



RETURNED & SERVICES  
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA  
QUEENSLAND BRANCH

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# 2017 STATE CONGRESS DOCUMENTATION

# 2017 STATE CONGRESS PROGRAM

## FRIDAY 23 JUNE, 2017

9:30am	<i>Airport shuttles commence - Brisbane Domestic Airport running between airport, CBD and South Bank every hour)</i>
12:00pm	Registration opens - M2, Mezzanine Level, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC)
4:00pm	Registration closes - M2, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
4:30pm	Final airport shuttle departs - Brisbane Domestic Airport
4:30pm	<i>Shuttles depart Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stops for BCEC</i>
5:00pm	Opening Ceremony starts - Plaza Auditorium, Plaza Level, BCEC
5:40pm	Opening Ceremony ends - Plaza Auditorium, Plaza Level, BCEC
	Welcome Reception starts - Plaza Auditorium Foyer, Plaza Level, BCEC
6:30-8:30pm	<i>Shuttles run between BCEC, Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stop</i>
8:30pm	Welcome Reception ends - Plaza Auditorium Foyer, Plaza Level, BCEC

## SATURDAY 24 JUNE, 2017

7:00am	Registration opens - outside M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
7:30am	<i>Shuttles depart Mantra Midtown &amp; Treasury Casino bus stops for BCEC</i>
8:00am	Doors to Business Session open - M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
8:25am	Registration closes - outside M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
8:30am	Business Sessions start - M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
10:15am	Morning Tea - Mezzanine Foyer, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
10:40am	Business Sessions recommence - M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
12:30pm	Lunch - Mezzanine Foyer, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
1:15pm	Breakout Forums - M3/M4 Mezzanine Level OR P3/P4/P5, Plaza Level, BCEC
3:30pm	Afternoon Tea - Mezzanine Foyer, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
3:50pm	Business Sessions recommence - M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
5:30pm	Business Sessions end for the day
5:30pm	<i>Shuttles depart BCEC for Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stops</i>
6:30pm	Pre-Dinner Drinks - Plaza Foyer, Plaza Level, BCEC
6:30pm	<i>Shuttles depart Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stops for BCEC</i>
7:00pm	Doors to Gala Dinner open - Plaza Terrace Room, Plaza Level, BCEC
8:30pm	<i>Shuttles begin to loop between BCEC Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stops</i>
11:00pm	Gala Dinner ends - Plaza Terrace Room, Plaza Level, BCEC
11:15pm	<i>Final shuttle departs BCEC for Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stops</i>

## SUNDAY 25 JUNE, 2017

7:30am	<i>Shuttles depart Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stops for BCEC</i>
8:00am	Doors to Business Session open - M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
8:30am	Business Sessions start - M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
10:15am	Morning Tea - Mezzanine Foyer, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
10:40am	Business Sessions continue - M3/M4, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
1:00pm	Lunch - Mezzanine Foyer, Mezzanine Level, BCEC
1:30-2:00pm	<i>Shuttles depart BCEC for Brisbane Airport Domestic Terminal</i>
2:00pm	<i>Shuttle departs BCEC for Mantra Midtown and Treasury Casino bus stops</i>

# 2017 AGM AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM NO.	AGENDA ITEM
1	Introduction and Welcome
2	Flame Ceremony
3	Convening Notice – State Congress Declared Open
4	Shadow Minister Presentation
5	Fallen Comrades
6	Roll Call
7	In Attendance
8	Other RSL Officials and State Councillors, VIPs, Ministers, MPs, Departmental and Service Commanders
9	Apologies
10	Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting
11	Hours of Sitting
12	Appointment of Returning Officers and Scrutineers
13	RSL (Queensland Branch) 2016 Annual Report
14	Minister Presentation
15	Nominations: State Deputy President
16	Guest Presentation by Dr Madeline Romaniuk, GMRF
17	Appointment of Auditor
18	Destruction of Ballot Papers
19	Confirmation of Board of Directors
20	Election of Delegate and Co-Delegate to National Congress
21	Veterans' Homelessness Presentation
22	Governance Presentation
23	CEO's Presentation
24	Breakout Forums
25	Breakout Forum Findings
26	Business Sessions end for the day
27	Notices of Motion
28	Future Venues for State Congress
29	RSL Sir Raymond Huish, CBE Memorial Grant
30	Members Forum – General
31	AVCAT CEO Presentation
32	AVCAT Recipient speech
33	AVCAT Recipients presentations
34	Conclusion

# 2017 AGM DOCUMENTATION

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

## 2. FLAME CEREMONY

## 3. CONVENING NOTICE – STATE CONGRESS DECLARED OPEN

## 4. SHADOW MINISTER PRESENTATION

## 5. FALLEN COMRADES

## 6. ROLL CALL

(Correct as at 4:30pm on 27 April, 2017.  
Subject to change prior to the AGM)

S Cameron CSC	State President / Chairman
J Strachan OAM	State Deputy President
E Cameron	State Vice President
V Reading	Brisbane North District
P Sterling	Far Northern District
P Fairon	Gold Coast District
V Stanbury	Moreton District
B Whitburn OAM	North Queensland District
B Vains	Pioneer-Fitzroy-Highlands District
W Taylor	South Eastern District
T Ferris	Sunshine Coast & Regional District
M Foot OAM	Western District
TBC	Wide Bay & Burnett District
R Cunneen	Appointed Director

