

Constitution of Libertarian Party of Queensland

An Unincorporated Association

1. IDENTITY AND STANDING

- 1.1. This Constitution identifies and governs the **Libertarian Party of Queensland** (LPQ), including any subordinate bodies, hereafter referred to as the “Queensland Party”.
- 1.2. All members and subordinate bodies of the Queensland Party are jointly and severally bound by this Constitution.
- 1.3. No part of the Queensland Party may adopt any rule, policy or procedure inconsistent with this Constitution except as required by law.
- 1.4. The Queensland Party acknowledges the **Libertarian Party** (hereafter referred to as the “Federal Party”) Constitution and its requirements for the Queensland Party. The Queensland Party commits to operating consistently and cooperatively with the Federal Party Constitution.

2. PRINCIPLES

- 2.1. The **Libertarian Party of Queensland** is a political party that stands for individual liberty, free markets and small government.
- 2.2. It regards government as the principal threat to these values and therefore seeks to reduce its intrusion into our lives to the lowest level possible consistent with the preservation of a civilised society.
- 2.3. It aims to restore to individuals the right to make their own choices and to accept responsibility for their consequences, on the basis that they make better decisions than government.

The following Principles represent its enduring values.

Economic Principles

Free markets and freedom of choice

Small government, low taxation, limited government spending and regulation

Widespread ownership of private property

Social Principles

Civil society and volunteerism

Civil liberties and individual freedom

Individual liberty and personal responsibility under the rule of law

Government Principles

Constitutional liberal democracy

Ethical and impartial government under the rule of law

Devolution of power including decentralised government and competitive federalism

International Principles

Free trade in goods, services and capital

Free trade in ideas and culture

Freedom and human rights

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1. The objectives of the Queensland Party are to:

3.1.1. Promote the Principles of the Queensland Party, and

3.1.2. Seek the election of its candidates to the

3.1.2.1. Commonwealth House of Representatives and Senate in Queensland electorates

3.1.2.1.1. Federal Elections are acknowledged as a shared responsibility between the Federal Party and the Queensland Party.

3.1.2.2. Queensland Legislative Assembly

3.1.2.3. Local Government bodies within Queensland

3.2. The assets and income of the Queensland Party shall be applied solely in furtherance of these objectives and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the Queensland Party except as bona fide compensation for services rendered or expenses incurred on behalf of the Queensland Party.

3.3. In the event of the Queensland Party being dissolved, the amount that remains after such dissolution and the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities shall be transferred to another organisation with similar purposes and which has rules prohibiting the distribution of its assets and income to its members.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1. MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

4.1.1. There shall be two categories of members:

4.1.1.1. Individual members: Individuals who are members of the Federal Party who reside in Queensland or members who are not such members and who have applied to join the Queensland Party and whose applications have been accepted.

4.1.1.2. Affiliate members: Branches of the Queensland Party that have applied for and been accepted as affiliate members, provided that the individuals who belong to such organisations shall not become individual members of the Queensland Party by virtue of their membership of that organisation.

4.2. INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

4.2.1. Individual membership of the Queensland Party is open to any person who has not been expressly excluded from membership, has not been convicted of a disqualifying electoral offence

within 10 years before the person applies to become a member, and who agrees to comply with this Constitution.

- 4.2.2. Individual membership may be either Financial or Non-financial (Associate).
- 4.2.3. A person may not become a member or remain a member of the Queensland Party, while at the same time holding membership of another Queensland political Queensland Party, unless with the specific approval of the Queensland Party Executive.
- 4.2.4. Individual membership shall include membership of both the Queensland Party and any subordinate bodies to which the applicant is, by virtue of his or her location, entitled to belong.
- 4.2.5. Only individual members recognised as “Financial” by the Queensland Party Executive shall be entitled to vote on Queensland Party matters. Individual members so recognised shall have one vote each.
- 4.2.6. Loss or relinquishment of Financial status does not, by itself, lead to cessation of membership.

