



RSL
Victoria

27 October 2020

Ms A Wilson
Secretary
Hawthorn RSL Sub-Branch Inc
605 Glenferrie Road
HAWTHORN VIC 3122

Dear Hawthorn RSL Sub-Branch,

RSL Victoria Annual Conference Remits

Thank you for submitting your proposed remits for the 105th Annual Conference. All remits submitted prior to the 16th October have now been considered by an Agenda Sub-Committee established under rule 8.8.

The Annual Conference this year will be unique as it will for the first time be held online. In setting the agenda the Agenda Sub-Committee considered the medium of the meeting, the potential complexity and number of remits, the length of the meeting and the fact that the next Annual Conference will be less than eight months away.

I am writing to you on behalf of the Agenda Sub-Committee to advise that the Agenda Sub-Committee has considered each of your remits and proposes, subject to consultation, to accept, amend, omit, or reject various remits. These proposals are detailed in Annex A. Due to time constraints, we draw your attention to the following requested action:

- Review any proposed amendments and reply as accepted or propose an alternative wording.
- Review any proposed omission of remits and consider any changes you may wish to make which would satisfy the Agenda Sub-Committee that the remit is in a proper form for further consideration.

Responses to the above are requested in writing by 3pm on Thursday 29th October. The Agenda Sub-Committee is meeting for the final time on the morning of Friday 30th October. We appreciate that this is a tight timeframe, however the agenda must be distributed by the end of the month.

The State Branch has various avenues for changes to the Rules and Branch By-Laws to be submitted, reviewed, and amended where required. We encourage you to seek these avenues or alternatively you are welcome to submit the remits that have been rejected or omitted for inclusion on the 2021 Annual Conference Agenda.

Your feedback and suggestions can be provided to ceo.rslvic@rslvic.com.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S.J. Twidale', written in a cursive style.

S.J Twidale CSM
Chief Executive Officer

Annex A – Hawthorn Sub-Branch Remits

ID	Proposed Remit	Recommendation	Reasoning
1	That RSL Victoria adopt a policy of publicly supporting the call for a Royal Commission into veteran suicide	Approved	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has decided that policy remits will not be included in this year's agenda due to time constraints, the uniqueness of the current situation and that the 2021 Conference is less than 8 months.</p> <p>Given the importance of this remit, the Agenda Sub-Committee have made an exception and will included it on the Agenda as drafted.</p>
2	That RSL Victoria propose a motion that RSL National act to represent veterans	Omitted	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has decided that policy remits will not be included in this year's agenda due to time constraints, the uniqueness of the current situation and that the 2021 Conference is less than 8 months.</p> <p>This remit therefore proposes to omit this from remit from the agenda.</p> <p>The Agenda Sub-Committee also acknowledges that RSL National has recently approved a new strategy that has Advocacy and Lobbying as one of the 4 strategic themes.</p>
3	Canvassing not permitted	Omitted	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee proposes to omit this remit as the matter is substantially similar to another accepted remit.</p> <p>The Sub-Branch may seek to propose amendments to the remit that appears on the agenda at the Annual Conference.</p>
4	Composition of the State Executive 1	Amendment	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has determined that this remit is deficient in its current form.</p> <p>The Agenda Sub-Committee note that this proposed remit be ought to be amended to reflect only the deletion of sub-clause 7.4(a)(4) together with subsequent necessary changes to the Rules to maintain internal consistency (noting that the</p>

			<p>rationale will remain as submitted), see below: -</p> <p><u>Proposed Amended Remit:</u></p> <p>7.4 Composition of the State Executive <u>Delete sub clause 7.4(a)(4)</u> (4) The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer – who shall not have a vote;</p> <p><u>Amend sub clause 7.4(e)(8)</u> from: (8) become an employee of the Branch, except as provided for under Rule 9.7; and</p> <p>to: (8) become an employee of the Branch, and</p> <p>9.7 Chief Executive Officer of the Branch <u>Delete sub clause Rule 9.7(e)</u> (e) The Chief Executive Officer is appointed a member of the State Executive but shall not have a power to vote.</p> <p>The Agenda Sub-Committee await confirmation by 3pm Thursday 29th October 2020 that the Sub-Branch accept the amended remit as drafted above.</p> <p>Alternatively, the Sub-Branch may re-submit an amended remit to the Agenda Sub-Committee by 3pm Thursday 29th October 2020.</p>
5	Composition of the State Executive 2	Amendment	The Agenda Sub-Committee has determined that given the subject matter this proposed remit should be merged with proposed Remit 14.
6	Composition of the State Executive 3	Rejected	This Rule does not exist.
7	Composition of the State Executive 4	Rejected	This Rule does not exist.
8	Eligibility and Election of the State Executive 1	Omitted	The Agenda Sub-Committee proposes to omit this remit as the matter is substantially similar to another accepted remit.

