment, consolidation, replacement, or re-enactment thereof.

3. Classes of Membership

There shall be the following classes of membership of the Association -

- (a) ordinary members;
- (b) honorary members and;
- (c) associate members.

4. Register of Members

- (1) The Secretary shall keep a register of the members of the Association ("Register") showing in respect of each member, that member's full name, address, occupation, class of membership, date of admission to membership, details of subscriptions paid and such other matters as the Committee from time to time prescribes.

5. Eligibility

- (1) No person shall be eligible for admission as an ordinary member unless she is registered on the Roll of Counsel of the Victorian Bar.
- (2) No person shall be eligible for admission as an associate member unless she is not eligible for admission as an ordinary member and:
 - (a) is a current or past judge or magistrate of a court or member of a tribunal of Australia including of any Australian state or territory; or
 - (b) has been admitted to practice in any Australian state or territory.

6. Ordinary and Associate Membership

- (1) An application for membership of the Association:-
 - (a) shall be made in writing in the form set out in Appendix 1 or as approved by the committee;
 - (aa) shall be accompanied by payment of subscription fees as fixed from time to time by the Committee for that category of membership; and
 - (b) shall be lodged with the Secretary of the Association.
- (2) As soon as practicable after the receipt of an application, the Secretary shall refer the application to the Committee.
- (3) Upon an application being referred to the Committee, the Committee shall determine whether to approve or to reject the application.

- (4) An associate member shall not have any right to hold office in the Association or to vote at any meeting of members thereof or to propose or second any candidate for membership of the Association or join in the request for a Special General Meeting in accordance with **Rule 28(3)**, **Rule 34** or **Rule 39** and she shall have no right, title or interest to or in any property of the Association but she shall for all purposes be regarded as a member of the Association except as specifically otherwise provided in these **Rules** or as the Committee may determine.

7. **Honorary Membership**

- (1) The Committee may admit any person as an honorary member of the Association.
- (2) Notwithstanding anything in these **Rules** two members of the Committee may approve a proposal by a member to admit any person as an honorary member of the Association.
- (3) No entrance fee or subscription fees shall be payable by an honorary member.
- (4) An honorary member shall not have any right to hold office in the Association or to vote at any meeting of members thereof or to propose or second any candidate for membership of the Association or join in the request for a Special General Meeting in accordance with **Rule 28(3)**, **Rule 34** or **Rule 39** and she shall have no right, title or interest to or in any property of the Association but she shall for all purposes be regarded as a member of the Association except as specifically otherwise provided in these **Rules** or as the Committee may determine.

8. **Notice of Admission to Membership**

- (2) Upon receipt by the Association of the amounts (if any) payable by such person for entrance fee and subscription she shall be enrolled as a member of the Association and the Secretary shall enter her name and other required details in the Register.
- (3) If the amounts (if any) payable for entrance fee and subscription are not received by the Association within four weeks after the admission of such person her admission shall be void unless the Committee is satisfied with any explanation or justification for the delay.

9. **Entrance Fee**

Save as otherwise provided in these **Rules** each member shall forthwith upon admission to membership pay the entrance fee (if any) fixed by the Committee in respect of each person admitted to membership.

10. Subscription

The Committee shall determine yearly the subscription payable by each class of members other than honorary members. Subject to these **Rules** each member shall pay her subscription in advance on the thirtieth day of June in each year.

11. Calls

Any General Meeting of members or Special General Meeting of members may by resolution determine that a call be made on members (other than honorary members) for any reason mentioned in the resolution and any call so determined shall be paid by members in accordance with the resolution. A call shall not be of greater amount than is recommended to the General Meeting by the Committee. Failure by a member to pay a call in accordance with the resolution authorising it shall be treated as if it were a failure to pay her subscription.

12. Default in Payment of Subscription

- (1) If the member fails to pay any subscription within three months next after the day upon which such subscription is payable subject as is hereinafter provided, she shall cease, ipso facto, to be a member of the Association. The Committee shall then cause notice in writing of the cesser of her membership to be delivered to such former member.
- (2) If an explanation of the default be received by the Committee within one month next after the delivery of such notice and such explanation is satisfactory to the Committee it may if it deems fit reinstate as a member such former member provided that the subscription due and all unremitted additional sums imposed are received by the Association within one week or such longer period as the Committee allows after delivery to such former member of notice of the decision of the Committee upon such explanation.