4.3. AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

- 4.3.1. Affiliate membership of the Queensland Party is open to any Branch that has not been expressly excluded from membership, which has its own constitution and agrees to comply with this Constitution and Queensland Party By-Laws.
- 4.3.2. Affiliate members shall not be entitled to vote on Queensland Party matters because voting is a right exclusively of Financial Members of the Queensland Party including those who are individual members of the Affiliate Member.
- 4.3.3. Queensland Party Executive shall not allow more than one Affiliate Membership Branch in any single Queensland electorate, except that an online Branch may be established for any combination of electorates which do not have a physical Branch established and constituted.

4.4. GENERAL

- 4.4.1. A person who is already a member of the Federal Party and who resides in Queensland (evidenced by enrolment as a voter with Electoral Commission of Queensland) is normally automatically a member of the Queensland Party, unless a decision of Queensland Party Executive to the contrary has been made.
- 4.4.2. Any other person (where 4.4.1 is not applicable) who resides in Queensland wishing to become a member shall complete an application form or application forms as prescribed by the Queensland Party Executive (QPE). The QPE may prescribe the use of online forms available on the Queensland Party’s website. The person must specify details including full name, residential address and other details as prescribed by the QPE. The person shall lodge such forms in a manner prescribed by the QPE, which may include submission via the Queensland Party website. An organisation wishing to become an affiliate member shall apply in writing to the Secretary.
- 4.4.3. An application for individual or affiliate membership is subject to acceptance by the Queensland Party Secretary. In this the Queensland Secretary shall comply with any direction from the QPE and with this Constitution. A person or organisation whose application for membership has been accepted shall be advised accordingly. The QPE may direct the Queensland Secretary to reject any application for membership (individual or affiliate) on the ground that its acceptance would be against the interests of the Queensland Party.
- 4.4.4. The Queensland Party Executive may temporarily suspend any member at any time where the QPE considers this to be in the interests of the Queensland Party.

- 4.4.5. As soon as practical the QPE must inform the Queensland Disputes Resolution Committee ('QDRC' – refer to section 8) of the suspension including the reasons and whether or not QPE is considering an expulsion of the member.
- 4.4.6. The procedures for suspension of members shall (so far as time and the best interests of the Queensland Party permit) be based on the principles of procedural fairness and natural justice. These procedures shall include either advising the person or organisation in writing of the suspension, or, if the QPE consider that a delay in the suspension would not significantly damage the interests of the Queensland Party, advising the person or organisation in writing that the QPE is considering a suspension or requesting an expulsion. In the latter scenario, the person or organisation shall be requested to respond in a timely manner, and the QPE shall endeavour to defer a decision on suspension until any such response is received and considered.
- 4.4.7. QPE may request that expulsion be considered of any member who is suspended, and that request must be provided without delay to the Queensland Disputes Resolution Committee who will consider the issue further and will make a recommendation.
- 4.4.8. A member convicted of a disqualifying electoral offence shall not be permitted to remain a member.
- 4.4.9. The QPE may temporarily suspend or request consideration of termination of the membership of any individual or affiliate on the ground that it is against the interests of the Queensland Party.
- 4.4.10. Any member or subordinate body may recommend to the QPE that an application for membership be rejected or a member suspended or expelled.
- 4.4.11. Any refusal to admit a person as an individual Queensland Party Member, and any suspension or expulsion from the Queensland Party of a Member, shall be accompanied by a statement of reasons which is made available to any Queensland Party Member on request to the Secretary. This statement shall include a majority opinion as well as any dissenting opinions of members of the Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee who consider the matter and who write this statement for final decision of QPE.
- 4.4.12. A person ceases to be a member of the Queensland Party if he or she dies, resigns or is expelled from the Queensland Party by the QPE acting in accordance with recommendations by the Queensland Disputes Resolution Committee.
- 4.4.13. A member may at any time by notice in writing to the Secretary resign his/her membership.
- 4.4.14. If a member of the Queensland Party ceases to be a member, the Secretary must make an appropriate entry in the register of members recording the date on which membership ceased.
- 4.4.15. Membership entitlements are not transferable. A right, privilege or obligation which a person or organisation has by reason of being a member of the Queensland Party is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person or organisation, and terminates on cessation of membership.
- 4.4.16. The liability of a member of the Queensland Party to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Queensland Party or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Queensland Party is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the Queensland Party.
- 4.4.17. The liability of members of the Queensland Party's governing bodies shall be the same as for ordinary members.