			The Sub-Branch may seek to propose amendments to the remit that appears on the agenda at the Annual Conference.
9	Eligibility and Election of the State Executive 2	Omitted	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has determined that this remit is deficient in its current form. The remit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - includes an incomplete reference to the Rules, noting that term limits are already established in Rule 7.4(b) and 9.1(c). - Consequential amendments to other rules have not been identified - the rationale is deficient as the explanation for what the remit is trying to establish is unclear -
10	Finance and Audit Committee 1	Rejected	This Rule does not exist.
11	Finance and Audit Committee 2	Rejected	This Rule does not exist.
12	Finance and Audit Committee 3	Rejected	This Rule does not exist.
13	Sub-Branch and Branch Delegates	Omitted	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee understands the reasoning behind this proposed remit however due to the time constraints, the complexity of the factors behind the remit and the medium of the Annual Conference, this particular proposed remit is not considered appropriate for inclusion on the agenda for the 2020 Annual Conference.</p> <p>We invite the Sub-Branch to submit it for inclusion on the agenda at the 2021 Annual Conference where the proper debate and discussion can occur.</p>
14	Immediate past State President	Amendment	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has determined that given the subject matter this proposed remit (and rationale) should be merged with proposed Remit 14.</p> <p>The Agenda Sub-Committee await confirmation by 3pm Thursday 29th October 2020 that the Sub-Branch accept the amended remit as drafted above.</p>

Alternatively, the Sub-Branch may re-submit an amended remit to the Agenda Sub-Committee by 3pm Thursday 29th October 2020.

The Agenda Sub-Committee propose to amend the remit as follows:-

Proposed Amended Remit:

Removal of references to the position of Immediate past State President

7.4 Composition of the State Executive

Delete sub clause 7.4(a)(5)

5) The immediate past State President (subject to Rule 9.5) – who shall not have a vote.

Delete entire clause 9.5

9.5 Immediate past State President

(a) The immediate past State President is entitled to be a member of the State Executive for the period of 12 months after having been replaced as State President, save and except upon the earlier retirement of their successor.

(b) Rule 9.5(a) does not apply if:

(c) the immediate past State President ceases to be a Member; or

(d) the Annual Conference or an Extraordinary Conference resolves otherwise.

Amended Rationale:

Bad governance.

Only office bearers and no employee is a member of the state executive.

To ensure the primacy of the Membership in the affairs of the League, no employee or unelected person should serve on or ordinarily be privy to the deliberations of the State Executive.

			<i>Employees or other persons not Members of the State Executive may report to the Executive on certain matters as required but should take no part in deliberations upon same.</i>
15	Chief Executive Officer of the Branch 1	Omitted	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee understands the reasoning behind this proposed remit however due to the time constraints, the complexity of the factors behind the remit and the medium of the Annual Conference, this particular proposed remit is not appropriate for inclusion on the agenda for the 2020 Annual Conference.</p> <p>The Agenda Sub-Committee would like to acknowledge that a change in CEO can be incredibly disruptive for an organisation and can fracture the unity of the board along with potential contractual arrangements that would be affected by a change of this rule.</p> <p>We invite the Sub-Branch to submit it for inclusion on the agenda at the 2021 Annual Conference where the proper debate and discussion can occur.</p>
16	Chief Executive Officer of the Branch 2	Rejected	The remit has no rationale provided. It is therefore non-compliant with Rule 8.8(b)(1) and has been rejected.
17	Branch Employees	Amendment	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has identified that the wording needs to be amended and proposes to amend this remit to reflect an amended 9.8, 13.6(e)(2) & 13.6(l)(8).</p> <p>The Agenda Sub-Committee await confirmation by 3pm Thursday 29th October 2020 that the Sub-Branch accept the amended remit as drafted above.</p> <p>Alternatively, the Sub-Branch may re-submit an amended remit to the Agenda Sub-Committee by 3pm Thursday 29th October 2020.</p>

			<p><u>Proposed Amended Remit</u></p> <p>9.8 Branch Employees 9.8 A remunerated Branch Employee with position of manager or above may not hold any position on a Sub-Branch Committee.</p> <p>13.6 Sub-Branch Committee New 13.6(e)(2) - “a remunerated employee of the Branch with position of manager or above; or”</p> <p>New 13.6(l)(8) - “become a remunerated employee of the Branch with position of manager or above”</p>
18	State President and Chief Executive Officer right of address	Approved	The Agenda Sub-Committee has approved this proposed remit and it will appear on the Agenda
19	Election of a Branch Officer	Omitted	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has identified that the proposed remit is not clear as it does not adequately define what the proposed remit is.</p> <p>A Rule remit must clearly set out which rule(s) are being amended and the specific wording of said amendments or inclusions.</p> <p>It is also noted that the Agenda Sub-Committee propose to omit the remit as this issue has already been covered in part by an earlier submitted proposed remit.</p> <p>The Sub-Branch may seek to propose amendments to the remit that appears on the agenda at the Annual Conference.</p>
20	Sources of funds of the Branch	Omitted	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has identified that the proposed remit is deficient, unclear in its drafting and is exceptionally broad and far reaching.</p> <p>However, the Agenda Sub-Committee understands the reasoning behind this proposed remit however due to the time constraints, the complexity of the factors behind the remit, COVID-19</p>

			<p>situation, and the impacts this has had on the Annual Conference, the necessity to put this forward to Sub-Branched has been identified that this particular proposed remit is not appropriate for inclusion on the agenda for the 2020 Annual Conference however we invite the Sub-Branch to re-write and submit it for inclusion on the agenda at the 2021 Annual Conference where the proper debate and discussion can occur.</p>
21	New Rule Membership Card	Rejected	<p>The Agenda Sub-Committee has identified that this is not a proposed Rule Remit nor is it in a proper format.</p> <p>Branding on the membership card can be discussed and dealt with in other forums.</p>