

CONSTITUTION of

QUEENSLAND HOMICIDE VICTIMS' SUPPORT GROUP

FAMILY SUPPORT AFTER MURDER INC

ABN: 88 536 686 758

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1 INTERPRETATION

1. In these rules:
 - a. **Act** means the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981*.
 - b. **Present:**
 - (i) At a Board of Directors Meeting, see rule 23(6); or
 - (ii) At a General Meeting, see rule 37(2).
2. A word or expression that is not defined in these rules, but is defined in the Act has, if the context permits, the meaning given by the Act.

2 NAME

The name of the Incorporated Association is **Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group, Family Support After Murder Incorporated** (*the Association*).

3 OBJECTS

The objects of the Association are:

1. To provide support by such means and in such manner as is reasonable, within the resourcing and other constraints of the Association, to persons, having some real connection with Queensland, suffering trauma or other harm as a result of acts of homicide committed against family, friends or associates of the persons so affected ("**Victims of Homicide**");
2. To build networks with, and to work with, other people and organisations which provide relevant support and other services to Victims of Homicide, for the ultimate provision of greater support networks and services to Victims of Homicide;
3. To provide relevant information to the Victims of Homicide;
4. To advocate for improved treatment and support in society for Victims of Homicide;
5. To raise money and assist key stakeholders to raise money, to further the above objects and to secure sufficient funds for the purposes of the operation of the Association;
6. To receive any funds and to distribute these funds in a manner that best attains the objects of the Association; and
7. To do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the above objects of the Association.

4 POWERS

1. The Association has the powers of an individual.
2. The Association may, for example:
 - a. Enter into contracts; and

- b. Acquire, hold, deal with and dispose of property; and
 - c. Make charges for services and facilities it supplies; and
 - d. Do other things necessary or convenient to be done in carrying out its affairs.
3. The Association may also issue secured and unsecured notes, debentures and debenture stock for the Association.

5 CLASSES OF MEMBERS

The membership of the Association consists of:

1. **Ordinary** individual members, the number of which is unlimited to persons who are over eighteen (18) years of age and shall consist of:
 - a. **Homicide Victim Member** who has lost an immediate or extended member of their family or close friend or is a witness to homicide.
 - b. **Supporting Member**, who is not directly involved as a co-victim but who wishes to support Homicide Victim Members and who has been invited in writing by the Board of Directors to apply for Membership as a Supporting Member.
2. **Associate Members** shall consist of individuals or organisations who are stakeholders in the systems of support for Homicide Victim Families or who wish to support the Association's Objects.
3. **Honorary Life Members**. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, a General Meeting may of Members may confer Life Membership on a person who has performed outstanding service to the Association over a long period of time:
 - a. Life membership may be for a set period of time or life. Such membership shall be subject to all the provisions of this Constitution;
 - b. Life membership is available to Ordinary Members only and nominations for Life Membership must be approved by the Board of Directors.
4. **Patron**. Upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, may appoint a Patron.
5. **Only Honorary Life Members and Ordinary Members who are financial** shall have all the rights and privileges of Membership including voting rights at all Meetings and who can be nominated for election to sit on the Board of Directors.

6 NEW MEMBERSHIP

1. An Applicant for Membership of the Association must be proposed by one (1) Ordinary Member of the Association (the **Proposer**) and seconded by another Ordinary Member (the **Secunder**).
2. An Application for **Ordinary and Associate Individual Membership** must be:
 - a. In writing; and
 - b. Signed by the Applicant and the Applicant's Proposer and Secunder; and
 - c. In the form decided by the Board of Directors; and
 - d. Attach the Association's Confidentiality Policy.

- i. Evidence of the invitation to become a supporting member should also be attached.
3. An application for **Associate Organisational Membership** must be:
 - a. in writing; and
 - b. Signed by a Board of Directors Member or Chief Executive Officer of the Applicant organisation and the Applicant's Proposer and Seconder;
 - c. Nominate at least one person who will act on the Organisation's behalf in matters concerning the Association
 - d. In the Form decided by the Board of Directors; and
 - e. Attach the Association's Confidentiality Policy
4. A person shall not be eligible for membership having been convicted of an indictable offence, the rehabilitation period for which has not expired.