5. QUEENSLAND PARTY ORGANISATION

5.1. QUEENSLAND PARTY EXECUTIVE

- 5.1.1. There shall be one Queensland Party Executive (QPE), comprised of no more than nine individual

members duly elected in accordance with this Constitution. Where there co-exists a delegation of authority of the Federal Party then QPE may be the same members of that Queensland Division's Queensland State Executive and may be elected at the same time and by the same process.

- 5.1.2. Members of the QPE shall serve for a period of three years and, upon expiry of the term, are eligible for re-election.
- 5.1.3. The QPE shall be the principal governing body of the Queensland Party, with authority to:
 - 5.1.3.1. Promote the Queensland Party's Principles.
 - 5.1.3.2. Improve public perceptions of the Queensland Party.
 - 5.1.3.3. Select candidates for state, and local government elections, and for federal elections in conjunction with the Federal Party registered with AEC.
 - 5.1.3.4. Set membership fees for Queensland Party Membership and to collect membership fees for Federal Party operating nationally.
 - 5.1.3.5. Formulate and adopt policies consistent with the Principles of the Queensland Party.
 - 5.1.3.6. Make, repeal and amend such by-laws as are from time to time considered necessary for the well-being of the Queensland Party.
 - 5.1.3.7. Form such permanent or temporary committees as may from time to time be required.
 - 5.1.3.8. Perform all such acts and do all such things as appear to be necessary or desirable for the proper management of the affairs of the Queensland Party.
 - 5.1.3.9. Exercise all such functions as may be exercised by the Queensland Party, other than those functions required by this Constitution to be exercised by a General Meeting of members.
- 5.1.4. The Queensland Party Executive shall:
 - 5.1.4.1. Receive and consider motions and recommendations from Queensland Party General Meetings.
 - 5.1.4.2. Recommend to the Queensland Party Annual General Meeting the appointment of an auditor if necessary by law, by electoral legislation or if recommended by the Queensland Party Executive.
 - 5.1.4.3. Present policies it has adopted to a Queensland Party General Meeting for ratification or rejection.
 - 5.1.4.4. Retain control over all membership fees and other Queensland Party funds.
 - 5.1.4.5. Consider recommendations by the Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee which hears and determines disputes in accordance with the principles of procedural fairness and natural justice, and with reference to other relevant dispute clauses in this Constitution.
 - 5.1.4.6. Queensland Party Executive has only two options when considering recommendations by the Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee, which are:
 - 5.1.4.6.1. Ratify and Confirm the Recommendation and take whatever action is consistent with implementing the decision; or
 - 5.1.4.6.2. Appeal the decision to the Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee by lodging a reasoned argument in response to the QDRC recommendation which the QDRC must then consider after allowing any other parties to the matter to make further submissions.
 - 5.1.4.6.3. If the Queensland Party Executive have already appealed and disagree with the further recommendation of the QDRC, then submit a motion to resolve the matter to a General Meeting of the Queensland Party where a final decision will be made by members.
 - 5.1.4.7. Any member (Individual or Affiliate) of the Queensland Party may lodge a dispute in writing to the Secretary, who must then refer the matter to the Queensland Disputes Resolution Committee with recommendations from the Queensland Party Executive if QPE wishes. QDRC will consider all formal written disputes received by the Secretary and respond in a timely manner. The decisions of the Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee are binding on all Queensland Party members only if ratified by QPE or by a General Meeting of Members (if the matter is appealed and not ratified by QPE).