13. Resignation

- (1) Any member may resign her membership by notice in writing signed by her or her agent on her behalf and delivered to the Secretary who shall submit such resignation for acceptance at the next meeting of the Committee.
- (2) Upon a resignation being submitted for acceptance as aforesaid the Committee shall accept such resignation and cause the name of the resigning member to be removed from the Register and the member to be advised accordingly.

14. Discipline

- (1) If, in the opinion of the Committee, any member -
 - (a) has refused or neglected to comply with these **Rules**;

- (b) has been guilty of conduct prejudicial to the interests of the Association; or
- (c) refuses, neglects or fails to comply with the purposes of the Association;

the Committee may by resolution cancel or suspend that member's membership of the Association.

- (2) A resolution of the Committee under **sub-Rule (1)** does not take effect until confirmed at a meeting of the Committee convened in accordance with **sub-Rule (3)** or at a General Meeting of the Association convened under **sub-Rule (5)**.
- (3) Where the Committee passes a resolution under **sub-Rule (1)** the Secretary as soon as practicable thereafter shall cause to be delivered to the member a notice in writing -
 - (a) setting out the resolution of the Committee and the grounds on which it is based;
 - (b) stating that the member may address the Committee at a meeting to be held not earlier than fourteen and not later than twenty-eight days after service of the notice;
 - (c) stating the date, place and time of that meeting; and
 - (d) informing the member that she may do one or more of the following -
 - (A) attend that meeting;
 - (B) deliver to the Committee before the date of that meeting a written statement seeking the revocation of the resolution;
 - (C) not later than twenty-four hours before the date of that meeting, lodge with the Secretary a notice to the effect that she wishes to appeal to the Association in General Meeting against the resolution.
- (4) At any meeting of the Committee held in accordance with **sub-Rule (3)**, the Committee shall give the member an opportunity to be heard, shall give due consideration to any written statement submitted by the member and, by resolution shall determine whether to confirm, amend or revoke the resolution.
- (5) Where the Secretary receives a notice under **sub-Rule (3)**, the Secretary shall notify the Committee and the Committee shall convene

a General Meeting of the Association to be held within twenty-eight days after the date on which the Secretary received the notice.

- (6) At a general meeting of the Association convened under **sub-Rule (5)-**
 - (a) no business other than the question of the appeal shall be transacted;
 - (b) the Committee may place before the meeting details of the grounds for the resolution and the reasons for the passing of the resolution;
 - (c) the member shall be given an opportunity to be heard; and
 - (d) the members present shall vote by secret ballot in person or in writing (in accordance with **Rule 30**) on the question of whether the resolution should be confirmed or revoked.
- (7) If at the General Meeting two thirds or more of the members present vote in favour of the confirmation or amendment of the resolution, the resolution is confirmed. In any other case the resolution is revoked.
- (8) If the General Meeting confirms the resolution to cancel or suspend the member's membership, the member's membership shall be cancelled or suspended from the close of the General Meeting.

15. Cesser of Membership

No person ceasing from any cause whatever to be a member of the Association is entitled to or has any right, title, property, interest or claim to or in any of the property of the Association.

16. Re-admission

Any person ceasing by resignation to be a member of the Association may be re-admitted by the Committee if it sees fit upon payment of such sum by way of re-entry fee as is equal to the difference (if any) between the entrance fee paid by her at the time of her original election as a member and the entrance fee (if any) payable by new members in her membership category at the time of her re-admission and also payment for the then current year of a rateable proportion of the annual subscription (if any) calculated from the first day of the month following the month during which she is re-admitted.

17. Constitution of Committee

The Committee shall consist of the following -

- (a) a Convenor, who is an ex-officio a member of every sub-committee;
- (b) two Assistant Convenors;

- (c) a Secretary who is an ex-officio member of every sub-committee;
- (d) an Assistant Secretary;
- (e) a Treasurer;
- (f) a membership secretary; and
- (g) up to thirteen ordinary members
each of whom shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Association
in each year.

17A. Power to Co-opt to Committee

The Committee may at any time resolve to co-opt to the committee any member of the Association who agrees to be so co-opted, whether to become a member of the Committee with full voting rights or for a particular period of time or purpose.

18. Election of Office Bearers

The officer bearers of the Association shall be elected by the Committee at its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting.