Allora  
Atherton  
Babinda  
Banyo  
Barcaldine  
Beachmere  
Beaudesert  
Beenleigh & District  
Bell  
Blackall  
Blackbutt  
Boonah

Bowen  
Boyne-Tannum  
Bray Park-Strathpine  
Bribie Island  
Bundaberg  
Burleigh Heads  
Caboolture-Morayfield & Dist  
Cairns and Dist Ex-Servicewomen  
Cairns  
Calliope  
Cannon Hill District & Vietnam Services  
Cardwell  
Charleville  
Charters Towers  
Clermont  
Clifton  
Cooktown  
Coolum-Peregian  
Cooroy-Pomona  
Currumbin/Palm Beach  
Darra & District  
Dayboro  
Deception Bay  
Edge Hill/Cairns West  
Edmonton  
Emerald  
Esk  
Forest Lake  
Gatton  
Gaythorne  
Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley  
Gin Gin  
Goodna  
Goombungee  
Goondiwindi  
Gordonvale  
Grantham-Ma Ma Creek  
Gympie  
Harlaxton  
Herbert River  
Hervey Bay  
Highfields  
Home Hill  
Hughenden  
Innisfail  
Ipswich Railway  
Ipswich  
Julia Creek  
Kalbar

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Kawana Waters  
Kedron-Wavell  
Kenmore/Moggill  
Kingaroy/Memerambi  
Kuttabul  
Laidley  
Leyburn  
Longreach  
Lowood  
Mackay  
Macleay Island  
Magnetic Island  
Malanda  
Maleny  
Manly-Lota  
Mareeba  
Marian  
Maroochydore  
Meandarra/Glenmorgan  
Miles  
Mount Isa  
Moura  
Mt Molloy  
Mt Perry  
Mudgeeraba-Robina  
Mudjimba  
Nambour  
Nanango  
Nanango  
National Servicemens  
North Gold Coast  
Nundah-Northgate  
Oakey  
Orchid Beach/Fraser Island  
Pine Rivers District  
Pittsworth  
Proston  
Rainbow Beach  
Ravenshoe  
Redbank Plains  
Redbank  
Redcliffe  
Redlands  
Rollingstone  
Roma  
Runaway Bay  
Salisbury  
Samford  
Sandgate

Sherwood-Indooroopilly  
Southport  
Springwood Tri-Service  
St Helens  
Stephens  
Taroom  
Tewantin/Noosa  
The Gap  
Tin Can Bay  
Toogoolawah  
Toogoom and District  
Toowoomba United  
Tramways  
Tweed Heads & Coolangatta  
Walkerston-Pleystowe  
Wallangarra  
Weipa  
Wondai  
Woodford  
Wynnum  
Yarrabah Chapter of the Cairns

## 7. IN ATTENDANCE

(Correct as at 4:30pm on 27 April, 2017. Subject to change prior to the AGM)

Banyo  
Beachmere  
Beaudesert  
Bray Park-Strathpine  
Bribie Island  
Brisbane North District  
Caloundra  
Capricornia & Rockhampton Region  
Cooktown  
Cooroy-Pomona  
Currumbin/Palm Beach  
Dayboro  
Ex-Servicewomens  
Far Northern District  
Gaythorne  
Geebung Zillmere Bald Hills Aspley  
Goodna  
Goondiwindi  
Harlaxton  
Hervey Bay  
Ipswich Railway  
Ipswich

Kawana Waters  
Kedron-Wavell  
Mackay  
Maleny  
Maroochydore  
Moreton District  
Mt Molloy  
Mudjimba  
Nanango  
North Gold Coast  
North Queensland District  
Nundah-Northgate  
Oakey  
Orchid Beach/Fraser Island  
Pine Rivers District  
Redbank Plains  
Redcliffe  
Redlands  
Salisbury  
Samford  
Sherwood-Indooroopilly  
South Eastern District  
Southport  
Sunshine Coast & Regional District  
Tewantin/Noosa  
The Gap  
Tin Can Bay  
Walkerston-Pleystowe

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## 8. OTHER RSL OFFICIALS AND STATE COUNCILLORS, VIPs, MINISTER, MPs, DEPARTMENT AND SERVICE COMMANDERS

(Correct as at 4:30pm on 27 April, 2017. Subject to change prior to the AGM)