5.1.4.8. No member of the Queensland Party, including individual members of the QPE, shall have the authority to act or speak on behalf of the Queensland Party without the approval of the QPE. When authority to act or to speak is given by QPE it will be restricted to matters affecting the Queensland Party, or Queensland or an electorate or local government region within Queensland, but not national matters.

5.2. SUBORDINATE BODIES and AFFILIATE MEMBERS

5.2.1. Subject to there being sufficient members, interest and organisation, the QPE may approve the establishment of subordinate bodies of the Queensland Party.

5.2.2. The QPE may delegate to subordinate bodies certain powers including the power to:

5.2.2.1. Select candidates for Federal, Queensland, or local government elections within Queensland.

5.2.2.2. Operate a bank account.

5.2.2.3. Raise and accept donations.

5.2.2.4. Formulate policies specific to a region within Queensland.

5.2.2.5. Each such subordinate body shall operate subject to this Constitution and within the powers delegated to it.

5.2.2.6. The QPE may withdraw a delegation, in whole or part, at any time.

5.2.2.7. Affiliated Members are subject to Rules of Affiliated Membership and are not considered to be Subordinate Bodies.

6. OFFICE BEARERS

6.1. QUEENSLAND PARTY EXECUTIVE

6.1.1. The QPE shall elect from among its members the office-bearers of the Queensland Party, being:

Queensland President

Queensland Vice-President

Queensland Secretary

Queensland Assistant Secretary

Queensland Treasurer

6.1.2. The QPE shall further appoint office-bearers of the Queensland Party, if appropriate, being:

Queensland Director of Fundraising

Queensland Campaign Manager

Queensland Membership Officer

Queensland Assistant Treasurer

Queensland Bookkeeper

Queensland Agent (to Electoral Commission of Queensland)

Queensland Registered Officer (to Electoral Commission of Queensland)

- 6.1.3. No more than two office-bearer positions may be filled by one member of the QPE.
- 6.1.4. The **Queensland President** shall:
 - 6.1.4.1. Be the Senior Executive Officer of the Queensland Party, but remains answerable to the QPE at all times and remains in this position only so long as the Queensland President retains the support of QPE and the Members at any General Meeting. A motion which has been included within the Agenda and previously circulated by the Secretary with the required notice and passed with a simple majority may replace the President (or any other Office Bearer) at either a QPE meeting or a General Meeting of members.
 - 6.1.4.2. Chair all QPE and General Meetings of the Queensland Party.
 - 6.1.4.3. Be a member "ex officio" of all committees including committee or general meetings of any Subordinate Body or Affiliated Member of the Queensland Party.
- 6.1.5. The **Queensland Vice-President** shall:
 - 6.1.5.1. Perform the duties of the President during his/her absence or at his/her request.
 - 6.1.5.2. Be a member "ex officio" of all committees including committee or general meetings of any Subordinate Body or Affiliated Member of the Queensland Party.
- 6.1.6. The **Queensland Secretary** shall:
 - 6.1.6.1. Have overall responsibility for correspondence in connection with the Queensland Party and shall circulate or table correspondence at QPE meetings or beforehand.
 - 6.1.6.2. Ensure the maintenance of a register of members as directed by the QPE, although detailed work may be delegated at the Secretary's option. If delegated, the Secretary remains responsible for the accuracy of membership records and shares with the Treasurer joint responsibility for collection of Membership Fees.
 - 6.1.6.3. Ensure that a summary of membership numbers is tabled at each meeting of QPE and will report on membership numbers and matters to general meetings.
 - 6.1.6.4. Record all appointments of office-bearers and members of the QPE.
 - 6.1.6.5. Ensure that an Agenda is circulated beforehand for all QPE meetings and general meetings as follows:
 - 6.1.6.5.1. QPE Meetings – at least 48 hours before the meeting.
 - 6.1.6.5.2. General Meetings – at least 7 days before the meeting to all financial members and to all Affiliate Members.
 - 6.1.6.6. Ensure that any Agenda includes a list of Motions to be considered at the Meeting. Advise the Chair of the meeting when procedural motions may be raised from the floor of the meeting; however, ensure that any other substantial motion (or amendments to any motion which materially alters the motion in a significant way and which is not detailed in an Agenda) will carry forward to the subsequent meeting. Ensure that a motion or an amendment which should not be considered at a meeting is declared invalid until such time that the requirement to be included within the Agenda is satisfied. The decision by the Secretary will apply at all meeting and in minutes.
 - 6.1.6.7. Ensure minutes are taken of all proceedings at QPE meetings and general meetings of the Queensland Party, and minutes are to include:
 - 6.1.6.7.1. Motions and if carried or defeated by the meeting
 - 6.1.6.7.2. Action items for a subsequent meeting or for follow up at a later time
 - 6.1.6.8. Present such minutes to the subsequent corresponding meeting for approval as a true and accurate record and retained as its principal record.
- 6.1.7. The **Queensland Treasurer** shall:
 - 6.1.7.1. Ensure that all membership fees, donations and other monies collected are promptly paid into a