19. Duration of Membership of Committee

All Committee Members shall hold office until the expiration of the Annual General Meeting held next after the meeting at which they were respectively elected, when they shall retire but be eligible for re-election.

20. Nominations for Committee

- (1) Nominations of candidates for election as members of the Committee shall be:
 - (a) made in writing, signed by two members of the Association and accompanied by the written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination); and
 - (b) furnished in writing to the Committee (by delivery to the Secretary) not less than 7 days before the day of the Annual General Meeting at which elections to such offices will take place.
- (2) Where, on or before the last day for delivering nominations to the Committee, more eligible candidates have been duly nominated for any of the aforesaid offices than there are vacancies to be filled, a poll shall

be taken and the provisions of **sub-Rules (5) to (9)** of this **Rule** shall apply.

- (3) The Committee shall appoint a returning officer and shall make such other provision as is necessary for the orderly conduct of the poll and the proper counting of votes.
- (4) Upon a poll being taken each member entitled to vote may give her vote in person or by proxy. A member shall be entitled to appoint another member as the member's proxy by written notice given to the secretary no later than 12 noon on the day preceding the date for which the Meeting is fixed.
The notice appointing the proxy shall be in the form set out in Appendix 2 .
- (6) Ballot papers shall be prepared containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order and indicating which, if any, candidates are retiring members of the Committee. Each member voting shall vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies otherwise her vote shall be treated as invalid. She shall indicate that she does not wish to vote for a candidate by striking out the name of that candidate on the ballot paper.
- (7) In the case of an equality of votes between two or more candidates the returning officer shall where vacancies do not exist for all of them, decide by lot which of them shall be deemed elected.
- (8) Should any doubt or dispute arise as to the method of conducting a ballot or the result thereof such doubt or dispute shall be referred to the Committee whose decision shall be final.
- (9) The result of the poll shall be announced at the General Meeting at which election of the candidates is to take place and the persons elected by the poll shall be deemed to have been elected at that General Meeting.

21. Vacancy on Committee

- (1) For the purposes of these **Rules**, the position of any member of the Committee becomes vacant if the member -
 - (a) ceases for any reason to be a member of the Association;
 - (b) is absent without leave of absence from four consecutive meetings of the Committee;
 - (c) resigns her position by notice in writing to the Secretary; or
 - (d) dies.

- (2) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained the Committee may fill up any casual vacancy occurring in its body (including vacancies in the office of the Convenor, Assistant Convenor, Secretary, Assistant Secretary or Treasurer) and the member so appointed shall hold office until the Annual General Meeting next after her appointment.
- (3) If a casual vacancy in the Committee remains unfilled at the time of an Annual General Meeting, the members at such meeting may also fill such vacancy.

22. Meetings of Committee

- (1) The Committee shall, if practicable, meet at least four times in every year.
- (2) Save as otherwise provided in these **Rules** five members of the Committee, at least one of which must be an office bearer, shall be a quorum at any meeting of the Committee.
- (3) If, 15 minutes after the time appointed for a meeting of the Committee, or of a sub-committee, a quorum is not present, the meeting shall stand adjourned until such time as shall be notified to all Committee Members by the Secretary.

23. Proceedings of Committee

- (1) The Convenor (if present) shall be chairman of the meeting of the Committee or sub-committee. If she be not present, the Assistant Convenor shall be chairman. In the absence of the Convenor and an Assistant Convenor, the members present shall elect one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.
- (2) Subject to these **Rules**, the Committee and any sub-committee thereof may adjourn and otherwise regulate their proceedings in such manner as they think fit.
- (3) Questions arising at a meeting of the Committee, will be decided by a majority of votes of those members of the Committee present and voting, provided that in the case of an equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- (4) Meetings of the Committee shall be open to all members of the Association, except where confidential material is to be discussed, in which case the Chairman may direct that the meeting be closed to general members. The decision of the Chairman to close a meeting shall be binding on all members.