G. Avramovic	Chief Financial Officer, RSL (Queensland Branch)
T. Bishop	General Manager Lotteries, RSL (Queensland Branch)
S. Button	Chief Information Officer, RSL (Queensland Branch)
M. Cameron	General Manager, People & Culture, RSL (Queensland Branch)
S. Denner	State Secretary & General Manager Veteran Services, RSL (Queensland Branch)
L. Traini	Chief Executive Officer, RSL (Queensland Branch)
M. Annett CSC	Chief Executive Officer, RSL (Victorian Branch)
S. Bagnall	Director of Rehabilitation & Benefits Queensland, Department of Veterans' Affairs
L. Cosson AM CSC	Chief Operating Officer, Department of Veterans' Affairs
R. De Vere MC OAM	Honorary Life Vice President, RSL (Queensland Branch)
C. Deighton	Operations Manager Queensland, Accommodation & Housing Services
R. Dick	National President, RSL National
M. Dwyer	Chief Executive Officer, Gallipoli Medical Research Foundation
L. Gambrill	President, RSL (Queensland Branch) State Council of Auxiliaries
K. Harry	National Registrar, Veterans' Review Board
D. Humphreys	Principal Member, Veterans' Review Board
M. Kelly AO DSC	Repatriation Commissioner, Department of Veterans' Affairs
J. Mccourt	Chief Executive Officer, The Returned & Services League of Australia WA Branch Incorporated
P. Mcintosh, AM CSC	Chairman, RSL Care
P. Murdoch	Registrar, Repatriation Medical Authority
C. Orme DSC AM CSC	Deputy President, Department of Veterans' Affairs
A. Rishworth MP	Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs
J. Robertson	Chair, Defence Reserves Support Council - Queensland
T. Roe	Acting President, RSL (Tasmania Branch)
S. Sauer AM CSC	Chief Executive Officer, Mates4Mates
N. Saunders AO	Member, Repatriation Medical Authority
D. Tehan MP	Minister for Veterans' Affairs
R. Webster OAM	President, RSL (Victorian Branch)
A. Whyte	Partner, Audit & Assurance, BDO Australia

## 9. APOLOGIES

(Correct as at 4:30pm on 27 April, 2017.  
Subject to change prior to the AGM)

- Mossman Sub Branch Inc.
- Herberton Sub Branch

## 10. MINUTES OF 2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## 11. HOURS OF SITTING

## 12. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICERS AND SCRUTINEERS

## 13. RSL (QUEENSLAND BRANCH) 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

(Please refer to the 2016 RSL (Queensland Branch) Annual Report).

## 14. MINISTER PRESENTATION

## 15. NOMINATIONS: STATE DEPUTY PRESIDENT

- J. Strachan
- R. Eastgate

## 16. GUEST PRESENTATION BY DR MADELINE ROMANIUK, GMRF

## 17. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR

## 18. DESTRUCTION OF BALLOT PAPERS

## 19. CONFIRMATION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

V Reading	Brisbane North District
P Sterling	Far Northern District
P Fairon	Gold Coast District
V Stanbury	Moreton District
B Whitburn OAM	North Queensland District
B Vains	Pioneer-Fitzroy-Highlands District
W Taylor	South Eastern District
T Ferris	Sunshine Coast & Regional District
M Foot OAM	Western District
TBC	Wide Bay & Burnett District
R Cunneen	Appointed Director

## 20. ELECTION OF DELEGATE AND CO-DELEGATE TO NATIONAL CONGRESS

- State President
- Deputy State President

## 21. VETERANS' HOMELESSNESS PRESENTATION

## 22. GOVERNANCE PRESENTATION

## 23. CEO'S PRESENTATION

## 24. BREAKOUT FORUMS

## 25. BREAKOUT FORUM FINDINGS

## 26. BUSINESS SESSIONS END FOR THE DAY

## 27. NOTICES OF MOTION DISCUSSIONS WITH DVA ABOUT PRIVATE ROOMS FOR VETERANS

**Moved by: Orchid Beach/Fraser Island Sub Branch**  
**Seconded:**

"That the National RSL enter into discussions with DVA in an endeavour to have eligible veterans housed in single private rooms during any hospital or rehabilitation stays."

### **Rationale**

Currently DVA only funds accommodation for hospital and rehabilitation stays in shared rooms. As we age we become less tolerant, particularly when we are unwell. For most people having to share a room with another person can add stress and can delay the healing process.

Limited space is available in a shared bathroom where personal toiletry items can be placed. Having another person within hearing distance when family members, pension and welfare officers and medical staff is not convenient. Private health cover provides patients with single room accommodation and Orchid Beach believe that a Veteran should not be disadvantaged.

### **INCORPORATING AS A COMPANY**

**Moved by: Lowood Sub Branch**

**Seconded:**

"That the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) incorporate as a Company under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)."

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## **Rationale**

1. RSL Queensland Branch was issued Letters Patent under the former Religious Educational Charitable Institutions Act 1861 (Qld). That act was repealed in 1982.
2. The Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Qld) was intended for small community clubs. It was not envisaged that clubs or other organisations with large revenues and substantial assets would incorporate under its provisions. When that legislation was introduced into Parliament, it was said that the Religious Educational and Charitable Institutions Act 1861 (Qld) was 'not good enough administratively to cope with today's problems'. Lowood Sub Branch agrees with these sentiments.
3. The Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) provides that not-for-profit entities can incorporate. This is the most suitable act under which RSL (Queensland Branch) should incorporate. Similar organisations have incorporated under this act, for example Australian National Heart Foundation, Returned and Services League of Australia (ie National HQ), the Salvation Army, Mates4Mates, St John's Ambulance Australia (various state bodies).
4. The RSL (Queensland Branch) submission (Submission) in response to the Australian Government "Review of not-for-profit governance arrangements" Consultation Paper dated 8 December 2011 (Consultation Paper), in summary, is as follows:
5. *"The legal duties of responsible persons should, as much as possible, mirror the common law and/or Corporations Act to provide certainty and standards for 'responsible individuals' (as defined in paragraph 85 of the Consultation Paper) engaged in not-for-profit endeavours. This common law/Corporations Act regime is sufficiently flexible to allow responsible individuals to understand their duties and responsibilities (if the duties and responsibilities are similar to the 'executive officer' role under the Corporations Act)."*
6. Accordingly, as the RSL QLD submission supported the governance provisions of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) and makes reference to these provisions in the latest draft RSL QLD Constitution, there is no reason why RSL QLD should not transition to a company under that Act.