bank account approved by the QPE.

- 6.1.7.2. Ensure that all payments authorised by the QPE are made.
- 6.1.7.3. Ensure that correct accounts are kept showing the financial affairs of the Queensland Party, including full details of receipts and expenditure.
- 6.1.7.4. Ensure the maintenance of an accurate and current register of Queensland Party assets.
- 6.1.7.5. Ensure the maintenance of an accurate and current register of Queensland Party liabilities.
- 6.1.7.6. Ensure that a Risk Register of exposures to risks is maintained.
- 6.1.7.7. Present to each meeting of the QPE a statement of income and expenditure for the period since the prior meeting, and a balance sheet of the financial position of the Queensland Party which is current to a date not more than one month previous.
- 6.1.7.8. Present each year to the approved auditor the Queensland Party's accounts for auditing, if so decided by QPE.
- 6.1.7.9. Present each year to a General Meeting of Queensland Party a full set of financial accounts and audit report (if available) within five months of the end of each financial year. Alternatively, if a General Meeting is not held at an appropriate time, then copies of the financial accounts and audit report are to be circulated to all financial members electronically within five months of the end of the financial year.
- 6.1.7.10. Ensure the Queensland Party complies with such financial reporting obligations as are required by law or are required for financial disclosures as advised by the Queensland Party Agent / Electoral Commission of Queensland including real time disclosures of donations / funds received during election campaigns (if or as required).
- 6.1.7.11. Ensure that audit reports are completed and supplied if and when required by any applicable law or Electoral Commission of Queensland or Australian Electoral Commission, and that such audit reports are also made available to members of the Queensland Party in Queensland prior to public financial disclosures.
- 6.1.8. The **Queensland Registered Officer**: shall undertake such functions as are required by legislation, and may also act as a **Deputy Registered Officer** for Australian Electoral Commission during federal elections if confirmed by the Federal Party registered with AEC.
- 6.1.9. The QPE may direct the Queensland Registered Officer as to the nomination of candidates for elected office and the Registered Officer shall comply with such direction.

7. QUEENSLAND PARTY EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

7.1. Meetings of the QPE shall be held at such times and places as the QPE shall determine:

- 7.1.1. At least eight times each financial year; or
- 7.1.2. Within fourteen (14) days of the receipt by the Queensland Secretary of a requisition by a majority of members of the QPE.
- 7.1.3. Quorum
Quorum shall be formed when the following conditions are satisfied:
 - 7.1.3.1. The total number of members in the meeting is greater than or equal to half (rounded down) plus one of the currently serving Queensland Executive members, but not less than three Queensland Executive members; and
 - 7.1.3.2. One of the members at the meeting is the President or Vice-President.
- 7.1.4. Not less than two (2) days' notice shall be given for a meeting of the QPE and such notice shall include a written Agenda detailing the matters to be considered including any motions (written in full) to be voted upon.
- 7.1.5. If either the Queensland President or Vice President is unable or unwilling to act as Chairman, the

QPE may appoint its own.