7 MEMBERSHIP FEES

1. The membership fee for each ordinary membership and for each other class of membership (if any):
 - a. Is the amount decided by the Board of Directors from time to time; and
 - b. Is payable when, and in the way, the Board of Directors decides.

8 ADMISSION AND REJECTION OF NEW MEMBERS

1. The Board of Directors must consider an Application for Membership at the next Board of Directors Meeting held after it receives:
 - a. The Application for Membership; and
 - b. The appropriate membership fee for the application.
2. The Board of Directors must ensure that, as soon as possible after the person applies to become a Member of the Association, and before the Board of Directors considers the person's application, the person is advised:
 - a. Whether or not the Association has public liability insurance; and
 - b. If the Association has public liability insurance, the amount of the insurance.
3. The Board of Directors must decide at the Meeting whether to accept or reject the application.
4. If a majority of the members of the Board of Directors present at the Meeting vote to accept the Applicant as a Member, the Applicant must be accepted as a Member for the Class of Membership applied for.
5. The Secretary of the Association must, as soon as practicable after the Board of Directors decides to accept or reject an Application, give the Applicant a written notice of the decision.

9 WHEN MEMBERSHIP ENDS

1. A member may resign from the Association by giving a written notice of resignation to the Secretary.
2. The resignation takes effect at:
 - a. The time the notice is received by the Secretary; or
 - b. If a later time is stated in the notice, the later time.
3. The Board of Directors may terminate a Member's membership if the Member:
 - a. Is convicted of an indictable offence; or
 - b. Does not comply with any of the provisions of these rules; or
 - c. Has membership fees in arrears for at least two (2) months; or
 - d. Conducts himself or herself in a way considered to be injurious or prejudicial to the character or interests of the Association.
4. Before the Board of Directors terminates a Member's membership, the Board of Directors must give the Member a full and fair opportunity to show why the membership should not be terminated.
5. If, after considering all representations made by the Member, the Board of Directors decides to terminate the membership, the Secretary of the Board of Directors must give the Member a written notice of the decision.

10 APPEAL AGAINST REJECTION OR TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. A person whose application for membership has been rejected, or whose membership has been terminated, may give the Secretary written notice of the person's intention to appeal against the decision.
2. A notice of intention to appeal must be given to the Secretary within one (1) month after the person receives written notice of the decision.
3. If the Secretary receives a notice of intention to appeal, the Secretary must, within one (1) month after receiving the notice, call a General Meeting to decide the appeal.

11 GENERAL MEETING TO DECIDE APPEAL

1. The General Meeting to decide an appeal must be held within three (3) months after the Secretary receives the notice of intention to appeal.
2. At the Meeting, the applicant must be given a full and fair opportunity to show why the application should not be rejected or the membership should not be terminated.
3. Also, the Board of Directors and the members of the committee who rejected the application or terminated the membership must be given a full and fair opportunity to show why the application should be rejected or the membership should be terminated.
4. An appeal must be decided by a majority vote of the members present and eligible to vote at the Meeting.

5. If a person whose application for membership has been rejected does not appeal against the decision within one (1) month after receiving written notice of the decision, or the person appeals but the appeal is unsuccessful, the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, refund the membership fee paid by the person.

12 REGISTER OF MEMBERS

1. The Board of Directors must keep a Register of Members of the Association.
2. The Register must include the following particulars for each member:
 - a. The full name of the member;
 - b. The postal or residential address of the member;
 - c. The date of admission as a member;
 - d. The date of death or time of resignation of the member;
 - e. Details about the termination or reinstatement of membership;
 - f. Any other particulars the Board of Directors or the members at a general Meeting decide.
3. The register must be open for inspection by members of the Association at all reasonable times.
4. A member must contact the Secretary to arrange an inspection of the register.
5. However, the Board of Directors may, on the application of a member of the Association, withhold information about the member (other than the members full name) from the register available for inspection if the Board of Directors has reasonable grounds for believing the disclosure of the information would put the member at risk of harm and/or would be detrimental to the ongoing work and reputation of the organisation.