## **POSTPONING AND AUTHORSHIP OF THE STATE BRANCH CONSTITUTION**

**Moved by: Lowood Sub Branch**

### **Seconded:**

1. "That the drafting of the new RSL Queensland Branch Constitution be postponed until such time as flaws in the National Constitution are rectified."
2. "That the new RSL Queensland Branch Constitution be written by an independent third party in consultation with member representatives."

### **Rationale**

1. National President Robert Dick has acknowledged that there are inherent flaws within the system that doesn't allow for the national body of the RSL to intervene and compel State Branches to act where there are perceived governance and accountability problems. The National President has stated "I think that is a failure in our current national constitution and I believe that we have to sit down and work through those problems at the moment. And these are unprecedented times that we are facing at the moment. And we have to make sure that the action we take now and into the future prevents this from happening again." RSL Qld has such jurisdiction over Sub Branches and the National Branch should have similar jurisdiction over State Branches. There is little point progressing with a new State Constitution until the problems with the National Constitution are rectified.
2. It appears the conflict of interest whereby each State President has had input into the National Constitution has resulted in the limited powers of the National Board to act or intervene in the business of State Branches. Similarly, the conflict of interest whereby the State Board of Directors/L&A Committee are charged with writing the new constitution also needs to be mitigated.

Clauses contained within the latest draft (Version 5), are deemed NOT to be within the best interests of the membership:

1. Clause 11.2 - which reads that the State Board may remove a District President/RSL Qld Director from League Membership, because he or she has lost the 'confidence' of the State Board. The District President is duly elected by members of their District Branch and it should not be within



- the remit of the State Board to remove them from League membership just because they have 'lost the confidence' of fellow State Board members.
2. Clause - 24.1 which reads that liability arising out of conduct involving a WILFUL BREACH OF DUTY will be covered by RSL Qld member's funds to cover legal costs and expenses in defending that WILFUL BREACH OF DUTY.
  3. By-Laws should be approved by the Members, not the State Board.
  4. The State Board should not be charged with determining their own 'entitlements' payments or benefits.

The State Constitution needs to be written to be within the best interests of the members, not the Board of RSL Queensland, and as such should be compiled by an independent, impartial third party.

#### **INDEPENDENT FORENSIC AUDIT**

**Moved by: Lowood Sub Branch**

**Seconded:**

"That there be an independent forensic audit of the Returned & Services League of Australia (Queensland Branch) for the period 2010 to present."

#### **Rationale**

The initial terms of reference for the investigation period 2010 to present are as follows:

1. To investigate RSL Qld payments relating to the purchase, building, upkeep, renovation, fit out and disposal of buildings from 2010 to present. The scope does not extend to RSL Art Union Lottery expenditure; and
2. To identify the nature and extent of all payments and benefits paid to and received by Directors of RSL Qld Branch in connection with their duties as Directors of RSL Qld; and
3. To identify the nature and extent of all payments and benefits paid to and received by District Presidents by their respective District Branch in connection with their duties as District Presidents; and
4. To identify the nature and extent of all payments made by the RSL Qld Executive (President, Deputy President and Vice President) on RSL Qld credit/corporate cards; and
5. To identify the nature and extent of all travel expenditure (including accommodation, flights,

hire car, meals, and alcohol) for RSL Qld Directors, Executive and senior management.

At the end of 2016, it was widely reported to members that RSL Queensland has 'had an independent forensic audit across every level of RSL Qld expenditure for the past five years'. The State President also stated at a General Meeting of the Moreton District Branch on 3 December 2016 that the 'independent forensic audit' had been handed to the Queensland Police Service, who examined the independent forensic audit and determined that there was no fraud in RSL Queensland. These statements were made in the context of rebutting various allegations of unconscionable financial conduct and had certain connotations to members that RSL Qld was 'squeaky clean' with no case to answer.

"Independent forensic audit" compliance requirements are outlined within APES 215 – Forensic Accounting Services, the professional code or practice of CPA Australia and Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand. The Fraud Analytic Study undertaken by Pitcher Partners and mentioned at the 2015 State AGM is not by definition an "independent forensic audit".

Requests to RSL Qld for copies of the scope and findings of the "independent forensic audit" have been unanswered. For transparency and accountability to members an actual forensic audit is required to restore faith in our great organization.