24. Powers and Duties of Committee

- (1) Subject to these **Rules**, the business and affairs of the Association shall be under the management of the Committee.
- (2) The Committee may appoint sub-committees (consisting of such persons whether members of the Committee or not, as the Committee thinks fit) and delegate to any such sub-committee such of the functions of the Committee as it deems proper, provided always that any such delegation shall be subject to the condition that every sub-committee shall report to the Committee. Any such sub-committee may fix its own quorum unless the Committee does so.
- (3) The Committee may at any time -
 - (a) abolish or dissolve any sub-committee;
 - (b) revoke the appointment of any member of a sub-committee;
 - (c) fill up vacancies in any sub-committee;
 - (d) alter the duties or functions of any sub-committee; and/or
 - (e) fix the time or respective times of meeting of any sub-committee.
- (4) The Committee may make by-laws and regulations ("**By-laws**") (not inconsistent with these **Rules**) for more effectively carrying out the purposes of the Association and may from time to time alter, add to or revoke the same and such By-laws while in force shall have the same authority and effect as these **Rules**. In the case of an inconsistency between these **Rules** and any **By-laws**, these **Rules** shall prevail.
- (5) If any question arises as to the construction interpretation or application of the **Rules** or **By-laws** or any of them the Committee may decide the question and the decision of the Committee shall be conclusive and binding upon all members of the Association unless and until such decision is over-ruled by a resolution of a General Meeting of the members of the Association.
- (6) The Committee may, on behalf of the Association, from time to time raise or borrow upon such terms and conditions and in such manner and upon such security (if any) as it may deem fit, such sum or sums of money as it considers necessary or desirable for the purposes of conducting the Association and for the purposes aforesaid may give any security over the property of the Association whether real or personal or any part or parts thereof as the Committee decides, provide that -

- (a) the total sum borrowed under the powers aforesaid otherwise than by way of bank overdraft shall not exceed such sum as is from time to time authorised by resolution of a General Meeting; and
 - (b) the total amount borrowed by way of bank overdraft shall not at any one time exceed ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS or such greater sum as is from time to time authorised by resolution of a General Meeting.
- (7) The validity of the proceedings, decisions and acts of the Committee or any sub-committee shall not be affected by reason of any vacancy on such Committee or sub-committee or by reason of any defect in the qualification election or appointment of any member thereof.

25. Minutes of Meetings of Committee and Sub-Committees

The Committee shall cause to be kept accurate minutes of the proceedings at all meetings of the Committee. The minutes of any such meeting shall be submitted for approval of - and when approved shall be confirmed by - that meeting of the Committee or by the next subsequent meeting of the Committee and after such confirmation shall be signed by the Chairman of the confirming meeting. After such confirmation and being so signed, such minutes shall be deemed for all purposes a true record of the proceedings which such minutes purport to record.

26. Cheques, etc.

All cheques drawn on behalf of the Association and all cheques and other negotiable instruments the property of the Association shall be signed, made, endorsed or accepted by such person or persons as the Committee may from time to time authorise.

27. Indemnity to Committee Members

Every member of the Committee is hereby indemnified by the Association to the extent of the assets of the Association (including the liability of members to the Association) against any liability which she may incur bona fide in the purported exercise of the proper duties of her office.

28. Meetings of Members

- (1) A general meeting of members (in these **Rules** called "Annual General Meeting") shall be held in each year on such day and at such hour as the Committee appoints (provided that no more than fifteen months shall elapse between successive Annual General Meetings and the

Committee shall give notice of the day and hour of each Annual General Meeting by publishing such Notice in the Victorian Bar publication known as "In Brief" (or any successive publication) not less than 21 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting) for the following purposes -

- (a) considering and dealing with the accounts of the Association for the year ended on the 30th day of June then last past including the statement required by section 30(3) of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981* and the report of the Committee on the affairs of the Association for such year;
 - (b) electing committee members including a Convenor, two Assistant Convenors, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer and ordinary members of the Committee, sufficient to fill the vacancies therein;
 - (c) transacting other business considered by the Committee proper to be dealt with by the meeting and of which not less than 14 days' notice in writing has been given to the Committee by delivering the same to the Secretary.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of **Rules** 28(1), 34 and 39 hereof at least 7 days' notice in writing of such meeting specifying the business to be transacted of which notice has been received shall be delivered to each member and at least 3 days prior to the meeting a copy of the said report of the Committee and a copy of the Balance Sheet and Summary of Revenue and Expenses for the said year shall be sent or made available for inspection.
- (3) The Committee:
- (a) may, whenever it thinks fit, including where it, by a two-thirds majority, considers that a matter before it is sufficiently controversial to justify soliciting the views of all the ordinary members of the Association; and
 - (b) subject to the provisions of **Rules** 34 and 39 hereof shall, upon receiving a request in writing signed by not less than 10 members and specifying the object for which the meeting is requested -
- convene a General Meeting (in these **Rules** called a "Special General Meeting").
- (4) Not less than 14 days' notice in writing of a Special General Meeting shall be given to each member and such notice shall state particulars of the purposes for which the meeting is convened and a copy of such notice shall be posed in the Victorian Bar publication known as "*In*

Brief” (or any successive publication) not less than twenty-one days next before the day of such meeting.