13 PROHIBITION ON USE OF INFORMATION ON REGISTER OF MEMBERS

1. A Member of the Association must not:
 - a. Use information obtained from the Register of Members of the Association to contact, or send material to, another member of the Association for the purpose of advertising for political, religious, charitable or commercial purposes; or
 - b. Disclose information obtained from the Register to someone else, knowing that the information is likely to be used to contact, or send material to, another member of the Association for the purpose of advertising for political, religious, charitable or commercial purposes.
2. Sub rule (1) does not apply if the use or disclosure of the information is approved by the Association.

14 APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF SECRETARY

1. The Secretary must be an individual residing in Queensland, or in another State but not more than 65km from the Queensland border, who is:

- a. A member of the Association elected by the Association as Secretary; or
 - b. Any of the following persons appointed by the Board of Directors as Secretary:
 - i. A member of the Associations Board of Directors;
 - ii. Another member of the Association;
 - iii. Another person.
2. If a vacancy happens in the office of Secretary, the Members of the Board of Directors must ensure a Secretary is appointed or elected for the Association within one (1) month after the vacancy happens.
 3. If the Board of Directors appoints a person mentioned in sub rule (1)(b)(ii) as Secretary, other than to fill a casual vacancy on the Board of Directors, the person does not become a member of the Board of Directors.
 4. However, if the Board of Directors appoints a person mentioned in sub rule (1)(b)(ii) as Secretary to fill a casual vacancy on the Board of Directors, the person becomes a member of the Board of Directors.
 5. If the Board of Directors appoints a person mentioned in sub rule (1)(b)(iii) as Secretary, the person does not become a Member of the Board of Directors.
 6. (7) In this rule **casual vacancy**, on a Board of Directors, means a vacancy that happens when an elected member of the Board of Directors resigns, dies or otherwise stops holding office.

15 REMOVAL OF SECRETARY

1. The Board of Directors of the Association may at any time remove a person appointed by the Board of Directors as the Secretary.
2. If the Board of Directors removes a Secretary who is a person mentioned in rule 14(1)(b)(i), the person remains a member of the Board of Directors.
3. If the Board of Directors removes a Secretary who is a person mentioned in rule 15(1)(b)(ii) and who has been appointed to a casual vacancy on the Board of Directors under rule 14(5), the person remains a member of the Board of Directors.

16 FUNCTIONS OF SECRETARY

The Secretary's functions include, but are not limited to—

1. Calling Meetings of the Association, including preparing notices of a Meeting and of the business to be conducted at the Meeting in consultation with the Chairperson of the Association; and
2. Keeping minutes of each Meeting; and
3. Keeping copies of all correspondence and other documents relating to the Association; and
4. Maintaining the Register of Members of the Association.

17 MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors of the Association consists of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and not more than three (3) general members elected or appointed at a General Meeting.
2. In addition, the Board of Directors may appoint up to three (3) co-opted (ex officio) persons to the Board of Directors from time to time and, such co-opted persons would be specialists in a particular field of expertise which the Board of Directors may require ongoing advice and consultation from. One of these positions will be officially appointed to the position by our Patron the Police Commissioner.
3. A member of the Board of Directors, other than a Secretary appointed by the Board of Directors under rule 14(1)(b)(iii), must be a Member of the Association and those appointed under sub-rule (2) must be a financial ordinary member of the Association.
4. Not more than one member of an immediate family shall be elected or appointed to a position on the Board of Directors.
5. A member of the Association may be appointed to a casual vacancy on the Board of Directors under rule 20.
6. At each Annual General Meeting of the Association, the Members of the Board of Directors must retire from office, but are eligible, on nomination, for re-election.