#### **28. FUTURE VENUES FOR STATE CONGRESS**

- 2018 RSL (Queensland Branch) State Congress to be held in Cairns
- 2019 RSL (Queensland Branch) State Congress to be held in Brisbane

#### **29. RSL SIR RAYMOND HUIISH, CBE MEMORIAL GRANT**

#### **30. MEMBERS FORUM – GENERAL**

#### **31. AVCAT CEO PRESENTATION**

#### **32. AVCAT RECIPIENT SPEECH**

#### **33. AVCAT RECIPIENTS PRESENTATIONS**

#### **34. CONCLUSION**

# 2017 AGM RULES OF PROCEDURE AND DEBATE AND CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

1. **Order of Business** – As per the Agenda

2. **Addressing Chair** – A member desiring to speak shall rise in his place and address the Chairman. If two or more members rise at the same time, the Chairman shall call upon the member who, in his opinion, rose first to speak.

3. **Respect to Chair** – Any member speaking shall at once resume his seat if the Chairman rises to speak or if a point of order is raised, and shall not resume his speech until the Chairman shall resume his seat or the point of order has been decided.

4. **Discussion Confined to Motions, Amendments** – Subject to the Chairman's right to permit discussion upon any matter he deems of importance to the meeting, no discussion shall take place except on a motion or amendment moved and seconded, and put in writing if so requested.

5. **Motions** – All motions and amendments shall if so required by the meeting concerned be submitted in writing, signed by the mover and seconder, and (a) shall be of an affirmative character (b) once having been submitted shall be the property of the meeting, and shall be withdrawn only by leave of the meeting or by amendment. No motion vitally affecting the policy interests of the League shall be submitted to a meeting without adequate notice.

6. **Motion Not Seconded** – A motion not seconded shall not be debated, and no entry thereof shall be made in the Minutes of the Meeting.

7. **Restriction Upon Speeches** – The mover of an original motion shall be allowed four minutes to introduce the motion and two minutes for the right of reply and the speakers for or against such proposal shall be limited to three minutes, except that at any time the Conference may resolve, on the motion of a delegate, that the speaker's time be extended by a specified number of minutes and any such proposal for an extension of time shall be put to the Conference concerned without debate.

No member shall propose more than one amendment upon a motion, and no member shall speak more than once upon a motion or once upon each amendment thereto, except with the permission of the Chairman or except he be the mover of the motion, who shall be entitled to the right of reply; provided that, for the purpose of this Rule, an amendment that has become the substantive motion shall be deemed to be a separate motion. Notwithstanding, however, the right to reply given to the mover in the foregoing, the Chairman may, should he consider that there is no practical difference of opinion among the members, stop the discussion and submit the proposition to the meeting.

8. **Seconding Without Remarks** – A member who uses the words "I second the motion" or "amendment", as the case may be, shall not be deemed to have spoken to the question before the Chair and may exercise his right to speak at a later stage, always providing he is not the third consecutive speaker on the one side. For the general purpose of debate, however, he shall be deemed the second speaker in the affirmative.

9. **Debate** – When a motion has been duly proposed and seconded, the Chairman shall proceed to take the votes, unless some member arises to oppose it or to propose an amendment. No more than two members shall speak in succession either for or against any question before the meeting, and if, at the conclusion of the second speaker's remarks, no member rises to speak on the other side; the motion or amendment shall be at once put to the meeting.

10. **Time of Amendment** –

- (a) A motion may be amended at any time during the debate thereon by:
  - (i) Striking out certain words;
  - (ii) Adding certain words; or
  - (iii) Striking out certain words and inserting others in their place.
- (b) Any member who wishes to propose a further amendment to the motion shall have power

# 2017 AGM RULES OF PROCEDURE AND DEBATE AND CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

to give notice of amendment and state its nature before the amendment before the Chair has been put to the vote.

**11. Amendments** – Only one amendment shall be debated at the one time. If the amendment be carried, it shall become the substantive motion, the original motion lapsing, and there shall be no necessity to put the original motion to the meeting.

**12. Other Amendments** – Whether an amendment is carried or not, other amendments may be submitted, and at a time, to be decided in like manner until the subject is finally disposed of.

**13. Amendments Lost** – In the case of all amendments being lost, the Chairman shall put the original motion to the vote.

**14. Motion Discharged From Agenda** – A motion may be superseded at any time:

- (a) By another that it be discharged from the notice paper;
- (b) By a motion for the adjournment of the question under consideration;
- (c) By the adjournment of the meeting; or
- (d) By a motion “That the next business be proceeded with”, being resolved in the affirmative.

**15. Frequency of Speech** – A member shall not speak more than once upon any motion before the meeting, except:

- (a) In reply upon an original motion;
- (b) In committee of the whole;
- (c) In explanation; or
- (d) Upon a point of order raised during a debate.

**16. Explanation** – Any member who has spoken to a motion may again be heard to explain himself in regard to some part of his speech which the Chairman agrees may have been misquoted or misunderstood but such member shall not introduce any new matter or interrupt any delegate who may be speaking, and no debatable matter shall

be brought forward or debate arise upon such explanation.

**17. Motion for question to be Put** – A motion “that the question be now put” may be moved at any stage of a debate, and shall be put immediately to the meeting without discussion. If lost, the debate shall continue as if such motion had not been moved. If carried, the mover shall have the right to reply, then the amendment, if there be an amendment, or motion, if no amendment has been moved thereon, or all amendments have been disposed of shall be put to the meeting without further discussion. No delegate who has spoken to the motion or amendment immediately before the Chair shall be permitted to move “That the question be now put”.

