Special Resolution 1 – Amendments to list of Definitions RULE 3.1

The purpose of this Special Resolution is to clarify definitions provided at 3.1 of the Club Constitution.

Deletion, Replacement and Addition to the list of definitions at RULE 3.1:

AMENDED DEFINITION: **"Legion"** DELETION of the current wording and REPLACING with "means the Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen and Women"

ADDITIONAL DEFINITION: **"Legion Ex Service sub-Branch" m**eans the Willoughby Legion Ex Services sub-Branch, established in 1945 and which merged with the Chatswood RSL sub-Branch in late 2022, following the merger of the Legion NSW State Branch and RSL NSW.

ADDITIONAL Definition: **"Legion Ex-Service sub-Branch" Successor Body**
Means the Chatswood RSL sub-Branch with which the Willoughby Legion Ex-Services sub-Branch merged in September 2022. As provided for in the Willoughby Legion Ex-Services Club Ltd Constitution at that time, the Chatswood RSL sub-Branch became the successor body to the Willoughby Legion Ex Services sub-Branch, with the Legion Chapter created within it. The shared role of the Chatswood RSL sub-Branch, incorporating the Willoughby Legion Ex Services Chapter, is to assist wellbeing and support activities for veterans and their families within the local community.

CORRECT THE SEQUENCING WITHIN THE LIST OF DEFINITIONS:
Move the definition of "Hyegrove Village" to a position above the definition of "Legion" to correct the alphabetical sequencing of the definitions list in Rule 3.1

Supporting Information:

These amendment/additions clarify the meaning of terms used within the Constitution, and acknowledges that the Chatswood RSL sub-Branch is the successor body to the Legion's Ex-Service Sub-Branch following their amalgamation. This intent was clear in the Club's previous Constitution but overlooked in the current Constitution's re-write.

Minor re-ordering of the definitions lists is required to rectify a drafting error and maintain alphabetical accuracy.

Proposer:  Member Number: 2 (K E FLANAGAN)

Seconder:  Member Number: 25 (M. VLERTZONIS

Special Resolution 2 - Board Eligibility – RULE 9A.2

The purpose of this Special Resolution is to amend the restrictions placed on the eligibility of a group of Club members regarding their nomination for, and potential election to, the Club Board of Directors. Such restrictions have the effect of denying members, who happen to live in the Hyegrove Village, from the opportunity of using their skills and knowledge as Club Directors. This could mean that the Board not only misses out on the talent available, is contrary to the democratic nature of the mutual organisation that the Willoughby Legion Ex-Servicemen and Women Ltd is, and the very ideals and privileges that the veterans who created the Club fought suffered and died for.

Current Rule:

9A.2 (a) Notwithstanding Rule 9A.1, any member who is a resident or employee of Hyegrove Village or is an employee or officer of or has a financial interest in Hyecorp or the owner or operator of the Hyegrove Village (however it is named) is not eligible to exercise any of the rights in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f) of Rule 9A.1.

(b) Paragraph (a) of Rule 9A.2 shall not apply to any member who is a resident or employee of Hyegrove Village or an employee of Hyecorp as at the date of the Special Resolution adopting this Constitution.

Proposed new Rule:

9A.2 (a) Notwithstanding Rule 9A.1, there cannot be any more than two eligible Club members, who are residents of the Hyegrove Village, elected and serving on the Board as elected Directors concurrently. Club members that are also Hyegrove residents have the equal member rights of other Club members. A Club member who is an employee of the Hyegrove Village, or has a financial interest in any company within the Hyecorp Group is ineligible to be nominated for election to the Board.

1.1 (b) Notwithstanding Rule 9A2.(a), when filling a casual vacancy, the Club Directors shall be permitted to invite a Hyegrove Village resident who has been a Club member for at least three (3) months but less than any other minimum period specified in these Rules, to join the Board, provided the Board agrees that they possess skills and knowledge that the Board requires to assist it acting in the best interests of the Club, its members and the local community. Should a Hyegrove Village resident be invited to fil such a casual vacancy, this specific appointment will not be subject to the limitation of only having a maximum of two Hyegrove Village residents serving as elected Directors at the same time. Such appointments by the Board to fill casual vacancies must made be in accordance with Rule 32.3 which states that the appointee can only hold office only until the conclusion of the following Annual General Meeting.

Supporting Information:

RULE 9A.1 identifies the basic rights of all members members, but denies almost all of these to members that reside at Hyegrove. All they can do is sign in guests to the Club. These restrictions on new members are a serious over-reach.

Under normal circumstances, the staggered election cycle in place since 2014 avoids a Board "takeover" at a single election. Amending the current Rule to include a numerical cap of two Hyegrove residents as elected Directors at any one time also achieves this. Potentially talented Directors are otherwise lost to the Club..

Proposer: K Flanagan Member Number: 2 (K E FLANAGAN)

Seconder: M Vertzonis Member Number: 25 (M. VERTZONIS)

Special Resolution 3 – Membership Rights – RULE 9A.3

The purpose of this Special Resolution is to reduce the period that a new member must wait to gain most of the rights of membership. This amendment reduces the period from 12 months to 3 months, except that the 12-month restriction remains before a new member may be nominated or elected to the position of Director on the Club Board.

Current Rule:

9A.3 Other than members covered by paragraph (a) of Rule 9A.2, any person who becomes a member of the Club after the date of the Special Resolution adopting this Constitution is not entitled to any of the rights in paragraphs (a) to (f) of Rule 9A.1 until they have been a member of the Club for a period of twelve (12) months calculated from the date they were admitted to membership of the Club.

Proposed new Rule:

9A.3 Other than members covered by paragraph (a) of Rule 9A.2, any person who becomes a member of the Club after the date of the Special Resolution adopting this Constitution is entitled to all of the rights in paragraphs (a), (c), (d), (e), (f) and (g) to (g) of Rule 9A.1 upon being formally admitted to membership of the Club. Subject to any limitations imposed by Rule 9A.2, new members will be entitled to exercise the right articulated at Rule 9A.1 (b), being the right nominate for and be elected to hold office on the Board of Directors, after a period of at least three (3) months has elapsed since they were formally admitted to membership of the Club.

Supporting Information:

Excluding all new members from attending and participating in Club general meetings and AGM's for a year is unreasonable. Most clubs allow member involvement immediately, or after a very short membership period. A 12-month non-participation period is excessive and may deter capable and willing individuals becoming involved in developing the Club's future.

A three (3) month minimum membership period before being eligible to nominate for and be elected to the Board is considered reasonable. Disenfranchising new members for a year before they can participate in ordinary and basic democratic processes of our Club is excessive.

Proposer: Member Number: 2 (KE PLANAGAN)

Seconder: Member Number: 25 (M. VERTZONIS)