18 ELECTING THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. A member of the Board of Directors may only be elected as follows:
 - a. Any two (2) Ordinary members of the Association may nominate another Ordinary Members (the ***candidate***) to serve as a Member of the Board of Directors;
 - b. The nomination must be:
 - i. In writing; and
 - ii. Signed by the Candidate and the Members who nominated him or her; and
 - iii. Given to the Secretary at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting at which the election is to be held;
 - c. Each Member of the Association present and eligible to vote at the Annual General Meeting may vote for one (1) Candidate for each vacant position on the Board of Directors;
 - d. If, at the start of the Meeting, there are not enough candidates nominated, nominations may be taken from the floor of the Meeting.
2. A person may be a Candidate only if the person:
 - a. Is an adult; and
 - b. Is not ineligible to be elected as a member under section 61A of the Act.
3. A list of the Candidates' names in alphabetical order, with the names of the Members who nominated each candidate, must be posted in a conspicuous place in the office or usual place of Meeting of the Association for at least seven (7) days immediately preceding the Annual General Meeting.

4. If required by the Board of Directors, balloting lists must be prepared containing the names of the Candidates in alphabetical order.
5. The Board of Directors must ensure that, before a Candidate is elected as a Member of the Board of Directors, the Candidate is advised:
 - a. Whether or not the Association has public liability insurance; and
 - b. If the Association has public liability insurance, the amount of the insurance.

19 RESIGNATION, REMOVAL OR VACATION OF OFFICE OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBER

1. A Member of the Board of Directors may resign from the Board by giving written notice of resignation to the Secretary.
2. The resignation takes effect at:
 - a. The time the notice is received by the Secretary; or
 - b. If a later time is stated in the notice, the later time.
3. A Member may be removed from office at a General Meeting of the Association if a majority of the Members present and eligible to vote at the Meeting vote in favour of removing the Member.
4. Before a vote of Members is taken about removing the member from office, the Member must be given a full and fair opportunity to show cause why he or she should not be removed from office.
5. A Member has no right of appeal against the Member's removal from office under this rule.
6. A Member immediately vacates the Office of Member in the circumstances mentioned in section 64(2) of the Act.

20 VACANCIES ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. If a casual vacancy happens on the Board of Directors, the continuing Members of the Board of Directors may appoint another Member of the Association to fill the vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting.
 - a. In the event of the office of Chairperson becoming vacant, that casual vacancy shall be filled by the Vice-Chairperson and,
 - b. The Board of Directors shall elect an interim Vice-Chairperson by preferential ballot of the Members of the Board of Directors.
 - c. In the event that the Vice-Chairperson is not able to act as Chairperson, then the casual vacancy will be filled by the Secretary or Treasurer as decided by a preferential ballot of the members of the Board of Directors.
 - d. In the event that the Treasurer fills the casual position of Chairperson, a casual vacancy would then have to be filled for the position of Treasurer.
2. The continuing members of the Board of Directors may act despite a casual vacancy on the Board of Directors.

3. However, if the number of Board of Directors Members is less than the number fixed under rule 24(1) as a quorum of the Board of Directors, the continuing Members may act only to:
 - a. Increase the number of Board of Directors members to the number required for a quorum; or
 - b. Call a General Meeting of the Association.

21 FUNCTIONS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. Subject to these rules or a resolution of the members of the Association carried at a General Meeting, the Board of Directors has the general control and management of the administration of the affairs, property and funds of the Association.
2. The Board of Directors has authority to interpret the meaning of these rules and any matter relating to the Association on which the rules are silent, but any interpretation must have regard to the Act, including any regulation made under the Act.

Note: The Act prevails if the Associations rules are inconsistent with the Act—see section 1B of the Act.