**18. Restriction on Moving that Question be Put** – At any Conference, no motion that the question be now put shall be proposed or seconded by a Delegate from the same District or Sub-Branch as that represented by the Proposer or seconder of the original motion.

**19. Notice of Motion** – A member may, at any meeting, give a notice of motion for a future meeting by reading such notice to the meeting and handing a copy thereof to the Chairman. Such notice of motion shall take precedence in the order in which it stands in the minute book in relation to other similar notices, unless otherwise ordered by the meeting, and will lapse if the member, or some member on his behalf, be not present when the order for notice is read.

**20. Delegate’s Absence** – If the Chairman of the Conference declares that an item on the Conference agenda paper may lapse because of the absence of the Delegate proposing the item, the Chairman may accord to another Delegate the right to propose such item to the Conference.

**21. Precedence of Business Adjourned Meeting** – When a motion for the adjournment of the meeting

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has been carried, the business then undisposed of shall have precedence in its order at the next meeting.

**22. Rescinding Resolutions** – Any member wishing to rescind a resolution which has been previously passed by the meeting, must give notice of motion that, at the next meeting, he will move that such a resolution be rescinded. Such notice of motion shall require a majority of two thirds of the votes of members present at the meeting to rescind the resolution in question.

**23. Cannot Represent Two Sub Branches** – No Delegate shall, at the one time, or in connection with the one motion and/or any amendments thereto, represent or vote on behalf of more than one Sub-Branch or District.

**24. Conducting Vote** – The chairman shall put all questions in a distinct and audible voice to the meeting by asking the “Ayes” to vote first and, afterwards, the “Noes”, and shall, thereupon, give his opinion as to which are in the majority, and shall declare a show of hands or a ballot if same is asked for.

**25. No Debate During Voting** – No members shall speak to any question after it has been put by the Chairman, nor during a vote, except to a point of order.

**26. Voting Procedure** – No member shall be allowed to vote on any show of hands or ballot who was not present when the question was first put. Every member present must vote, but in the event of a member’s refusal to vote, he shall be assumed to have voted in the negative. No member shall be allowed to enter or leave the room while a vote is being taken.

**27. Introduction of Authorised Subjects Only** – No member shall be allowed to obtain a discussion upon any subject through the medium or correspondence, but he may introduce the matter, in his place at the

meeting, by moving the suspension of Standing Orders.

**28. Meeting to Resolve as Committee** – The meeting may, at any time, resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, and such resolution may include the exclusion of the press. So far as possible, however, business to be dealt with in Committee shall be held over until all other business has been transacted.

**29. Adjournment of Meeting or Debate** – A motion for the adjournment of the meeting may be proposed at any time during a meeting, or for the adjournment of a debate at any time during such debate, and shall be, at once, put to the meeting by the Chairman.

**30. Disorderly Conduct** – If any member at any such meeting:

- (a) Persistently and wilfully obstructs the business of any meeting;
- (b) Is guilty of disorderly conduct;
- (c) Uses objectionable words and refuses to withdraw such words;
- (d) Persistently and wilfully refuses to conform to these Standing Orders or any one or more of them;
- (e) Persistently and wilfully disregards the authority of the Chair;

the Chairman may report to the meeting that such member has committed an offence.

**31. Apology or Explanation for Offence** – When any member has committed an offence, he shall be called upon to stand up in his place and make any explanation or apology he may think fit and, afterwards, a motion may be moved - “That the member be suspended for the sitting of the meeting”. No amendment, adjournments or debate shall be allowed on such motion, which shall be immediately put by the Chairman.

**32. Suspension** – If any member be suspended, his suspension on the first occasion shall be for the remainder of that sitting; on the second occasion

# 2017 AGM RULES OF PROCEDURE AND DEBATE AND CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

for the sitting of two consecutive meetings; and on the third occasion may, in the case of a member of the State AGM, Board, District Branch or Sub-Branch Committees, have his seat thereon declared vacant.

**33. Points of Order** – In all cases where a point of order is raised, the member raising the same shall state his point of order clearly and distinctly and with the omission of any irrelevant details. If a member be speaking, such member shall take his seat until the point of order is decided. The Chairman shall decide the matter promptly, and his decision shall be final. Unless his ruling is disagreed with. Points of order shall deal with the conduct or procedure of the debate. The member rising to put the point of order shall be required to prove one or more of the following:

- (a) That the speaker is using unparliamentary language;
- (b) That he is speaking beside the question;
- (c) That he is transgressing some Rule of the Branch or Sub-Branch; or
- (d) That he is infringing the Standing Orders or, in the absence of a Standing Order bearing on the point, is acting contrary to the general custom of debate (Points of correction, such as a protest that a speaker is not stating the truth, are not points of order).

**34. Disagreement with Chairman's Ruling** – When a motion is moved and seconded "That the Chairman's ruling be disagreed with," the Chairman shall forthwith leave the Chair and the debate on the original question then before the Chair shall be suspended. Another Chairman shall then be appointed by the meeting and the question. "That the Chairman's ruling be disagreed with" shall be discussed and decided, after which the former Chairman shall resume the Chair and the debate on the original question shall be proceeded with as if the same had not been suspended.

