

Proposal to Change Bicycle Tasmania Constitution – Vote at Annual General Meeting

The BT constitution was last changed circa 1999. A copy of it can be found at www.biketas.org.au/1999/BicycleTasmaniaConstitution1999A.php.

At the upcoming AGM three separate motions will be put to accept changes in the following areas:

- changes related to Affiliated Groups
- changes related to Audit Exemption in future years
- incorporation of headings, general “tidy up”, change of financial year, removal of reference to HPV/ MTB

To keep this article short-ish the specific constitution changes can be found at www.biketas.org.au/2009/20090621-constitution-changes.pdf.

Affiliated Groups

There are a number of regional cycling groups that which to affiliate with BT; primarily to obtain public liability insurance so they can run public events, and also offer personal accident insurance to their members. The wording must be acceptable to our insurer CycleCover (they have agreed to our proposal).

For this to occur the constitution must be changed to reflect the range of activities BT undertakes and change references from “State Council” to “Executive”. After executive discussion we consider these activities to be: promote, organise and conduct social events, non-competitive rides and tours, and other events pertaining to transport and recreational cycling as may, from time to time, be expedient.

The membership secretary will be recognised as part of the Executive.

Up to three additional committee members will be recognised as part of the Executive.

Audit Exemption

Based on a recent change to the ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATION ACT 1964 (Department of Justice, Consumer Affairs & Fair Trading Business Affairs Branch) there is now an option for exemption for small incorporated bodies from auditing requirements. For 2007/08 audit fees cost BT \$67 so there is a worthwhile saving to be made.

An association can seek an exemption from the audit requirement if:

- the association has total revenue in any financial year of \$40,000 or less; and
- total assets of \$40,000 or less not including ‘real property’ such as land and real estate; and
- a three quarter majority of members have voted in favour of not having the association’s accounts audited; and
- the association has provision in their rules for 10 members to requisition a special general meeting.

In order to apply for an exemption, BT will need to, at the AGM,

- Pass a Resolution for a provision in their rules for 10 members to requisition a Special General Meeting (or supply a copy of an existing similar clause from the constitution).
- Pass a Resolution to apply for an exemption.

Referring to the current (1999A) constitution sections 15, 20.2, 26.5, 26.6, 33 will require changes.

Incorporation of Headings Etc.

- Our membership/ financial calendar year was changed a few years ago to coincide with the calendar year. This needs to be updated in the constitution.
- All references to Human Powered Vehicles and Mountain Bikes will be replaced with the more generic term cycle (this also allows for trikes).
- Life members (none at present) will be allowed to vote on motions.