3. The Board of Directors may exercise the powers of the Association:
 - a. To borrow, raise or secure the payment of amounts in a way the members of the Association decide; and
 - b. To secure the amounts mentioned in paragraph (a) or the payment or performance of any debt, liability, contract, guarantee or other engagement incurred or to be entered into by the Association in any way, including by the issue of debentures (perpetual or otherwise) charged upon the whole or part of the Associations property, both present and future; and
 - c. To purchase, redeem or pay off any securities issued; and
 - d. To borrow amounts from members and pay interest on the amounts borrowed; and
 - e. To mortgage or charge the whole or part of its property; and
 - f. To issue debentures and other securities, whether outright or as security for any debt, liability or obligation of the Association; and
 - g. To provide and pay off any securities issued; and
 - h. To invest in a way the members of the Association may from time to time decide.
4. For sub rule (3)(d), the rate of interest must not be more than the current rate being charged for overdrawn accounts on money lent (regardless of the term of the loan) by:
5. The financial institution for the Association; or
6. If there is more than one (1) financial institution for the Association, the financial institution nominated by the Board of Directors.

22 MEETINGS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. Subject to this rule, the Board of Directors may meet and conduct its proceedings as it considers appropriate.

2. The Board of Directors must meet at least once every four (4) months to exercise its functions.
3. The Board of Directors must decide how a Meeting is to be called.
4. Notice of a Meeting is to be given in the way decided by the Board of Directors.
5. The Board of Directors may hold Meetings, or permit a Board Members to take part in its Meetings, by using any technology that reasonably allows the Member to hear and take part in discussions as they happen.
6. A Board Member who participates in the Meeting as mentioned in sub rule (5) is taken to be present at the Meeting.
7. A question arising at a Board Meeting is to be decided by a majority vote of members of the Board present at the Meeting and, if the votes are equal, the question is decided in the negative.
8. A Member of the Board of Directors must not vote on a question about a contract or proposed contract with the Association if the Member has an interest in the contract or proposed contract and, if the Member does vote, the Member's vote must not be counted.
9. The Chairperson is to preside as Chairperson at a Board of Directors Meeting.
10. If there is no Chairperson or if the Chairperson is not present within 10 minutes after the time fixed for a Board of Directors Meeting, the Members may choose one (1) of their number to preside as Chairperson at the Meeting.

23 QUORUM FOR, AND ADJOURNMENT OF, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

1. At a Board of Directors Meeting, more than 50% of the Members elected to the Board as at the close of the last General Meeting of the Members form a quorum.
2. If there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a Board of Directors Meeting called on the request of Members of the Board, the Meeting lapses.
3. If there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a Board of Directors Meeting called other than on the request of the Members of the Board:
 - a. The Meeting is to be adjourned for at least one (1) day; and
 - b. The members of the Board of Directors who are present are to decide the day, time and place of the adjourned Meeting.
4. If, at an adjourned Meeting mentioned in sub rule (3), there is no quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for the Meeting, the Meeting lapses.

24 SPECIAL MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. If the Secretary receives a written request signed by at least 33% of the Members of the Board of Directors, the Secretary must call a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors by giving each Member of the Board notice of the Meeting within 14 days after the Secretary receives the request.
2. If the Secretary is unable or unwilling to call the Special Meeting, the Chairperson must call the Meeting.

3. A request for a Special Meeting must state:
 - a. Why the Special Meeting is called; and
 - b. The business to be conducted at the Meeting.
4. A notice of a Special Meeting must state:
 - a. The day, time and place of the Meeting; and
 - b. The business to be conducted at the Meeting.
5. A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors must be held within 14 days after Notice of the Meeting is given to the Members of the Board of Directors.

25 MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

1. The Secretary must ensure full and accurate minutes of all questions, matters, resolutions and other proceedings of each Board of Directors Meeting are entered in a minute book.
2. To ensure the accuracy of the Minutes, the Minutes of each Board of Directors Meeting must be signed by the Chairperson of the Meeting, or the Chairperson of the next Board of Directors Meeting, verifying their accuracy.

