

Frequently Asked Questions Constitutional Changes

Purpose of this FAQ

This document is designed to help members understand the constitutional changes requested by a small group of members.

1. What is happening?

A group of members has requisitioned constitutional changes, all *opposed* by your elected Directors. On legal advice, the Club is obliged to include these so that members can consider and vote on them.

2. Does inclusion mean the Board supports these changes?

No. The Board's position is that these changes are NOT in the Club's best interests and would move the Club backwards by unravelling what was voted *in* just last year. As such the board does NOT support these proposed resolutions.

3. In simple terms, what are the proposals about?

Without reproducing the full legal wording, the proposals relate to:

- Expensive changes to disciplinary processes from a member elected Board to an external (non-member elected) panel leading to unbudgeted recurring legal costs that significantly increases privacy exposure.
- Changes to member admission criteria forcing the Club to provide detailed written reasons, creating heavy paperwork, increasing appeals and disputes, raising privacy risks, and exposing the Club to legal challenge each time an applicant is unsuccessful.
- Weakening director eligibility criteria, including deleting the strong "not-fit and proper" protections voted in by members at last year's AGM.
- Removal of postal voting and adjusting voting methods in favour of in-person participation, thereby potentially limiting nearly 9,000 interstate members' ability to participate in their club's governance.

For the exact wording and description of each proposal, please refer to the Explanatory Notes included in your AGM pack.

4. Why does the Board oppose these changes?

The Board is concerned the proposals would:

- Undermine the governance framework implemented over recent years to stabilise the Club and protect members' interests.
- Remove safeguards that prevent unsuitable individuals from running for the Board, opening the door for people previously deemed "not fit and proper" by regulators.
- It weakens accountability, drives up costs, and removes disciplinary decisions from the people members elected to govern the Club, and hands it to an expensive external panel run by barristers or former barristers.
- Distract management and employees from member-endorsed priorities and delivery (e.g. Parramatta LIVE masterplan and New Clubhouse, finalising Amalgamation with Pitt Town, other community and service improvements).
- Restrict the democratic voice of the membership base. It disenfranchises nearly 9,000 remote and interstate members, dramatically reduces participation, and forces the Club to pay significant Electoral Commission fees every election. By reversing postal and online voting it will reduce the number

of members that can vote, potentially allowing a small group of members to stack a meeting to push through change that does not benefit the broader membership base.

5. What does it mean for AGM materials and timelines?

- The AGM Notice and voting pack will include the requisitioned resolutions and the Explanatory Notes.
- Key dates, eligibility rules and instructions appear in the Notice of AGM.
- The Club will provide information so members can make an informed decision.
- Digital links will be provided whenever possible to help reduce extra costs, however, there will still be additional expenses related to printing and postage for these resolutions.

6. How do I vote?

Please refer to the Notice of AGM and ballot/voting instructions for:

- Eligibility to vote (including any membership tenure requirements),
- How to vote (postal/online/in-person arrangements),
- Key deadlines and any re-open windows applicable to specific resolutions,
- Assistance channels if you need help with your ballot.

7. Will this cost time and money?

Yes. Preparing and administering additional resolutions for the AGM involves direct costs and staff time. The Club is committed to managing these efficiently while maintaining service to members.

8. What if I support parts but not all of the changes?

Members can vote 'For' or 'Against' each resolution individually. Read each resolution and the Explanatory Notes carefully before casting your vote. The board does not support any of these changes.

9. Is the Club still progressing major projects?

Yes. The governance settings that some proposals would unwind have helped underpin significant delivery and planning. The Club remains focused on operational excellence and project milestones that matter to members.

10. Will the Club contact the individuals behind these proposals?

In a spirit of goodwill, the Board is considering writing to the individuals driving these proposals to offer a full refund of their memberships. This would provide a respectful pathway for those unhappy with the Club's progress, while avoiding the broader membership continually bearing cost and time associated with attempts to unwind current governance settings.

11. Where can I find more information or ask questions?

- Read the Notice of AGM and Explanatory Notes
www.parraleagues.com.au/preliminary-notice-of-annual-general-meeting-nomination-of-directors-3
- Email member questions to [<mailto:agm@parraleagues.com.au>]
- Visit the Club's website page for AGM updates
<https://www.parraleagues.com.au/agm2026/>
- Note - These resolutions are not in the best interests of the club, and your Board does not support any of these proposed changes.