- (5) Except where these **Rules** otherwise provide, a quorum for any General Meeting or Special General Meeting is fifteen members or twenty per cent of the membership, whichever is the lesser number, personally present.
- (6) Except where these **Rules** otherwise provide, the business of a General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall be transacted by the vote of a simple majority of those voting personally or in writing (in accordance with **Rule 30**).

29. Proceedings at Meetings of Members

- (1) The Convenor shall be entitled to take the Chair at any General Meeting. If she be not present the Assistant Convenor shall be Chairman. In the absence of the Convenor and the Assistant Convenor the members present shall elect one of their number to be Chairman of the meeting.
- (2) At any General Meeting a question put to vote is to be decided on a show of hands and votes in writing (in accordance with **Rule 30**) delivered as prescribed by the **Rules** unless a poll is demanded by at least five members present at the meeting and unless a poll is demanded as aforesaid a declaration by the Chairman of the meeting that a resolution has been carried or carried unanimously or by a particular majority or lost and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting is conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution except that where pursuant to these **Rules** a specified number or percentage of members present at a meeting or a specified majority, number or percentage voting in favour of a resolution is required the number of members present or voting in favour or the actual majority shall be stated in such entry and shall be conclusive evidence of the correctness thereof. The following provisions shall apply if a poll is demanded as aforesaid -
 - (a) the poll shall be taken at such time and place and in such manner as the Chairman shall direct and the result of the poll as declared by the Chairman or by the Chairman of a subsequent or adjourned meeting shall be deemed the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded;
 - (b) the demand for the poll may be withdrawn;
 - (c) the demand for the poll shall not prevent the continuance of the meeting for the transaction of any business other than that upon which the poll has been demanded.

- (3) At any General Meeting if there be an equality of votes for and against any resolution put to the vote the Chairman of the meeting is entitled to a second or casting vote but if the Chairman declines to use her casting vote the proposed resolution shall be deemed to have been lost.

30. Votes of Members

At any General Meeting -

- (a) Subject to the provisions of **Rule 29** every member is entitled to one vote on each question or motion put to the vote.
- (b) A member may vote in person or in writing provided that no member may vote in person on any question motion or ballot in respect of which she has lodged a vote in writing under the provisions hereinafter contained. A member may not vote by proxy.
- (c) A member desiring to vote in writing shall three days at least before the day of the meeting or ballot in respect of which she desires such vote to be counted or before the day fixed for a poll pursuant to this **Rule** apply in writing to the Secretary for a voting paper. Within twenty-four hours of receipt of such application the Secretary shall post or deliver into the hands of the applicant member a voting paper and an envelope to contain it. The applicant member shall cross out on such voting paper the affirmative or negative of the question according to the intention of her vote and enclose and seal up the voting paper in the said envelope and write her name on the exterior of the said envelope. Such envelope so sealed and endorsed shall be delivered to the Secretary before noon on the day of the relevant meeting or ballot otherwise it shall not be counted.

31. Effect of Resolutions of Members

Every resolution carried at a General Meeting is conclusive and binding on every member whether or not she be present at such meeting.

32. Minutes of Meetings of Members

The Committee shall cause to be kept minutes of the proceedings of every General Meeting. The minutes of any such meeting shall be submitted for approval of, and when approved, shall be confirmed by either the meeting of the proceedings of which they purport to be a record or by the next subsequent General Meeting without regard to whether or not the first-mentioned meeting and the confirming meeting are both of the same kind and when confirmed shall be signed by the Chairman of the confirming meeting. After such confirmation and being so signed such minutes shall be deemed for all purposes a true record of the proceedings which such minutes purport to record.