26 APPOINTMENT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

1. The Board of Directors may appoint Subcommittees consisting of Members of the Association considered appropriate by the Board to help with the conduct of the Association's operations.
2. A member of a Subcommittee who is not a Member of the Board of Directors is not entitled to vote at a Board of Directors Meeting.
3. A Subcommittee may elect a Chairperson of its' Meetings.
4. If a Chairperson is not elected, or if the Chairperson is not present within 10 (ten) minutes after the time fixed for a Meeting, the Members present may choose one (1) of their number to be Chairperson of the Meeting.
5. A Subcommittee may meet and adjourn as it considers appropriate.
6. A question arising at a Subcommittee Meeting is to be decided by a majority vote of the Members present at the Meeting and, if the votes are equal, the question is decided in the negative.

27 ACTS NOT AFFECTED BY DEFECTS OR DISQUALIFICATIONS

1. An act performed by the Board of Directors, a Subcommittee or a person acting as a Member of the Board of Directors is taken to have been validly performed.
2. Sub rule (1) applies even if the act was performed when:
 - a. There was a defect in the appointment of a Member of the Board of Directors, Subcommittee or person acting as a Member of the Board of Directors; or
 - b. A Board of Directors Member, Subcommittee Member or person acting as a Member of the Board of Directors was disqualified from being a Member.

28 RESOLUTIONS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITHOUT MEETING

1. A written resolution signed by each Member of the Board of Directors is as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a Board of Directors Meeting that was properly called and held.
2. A resolution mentioned in sub rule (1) may consist of several documents in like form, each signed by one (1) or more members of the Board.

29 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Each Annual General Meeting must be held:

1. At least once each year; and
2. Within six (6) months after the end date of the Association's reportable financial year.

30 BUSINESS TO BE CONDUCTED AT AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The following business must be conducted at each Annual General Meeting of the Association:

1. Receiving the Association's Financial Statement, and Audit Report, for the last reportable Financial Year;
2. Presenting the Financial Statement and Audit Report to the Meeting for adoption;
3. Electing Members of the Board of Directors;
4. Appointing an Auditor; and
5. Appointing a Legal Advisor

31 NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

1. The Secretary may call a General Meeting of the Association.
2. The Secretary must give at least 14 days' notice of the Meeting to each Member of the Association.
3. If the Secretary is unable or unwilling to call the Meeting, the Chairperson must call the Meeting.
4. The Board of Directors may decide the way in which the Notice must be given.
5. However, notice of the following Meetings must be given in writing—
 - a. A Meeting called to hear and decide the appeal of a person against the Board of Directors' decision:
 - i. To reject the person's application for membership of the Association; or
 - ii. To terminate the person's membership of the Association;
 - b. A Meeting called to hear and decide a proposed Special Resolution of the Association.
6. A notice of a General Meeting must state the business to be conducted at the Meeting.

32 QUORUM FOR, AND ADJOURNMENT OF, GENERAL MEETING

1. The Quorum for a General Meeting is at least the number of Members elected or appointed to the Board of Directors at the close of the Association's last General Meeting **plus** one (1).
2. However, if all Members of the Association are Members of the Board of Directors, the quorum is the total number of members **less** one (1).
3. No business may be conducted at a General Meeting unless there is a Quorum of Members when the Meeting proceeds to business.
4. If there is no Quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a General Meeting called on the request of Members of the Board of Directors or the Association, the Meeting lapses.
5. If there is no Quorum within 30 minutes after the time fixed for a General Meeting called other than on the request of Members of the Board of Directors or the Association:
 - a. The Meeting is to be adjourned for at least seven (7) days; and
 - b. The Board of Directors is to decide the day, time and place of the adjourned Meeting.
6. The Chairperson may, with the consent of any Meeting at which there is a Quorum, and must if directed by the Meeting, adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place.
7. If a Meeting is adjourned under sub rule (6), only the business left unfinished at the Meeting from which the adjournment took place may be conducted at the adjourned Meeting.
8. The Secretary is not required to give the Members notice of an adjournment or of the business to be conducted at an adjourned Meeting unless a Meeting is adjourned for at least 30 days.
9. If a Meeting is adjourned for at least 30 days, Notice of the adjourned Meeting must be given in the same way notice is given for an original Meeting.