**35. Suspension of Standing Orders** – It shall be competent, by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present and voting, to suspend the

Standing Orders, provided the effects of such suspension shall not be the rescission of Rule 34, and provided, further, that the suspension of the Standing Orders shall be limited in its operation to the particular purpose for which the suspension has been sought.

**36. Re-Committing Resolution** – No resolution passed by a meeting shall be again debated or re-committed at the same meeting unless two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote so agree.

**37. Objection to Validity of Vote** – Subject to these Rules, the Chairman shall be sole and absolute judge as to the validity of any vote cast on any question, and unless objection to the validity of any vote is raised immediately after the Chairman has declared the result of the vote thereon, its validity cannot be again raised at any subsequent stage of the meeting.

**38. Voting Majorities** – A rule which calls for either 3/4 or 2/3 majority, simply means that 3/4's or 2/3rds respectively of the members present at a meeting shall be in favour.

The following rules call for either 3/4 or 2/3 majority:

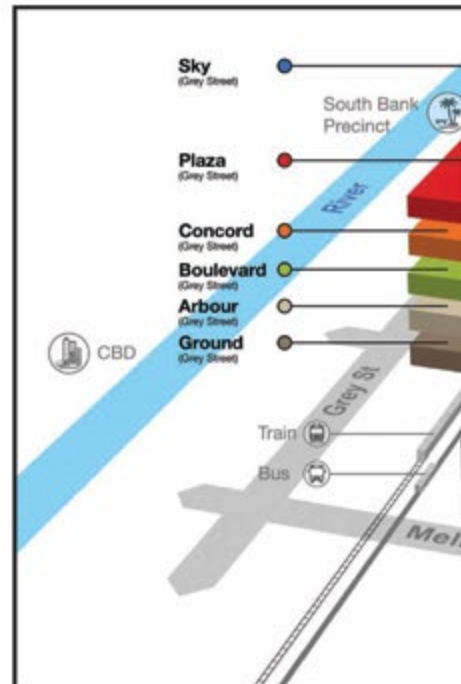
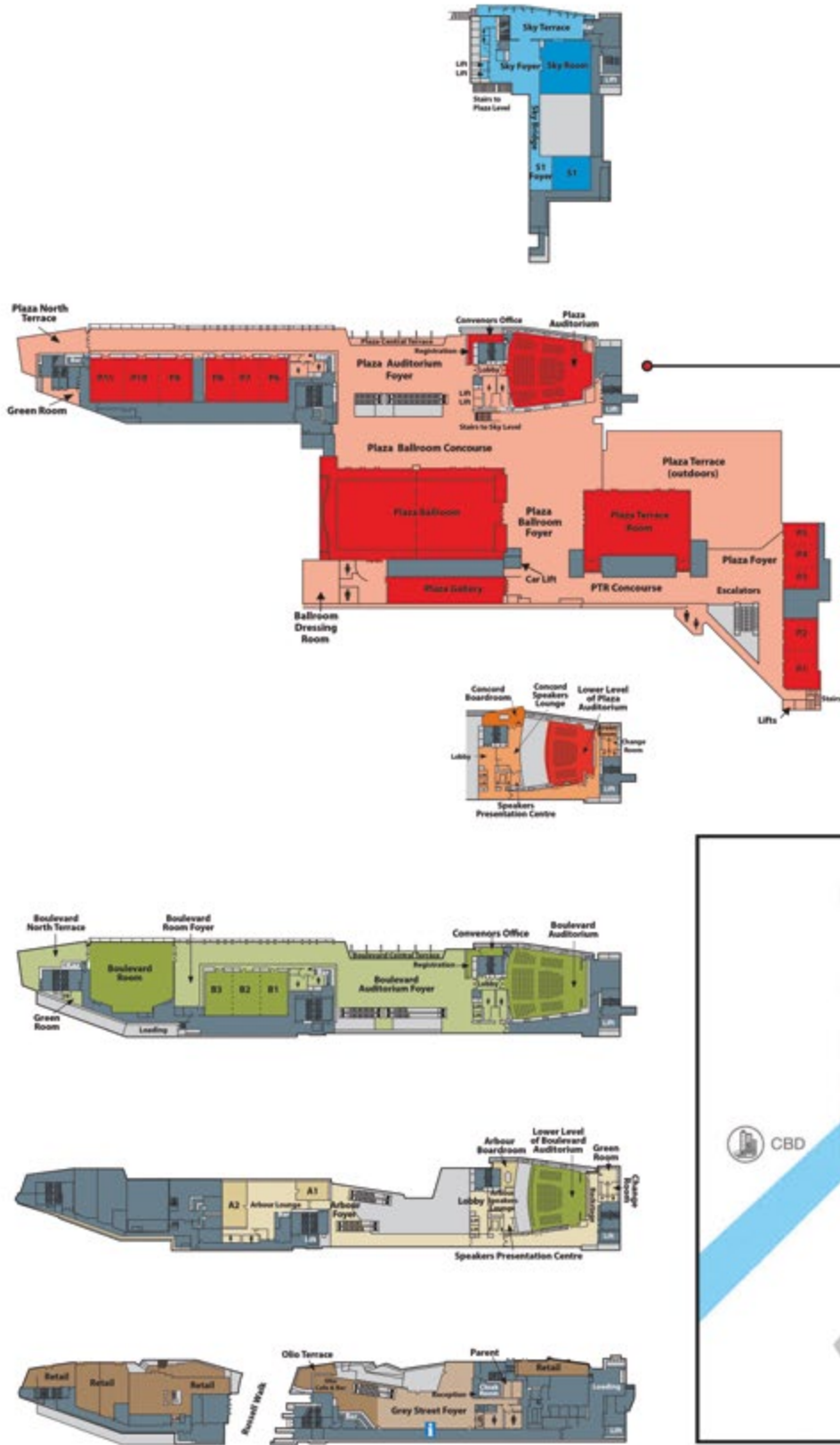
#### 3/4 Majority