- 7.1.6. All matters before the QPE shall be decided by a simple majority of those present except where this Constitution provides otherwise. Where a vote is tied the Chair shall have a casting vote.

8. QUEENSLAND DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE (QDRC)

- 8.1. The Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee is to consist of three financial members nominated by QPE who are not members of QPE and who have not nominated to be elected to QPE.
- 8.2. QDRC Members are to be appointed for three year terms, with one members' term expiring each year at the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.3. QPE may appoint financial members to QDRC to fill casual vacancies as required.
- 8.4. All new QPE appointments to QDRC are to be ratified at a General Meeting or Annual General Meeting of the Queensland Party, and if not ratified by Members via a motion of confidence the appointment is to lapse forthwith.
- 8.5. A General Meeting of the Members may remove any or all Members of the QDRC in a Vote of No Confidence notified to the Queensland Secretary in time to be listed on the Agenda for the General Meeting.
- 8.6. The Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee may only act on a matter referred to it by QPE or one of its members or on a complaint by any member or affiliate member notified through the Queensland Secretary.
- 8.7. The QDRC is to appoint a Chair and Deputy Chair from among its three members and may appoint any member to a position of Secretary, QDRC (non-voting) or any other person to assist as it sees fit.
- 8.8. A Quorum for a QDRC meeting shall be two members including the Chair or Deputy Chair. If at least two members are not reasonably available to hear a particular matter, then QPE may appoint one temporary member of QDRC to hear an urgent application.
- 8.9. For each matter referred and for each complaint the QDRC is to vote on a recommendation to be forwarded to QPE for action and implementation. If a member of QDRC dissents from the approved recommendation then the dissenting member is to write a dissenting report and their own recommendation.
- 8.10. If QPE rejects a QDRC recommendation then QDRC is to consider that rejection as an appeal against its original recommendation and must consider the matter again taking into account the reasons that the QPE does not accept the recommendation.
- 8.11. QDRC is to ensure natural justice and fair process to all parties in all matters at all times. Detailed records are to be maintained demonstrating natural justice and fair process.
- 8.12. QDRC is only authorised to hear matters in haste (which may compromise due process) if *time of the essence* is indicated by the QPE via the Queensland Secretary as in the best interests of the Queensland Party, and then QDRC may recommend only a temporary suspension of a member until further hearings are conducted.
- 8.13. QDRC are to ensure independence at all times is maintained in the interests of natural justice and fair process for all parties.
- 8.14. QDRC is to prioritise:
 - 8.14.1. Compliance with laws and regulations which it knows about, or to which it is directed in submissions by any party to a matter being heard, and then
 - 8.14.2. Natural justice and fair process for all parties involved in a matter or dispute, and then
 - 8.14.3. Best interests of the Queensland Party
- 8.15. QDRC may request the Queensland Secretary to call a General meeting of members in accordance

with 5.1.4.6.3.

9. AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- 9.1. QPE is to ensure that avoidance of conflicts of interest apply with application of an internal policy.
- 9.2. Specifically the following roles within the Queensland Party are to be considered mutually exclusive – member of QPE, Member of QDRC, nominee for election to QPE, nominee for appointment to QDRC, candidate for any election (federal, Queensland or local government), elected representative at any level of government in Queensland or Australia, employment by an elected representative, any person in receipt of payments from the Queensland Party as an employee, contractor or recipient of payment for services directly or indirectly – and steps must be taken by QPE with policy, by laws and / or actions to avoid such conflicts or perceptions of conflict of interest.