33 PROCEDURE AT GENERAL MEETING

1. A Member may take part and vote in a General Meeting in person, by proxy, by attorney or by using any technology that reasonably allows the Member to hear and take part in discussions as they happen.
2. A Member who participates in a Meeting as mentioned in sub rule (1) is taken to be present at the Meeting.
3. At each General Meeting:
 - a. The Chairperson is to preside as Chairperson; and
 - b. If there is no Chairperson or if the Chairperson is not present within 15 minutes after the time fixed for the Meeting or is unwilling to act, the Members present must elect one (1) of their number to be Chairperson of the Meeting; and
 - c. The Chairperson must conduct the Meeting in a proper and orderly way.

34 VOTING AT GENERAL MEETING

1. At a General Meeting, each question, matter or resolution, other than a Special Resolution, must be decided by a majority of votes of the Members present.

2. Each Member present and eligible to vote is entitled to one (1) vote only and, if the votes are equal, the Chairperson has a casting vote as well as a primary vote.
3. A Member is not entitled to vote at a General Meeting if the Member's annual subscription is in arrears at the date of the Meeting.
4. The method of voting is to be decided by the Board of Directors.
5. However, if at least 20% of the Members present demand a secret ballot, voting must be by secret ballot.
6. If a secret ballot is held, the Chairperson must appoint two (2) members to conduct the secret ballot in the way the Chairperson decides.
7. The result of a secret ballot as declared by the Chairperson is taken to be a resolution of the Meeting at which the ballot was held.

35 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

1. The Secretary must call a Special General Meeting by giving each Member of the Association notice of the Meeting within 14 days after:
 - a. Being directed to call the Meeting by the Board of Directors; or
 - b. Being given a written request signed by:
 - i. At least 33% of the number of members of the Board of Directors when the request is signed; or
 - ii. At least the number of Ordinary Members of the Association equal to double the number of members of the Association on the Board of Directors when the request is signed **plus** one (1); or
 - a. Being given a written notice of an intention to appeal against the decision of the Board of Directors:
 - iii. To reject an Application for Membership; or
 - iv. To terminate a person's Membership.
2. A request mentioned in sub rule (1)(b) must state:
 - a. Why the Special General Meeting is being called; and
 - b. The business to be conducted at the Meeting.
3. A Special General Meeting must be held within three (3) months after the Secretary:
 - a. Is directed to call the Meeting by the Board of Directors; or
 - b. Is given the written request mentioned in sub rule (1)(b); or
 - c. Is given the written notice of an intention to appeal mentioned in sub rule (1)(c).
4. If the Secretary is unable or unwilling to call the Special Meeting, the Chairperson must call the Meeting.

36 PROXIES

1. An Instrument appointing a Proxy must be in writing and be in the following or similar form:

Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group, Family Support After Murder Incorporated:

I, _____

of _____

being an ordinary member of the Association,

appoint _____

of _____

as my Proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the (Annual) General Meeting of the Association, to be held on the _____ day of _____ 20 ____

and at any adjournment of the Meeting.

Signed this _____ day of _____ 20 _____

Signature _____

This Form is to be used *in favour of/*against [*strike out whichever is not wanted*] the following resolutions:

[*List relevant resolutions*]

2. The instrument appointing a Proxy must:
 - a. If the Appointor is an individual; be signed by the Appointor or the Appointor's Attorney properly authorised in writing; or
 - b. If the Appointor is a Corporation:
 - i. Be under seal; or
 - ii. Be signed by a properly authorised Officer or Attorney of the Corporation.
3. A Proxy may be a Member of the Association or another person.
4. The instrument appointing a Proxy is taken to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a secret ballot.
5. Each instrument appointing a Proxy must be given to the Secretary before the start of the Meeting or adjourned Meeting at which the person named in the instrument proposes to vote.
6. Unless otherwise instructed by the Appointor, the Proxy may vote as the Proxy considers appropriate.
7. If a member wants a Proxy to vote for or against a resolution, the instrument appointing the proxy must be in the following or similar form:

37 MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETINGS

1. The Secretary must ensure full and accurate Minutes of all questions, matters, resolutions and other proceedings of each General Meeting are entered in a Minute Book.