33. Notices and Communications

Unless otherwise provided in these **Rules**, notices of meetings and all other notices or communications intended for a member may be delivered to such member in person or be delivered to her by being posted in her pigeon hole at her clerk's office or to her last address known to the Secretary or by facsimile or by email, and if so posted shall be deemed to have been delivered to such member and to have been received by her the day following the day of such posting.

34. Alteration of Statement of Purposes or Rules

- (1) Neither the Statement of Purposes nor any of the **Rules** of the Association is fundamental or unalterable and, subject to this **Rule**, any or all of them may be altered or revoked and new provisions may be added by special resolution.
- (2) An alteration to the Statement of Purposes of the Association or these **Rules** may be proposed by -
 - (i) a two-thirds majority of the Committee; or
 - (ii) not less than ten members

provided that any such proposal shall be in writing signed by the proposers and be delivered to the Secretary accompanied by a request that a Special General Meeting be convened to consider the proposal.
- (3) If, at the Special General Meeting convened in accordance with **Rule** 34(2) it is decided to alter, revoke or add any provision in or to these **Rules**, that provision shall be so altered, revoked or added.

35. Sources of Funds

The funds of the Association shall be derived from entrance fees, annual subscriptions, levies, calls, donations, and revenue from such other sources and activities as the Committee determines.

36. Common Seal

- (1) The Secretary shall keep in her custody the common seal of the Association.
- (2) The common seal shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the Committee and the affixing of the common seal shall be attested by the signatures of three members of the Committee or two members of the Committee and the Secretary.

37. Custody of Books

The Committee shall provide for the custody and control of all books, documents, records and securities of the Association and shall permit members to inspect all or some of those books, documents, records and securities at any reasonable time.

38. Rules Bind all Members

These **Rules** and any alterations of these **Rules** shall be binding on all the members of the Association. Payment of the entrance fee and/or payment of any annual or other subscription or instalment of the subscription shall amount to a consent of the member to be bound by these **Rules** and any alteration of the **Rules** made from time to time.

Honorary Members shall upon and in consideration of their admission to membership of the Association ipso facto consent to be bound by these **Rules** and any alteration of the **Rules** made from time to time.

39. Dissolution of Association

- (1) The Committee shall upon receiving a request in writing signed by not less than fifty per cent of the members of the Association convene a Special General Meeting to consider a special resolution that the Association be dissolved and subject to the foregoing provisions of this **Rule** the provisions of these **Rules** shall apply to such meeting and the proceedings thereat except that the quorum for a Special General Meeting to consider a special resolution that the Association be dissolved is eighty per cent of all the members of the Association as, being entitled to do so, vote in person or in writing (in accordance with **Rule 30**).
- (2) Upon the dissolution of the Association, the assets of the Association shall be disposed of to the ordinary members of the Association at the time of the dissolution of the Association in equal shares.

40. Merger with other Associations

Subject to the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981*, the Association by special resolution may merge or amalgamate with any other club or society having similar purposes or if, in the opinion of the Committee, such merger or amalgamation would be in the interests of members.

41. Public Statements

No member of the Association shall make or purport to make or have any authority to make any public statement, comment or announcement on behalf of the Association unless she is authorised to do so by the Convenor of the Committee. Where the terms of the announcement have been determined by the

Convenor or the Committee the statement, comment or announcement shall be confined to those terms.

APPENDIX 1**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE WOMEN BARRISTERS' ASSOCIATION**

I,
(Full name of applicant)

of
(Address)

Postcode

Phone

desire to become a member of the Women Barristers' Association in the following membership category:

- ☐ ordinary member*
- ☐ associate member**

In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the Rules of the Association for the time being in force. I declare that I fully support the purposes of the Association and will abide by and further those purposes at all times.

.....
(Signature of Applicant)

Date :.....

* current Victorian barristers: clause 5(1) of rules

** judges, magistrates, tribunal members, persons admitted to practice: clause 5(2) of rules

APPENDIX 2

FORM OF APPOINTMENT OF PROXY

I, _____

Of _____

Being a member of the Women Barristers Association hereby appoint _____

_____ of _____

being a member of the Association, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the
general meeting of the Association (annual general meeting or special general
meeting) to be held on _____ and at any adjournment of that meeting.

My proxy is authorised to vote in favour of/against (delete as appropriate) the
resolution set out below (or these persons standing for election to the Committee):

.....
Date

.....
Signature