10. GENERAL MEETINGS

- 10.1. There shall be at least one Annual General Meeting each year to be held at a time and place determined by the QPE, except that the first Annual General Meeting shall be held within five months of the end of the financial year when Queensland Party constitutes and a period of no more than twelve months and 21 days may lapse between Annual General Meetings.
- 10.2. Special General Meetings shall be called by the Secretary acting on the direction of QPE and shall be called:
 - 10.2.1. if requested by a petition carrying the signatures of not less than 15 percent of individual voting members, or
 - 10.2.2. if requested by a written request by not less than 50% of Affiliated Members, or
 - 10.2.3. if requested by the Queensland Dispute Resolution Committee where QDRC recommendations on an appeal by QPE are not ratified by QPE within thirty days.
 - 10.2.4. Such meetings shall be held at least four weeks and no more than eight weeks from the date when the request was received.
- 10.3. All members shall be entitled to attend a General Meeting in person or remotely. The QPE must ensure that a form of technology is in use at each General Meeting which gives members a reasonable opportunity to observe and speak remotely.
- 10.4. Only financial members who have held financial status for at least six continuous months immediately prior to a General Meeting and who attend a General Meeting in person or remotely (each a "Voting Member"), shall be entitled to vote at a General Meeting. The QPE must ensure that a form of technology is in use at each General Meeting which gives Voting Members the ability to vote remotely and anonymously. A Voting Member is entitled to vote through only one of the permitted methods at a time. For the avoidance of doubt, no member may vote more than once. All resolutions before a General Meeting shall be decided by a simple majority of votes cast except where this Constitution provides otherwise. Where a vote is tied the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
- 10.5. The Queensland Secretary shall ensure that all members are notified of each General Meeting not less than four weeks prior to its occurrence. The notice of the General Meeting must advise members how they may exercise their right to attend and vote remotely.
- 10.6. All matters for decision at a General Meeting shall be submitted to the Queensland Secretary not less than two weeks prior to the meeting. The Queensland Secretary shall publish an Agenda for each item of business (including each motion) seven full days prior to the General Meeting. Amendments to motions should be submitted to the Queensland Secretary within 48 hours of publishing the Agenda. The Queensland Secretary will publish an updated Final Agenda including any amendments

proposed to motions at least three full days prior to the General Meeting. Only matters and motions and amendments to motions included on the Final Agenda may be considered at the General Meeting, except that the Chair may allow with the consent of the Secretary procedural motions or motions of minor significance to be moved and seconded from the floor for consideration at the General Meeting.

- 10.7. General Meetings shall be open to observers unless closed (entirely or for certain sessions) by decision of the QPE or resolution of the meeting.
- 10.8. Additional to requirements in 8.6 above, the agenda for the Annual General Meeting shall be as determined by the QPE but shall include the following:
 - 10.8.1. A written report by the Queensland President.
 - 10.8.2. A written report by the Queensland Secretary which is to address membership matters and attendance at QPE meetings.
 - 10.8.3. Receipt and consideration of the minutes of the prior General Meeting and Annual General Meeting.
 - 10.8.4. Receipt and consideration of the Queensland Treasurer's report including financial accounts, fund raising and audit reports (if applicable).
 - 10.8.5. Elections to fill such vacancies on the QPE as fall due.
 - 10.8.6. The appointment of an auditor.
 - 10.8.7. Consideration of policies adopted by the QPE and their approval or rejection without amendment.
 - 10.8.8. General business listed in the Agenda or (at the discretion of the Chair) matters raised from the floor of the meeting. General Business is to include an opportunity for any member to ask questions from the floor of the meeting addressed to any Office Bearer of the Queensland Party. Opportunity should be allowed for at least ten questions, or at least 10% of attendees to ask one question each (whichever is greater) where the questioner is allowed at least one minute to state the question (including any preamble) and an Office Bearer is allocated at least two minutes to reply. Longer or more complex issues must have been previously advised as matters for discussion to the Secretary as per 8.6 above and questions may be disallowed by the Chair if the questioner from the floor cannot state their question within the designated time.
 - 10.8.9. There shall be no quorum for general meetings.
 - 10.8.10. Unless proper notice has not been given or the holding of the meeting is seriously hampered by events beyond the control of the Queensland Secretary or QPE, general meetings shall not be adjourned. A vote of no confidence in the Chair and / or Secretary is to be allowed and considered immediately where time to discuss matters has not been reasonably foreseen and where time for each item allowed in the Agenda is grossly inadequate. Procedural motions for reallocation of times on the Agenda are to be accepted by the Chair and Secretary.