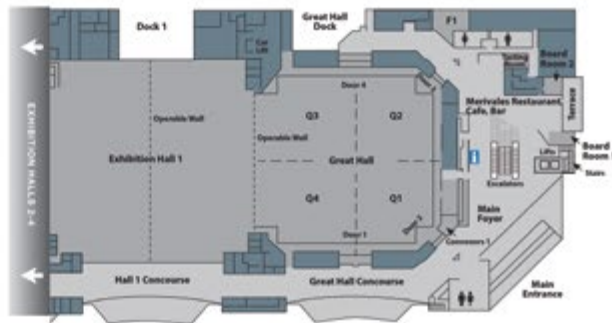
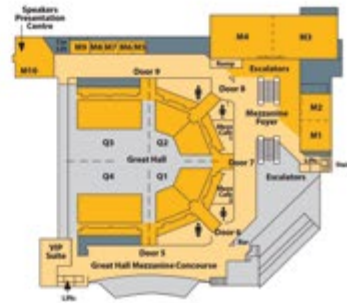
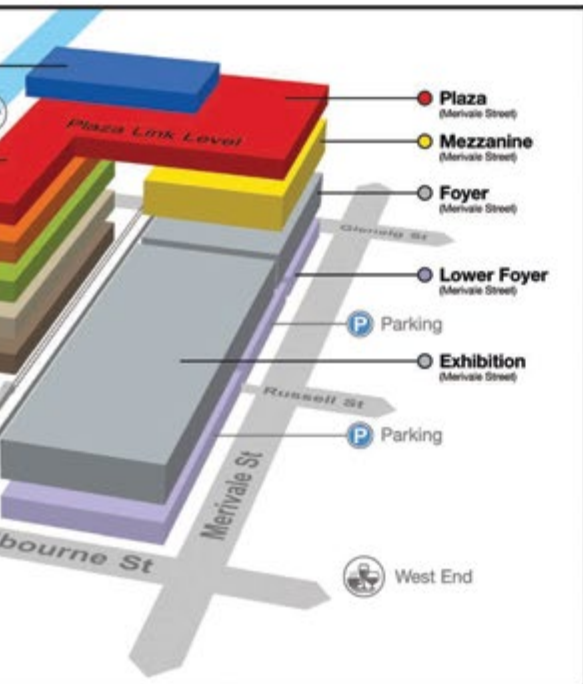
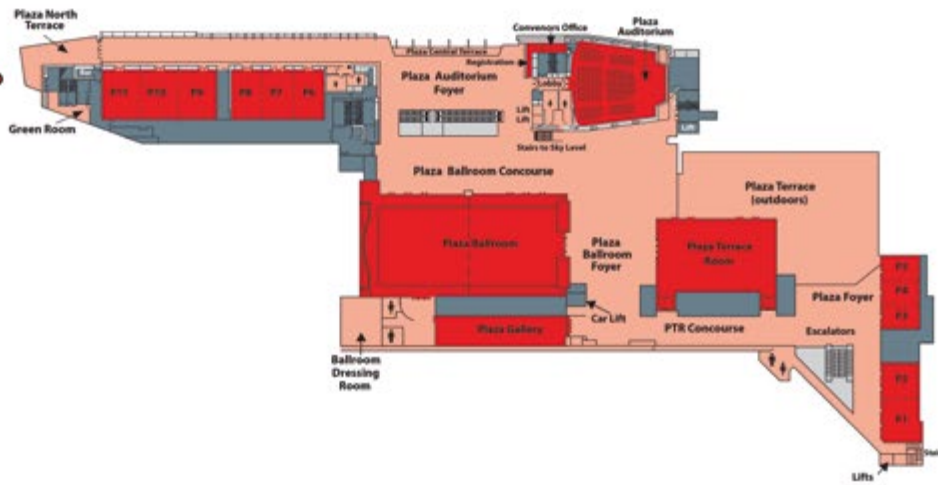
1. Expulsion of Sub-Branch
2. Special Resolutions (General Meetings)

#### 2/3 Majority

1. Suspension Standing Orders at the AGM
2. Removal of Sub-Branch Officers
3. Alteration of Resolution
4. Dismissal of CEO
5. Amendment of Constitution
6. Rescinding Resolutions
7. Suspension of Standing Orders
8. Re-committing of Resolution

MELBOURNE STREET







RETURNED & SERVICES  
LEAGUE OF AUSTRALIA  

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QUEENSLAND BRANCH