2. To ensure the accuracy of the Minutes:
 - a. The Minutes of each General Meeting must be signed by the Chairperson of the Meeting, or the Chairperson of the next General Meeting, verifying their accuracy; and
 - b. The Minutes of each Annual General Meeting must be signed by the Chairperson of the Meeting, or the Chairperson of the next Meeting of the Association that is a General Meeting or Annual General Meeting, verifying their accuracy.
3. If asked by a Member of the Association, the Secretary must, within 28 days after the request is made:
 - a. Make the Minute Book for a particular General Meeting available for inspection by the Member at a mutually agreed time and place; and
 - b. Give the Member copies of the Minutes of the Meeting.
4. The Association may require the Member to pay the reasonable costs of providing copies of the Minutes.

38 BY-LAWS

1. The Board of Directors may make, amend or repeal by-laws, not inconsistent with these rules, for the internal management of the Association.
2. A By-Law may be set aside by a vote of members at a General Meeting of the Association.

39 ALTERATION OF RULES

1. Subject to the Act, these rules may be amended, repealed or added to by a Special Resolution carried at a General Meeting.
2. However an amendment, repeal or addition is valid only if it is registered by the Chief Executive Officer.

40 COMMON SEAL

1. The Board of Directors must ensure the Association has a Common Seal.
2. The Common Seal must be:
 - a. Kept securely by the Board of Directors; and
 - b. Used only under the authority of the Board of Directors.
3. Each Instrument to which the Seal is attached must be signed by a Member of the Board of Directors and countersigned by:
 - a. The Secretary; or
 - b. Another member of the Board of Directors; or
 - c. Someone authorised by the Board of Directors.

41 FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS

1. The funds of the Association must be kept in an account in the name of the Association in a financial institution decided by the Board of Directors.
2. Records and accounts must be kept in the English language showing full and accurate particulars of the financial affairs of the Association.
3. All amounts must be deposited in the financial institution account as soon as practicable after receipt.
4. A payment by the Association of \$100.00 or more must be made by cheque or electronic funds transfer.
5. If a payment of \$100.00 or more is made by cheque, the cheque must be signed by any two (2) of the following:
 - a. The Chairperson;
 - b. The Secretary;
 - c. The Treasurer;
 - d. Any one (1) of three (3) other Members of the Association who have been authorised by the Board of Directors to sign cheques issued by the Association.
6. However, one (1) of the persons who signs the cheque must be the Chairperson, the Secretary or the Treasurer.
7. Cheques, other than cheques for wages, allowances or petty cash recoupment, must be crossed not negotiable.
8. A petty cash account must be kept on the Imprest System, and the Board of Directors must decide the amount of petty cash to be kept in the account.
9. All expenditure must be approved or ratified at a Board of Directors Meeting.

42 GENERAL FINANCIAL MATTERS

1. On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Treasurer must, as soon as practicable after the end date of each Financial Year, ensure a Financial Statement for its' last reportable financial year is prepared.
2. The income and property of the Association must be used solely in promoting the Association's objects and exercising the Association's powers.
3. The income and property of the Association may not be distributed to members of the Association.

43 DOCUMENTS

The Board of Directors must ensure the safe custody of books, documents, instruments of title and securities of the Association.

44 FINANCIAL YEAR

The end date of the Association's financial year is 30 June in each year.

45 DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS ASSETS TO ANOTHER ENTITY

1. This rule applies if the Association:
 - a. Is wound-up under part 10 of the Act; and
 - b. Has surplus assets.
2. The surplus assets **must not** be distributed among the Members of the Association.
3. The surplus assets **must be** given to another entity:
 - a. Having objects similar to the Association's objects; and
 - b. The rules of which prohibit the distribution of the entity's income and assets to its' Members.
4. In this rule **surplus assets** see section 92(3) of the Act.

--END--