11. ELECTIONS

- 11.1. Elections for one third of the QPE plus casual vacancies (if any) shall be conducted at each Annual General Meeting.
- 11.2. Only Voting Members shall be permitted to vote in elections for the QPE. The QPE must ensure that a form of technology is in use at each General Meeting which gives Voting Members the ability to vote in elections remotely. A Voting Member is entitled to vote through only one of the permitted methods at a time. For the avoidance of doubt, no member may vote more than once.
- 11.3. Nominations for election to the QPE shall be submitted to the Secretary not less than two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.

- 11.4. Members standing for election to the QPE must be nominated and seconded by financial members and signify their consent to the nomination.
- 11.5. Any financial member of the Queensland Party may nominate for an election to QPE. Financial Members of more than two years standing are to be preferred by the following mechanism:
- 11.5.1. If there are in excess of twelve nominations then the Queensland Secretary is to exclude financial members with less than six months financial membership unless this reduces the number of nominations below 10.
- 11.5.2. If after excluding as per 11.5.1 there are still more than 12 nominations remaining then the Queensland Secretary is to exclude financial members with less than twelve months financial membership unless this reduces the number of nominations below 10.
- 11.5.3. If after excluding as per 11.5.2 there are still more than 12 nominations Queensland Secretary is to exclude financial members with less than two years financial membership unless this reduces the number of nominations below 10.
- 11.6. A casual vacancy on the QPE may be filled with any member who was at the last Annual General Meeting and remains financial by the QPE until the next Annual General Meeting when it shall be filled by election. The term of any member so elected shall be the remainder of the term of the member whose departure created the casual vacancy.
- 11.6.1. Financial Members elected or appointed to Queensland Party Executive have an obligation to remain as financial members throughout their term on Queensland Party Executive. Should financial membership status lapse or terminate during their term on QPE then their election or appointment as a member of QPE will also lapse and the Secretary shall declare the position vacated and eligible to be filled by a casual appointment in accordance with 11.6.
- 11.7. The method of voting for the QPE shall be optional preferential, conducted by secret ballot.
- 11.7.1. Candidates for election to the QPE may each appoint one scrutineer to observe the counting of votes.
- 11.8. A Returning Officer may be appointed to conduct the election. The Returning Officer shall not be entitled to vote.
- 11.9. A member of the QPE may be removed by a unanimous vote of all other members of the QPE on two occasions not less than one or more than three months apart. Any member of the QPE so removed shall for a period of six months be ineligible to be appointed or elected as a member of the QPE. A member of the QPE may not be otherwise suspended or removed except
- 11.9.1. at a General Meeting where members votes for removal, or
- 11.9.2. if a matter has been referred to Queensland Disputes Resolution Committee and a recommendation for removal has been received by QPE and approved by majority vote.

12. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

- 12.1. This Constitution may be changed by:
- 12.1.1. A motion on notice from the QPE to a general meeting (which the QPE shall not unreasonably decline if properly moved and seconded and provided to the Queensland Secretary in accordance with timing required for an Agenda item); and
- 12.1.2. Approval of that motion by fifty (50) percent of votes cast at the general meeting in the case of a change to align the name with the Federal Party nationally or necessary to align with Affiliated Membership Bylaws of the Federal Party nationally, ninety (90) percent to change the Principles, or seventy-five (75) percent majority in any other case.

Glossary of Terms

'AEC' refers to Australian Electoral Commission

'ECQ' refers to Electoral Commission of Queensland

'Federal Party' refers to ***Libertarian Party***

'LPQ' refers to ***Libertarian Party of Queensland***

'QDR' refers to Queensland Disputes Resolution Committee (see section 8)

'QPE' refers to Queensland Party Executive (of ***Libertarian Party of Queensland*** – see section 5.1)

'Queensland Party' refers to ***Libertarian Party of Queensland***

'Rules of Affiliated Membership' shall be included in By Laws of the Queensland Party.